

Réaction du Maire d'Invermere, Gerry Taft et du District of Invermere

Francophone school in Invermere

Inbox x

sophie timmermans <soph.timmermans@gmail.com>

Dec
12

to mayor

Dear Gerry

I hope you are doing great and your family is adjusting to the recent arrival of Veronica. Congratulations again.

My name is Sophie Dupont and my daughter Ivy goes to daycare with your son Kelvin.

I am writing to you regarding the Francophone School Program we are trying to start in Invermere. The French community of Invermere continues to grow each year and it would be a great opportunity for our kids and families to receive an education in French. I have nothing but great things to say about the French immersion programs that are already in place in our schools, I admire the effort and am very thankful that these options exist here in Invermere.

A francophone school is a step further and I think it is really important for our kids to learn French with perfect accent, perfect grammar, so they can keep communicating with the rest of their families who are living back home, whether it's in Quebec or in Belgium, where I am from. The Francophone school will be taught in French exclusively and English will of course be taught as second language, so our kids will be fully bilingual.

The Francophone program is a wonderful opportunity for us as well as for the town of Invermere as it will provide career opportunities and will definitely attract more people to Invermere, meaning economical benefits on top of education.

I was wondering what your opinion was on this matter.

For your information, here is the link to the CSF, the French School Board for BC:

<https://www.csf.bc.ca/>

Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (CSF)

www.csf.bc.ca

Le Conseil scolaire francophone offre une éducation de qualité, en français, à travers toute la province

via ses 37 écoles francophones
publiques. Que vous ...

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I would be more than happy to talk to you about this big and exciting project.
Thank you so much for you time,

Best Regards,

Sophie Dupont

Gerry Taft

Dec
13

to me

English
Bangla

[Translate message](#)

[Turn off for: English](#)

Hi Sophie,

Thanks for the email. I have read a little bit about the Francophone School Program in the newspaper, but I must admit that I am not that familiar with the current status and what the next steps are. If my understanding is correct the school would be a private/independent school? Has there been much feed back or communication from the School District?

In general I think that DOI would be supportive of another educational opportunity in the community or area.

Thanks!

Gerry

sophie timmermans <soph.timmermans@gmail.com>

Dec 27 (4
days ago)

to Gerry

Hi Gerry,

Thank you very much for your reply. It means a lot to us knowing that yourself and the District of Invermere is in favour of seeing such a school open in Invermere. The francophone schools are part of the BC public education system and fall under School District 93.

I don't have more info about the funding but I can certainly try to find out.

At this stage we are still trying to find out if there are enough Francophone families in the Invermere area who would qualify for the Francophone program.

I have a list of all the kids and their date of births. So far, I am not sure we have enough kids in a same age group to open a school but I will definitely submit our application and see what the Francophone School District says about it.

We might not qualify this time, but we might next year. The deadline is January 31st.

I will of course keep you updated of the situation.

I was wondering if the DOI was willing to write a support letter about our project ? I have heard this was very much appreciated and can be very helpful in our application. I would appreciate it very much and so would all the Francophone Families in Invermere.

Please let me know if you need more information about the process.

Thanks again for your support
Merry Christmas,

Sophie