



October 29, 2014

Ref: 177404

To: All Board Chairs
All School Districts

The Government of BC is committed to working with school districts, health authorities, post-secondary institutions and crown corporations, to reduce overhead costs and look for efficiencies and savings through collaboration and shared services. With the fiscal challenges facing all of us, it is imperative that all entities participate in the available shared service initiatives.

In 2012, the Ministry of Education engaged Deloitte, one of Canada's leading professional service firms, to research and identify potential shared service opportunities, and to deliver an assessment of likely costs, benefits and implications. Their report formed the basis of a Service Delivery Project, which further evaluated 14 of the 25 opportunities, and provided recommended plans of action in the areas of Procurement, Legal Services, and Attendance Support and Wellness.

Over this past summer, Deloitte has been instructed to revisit their 2012 report and to refresh opportunity benefits and costs. I am pleased to share with you that this work has been completed and is available on the Ministry's website at:

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/deloitte_report_july_2014.pdf

This letter signals the beginning of Phase 2 of the Service Delivery Project. It is focused on evaluating and supporting implementation of another group of service delivery opportunities in our sector, along with ongoing support for those launched in Phase 1. This project will be led by a new Shared Services Branch of our Ministry, created to engage and support the sector in this work. This will ensure the project receives the perspective of trustees and representatives from the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA), who will be a vital part of the Education Partners Advisory Committee, which provides advice and input from our partners throughout the project.

This work is critical in supporting our sector over the next several years, as well as to ensure that we maximize resources available for direct services to students in our classrooms.

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The Ministry looks forward to further collaboration with boards of education and school district staff on this next phase of this project. Updated information and opportunities for further dialogue is planned for the BCSTA December Trustees' Academy on December 4-6, 2014.

In the meantime should you have any questions, please contact Jill Kot, Assistant Deputy Minister, Services and Technology Division at: jill.kot@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dave Byng', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dave Byng
Deputy Minister

pc: All Superintendents of Schools
All Secretary-Treasurers