



June 16, 2017

Ms. Marie-France Lapierre, Chairperson
Conseil scolaire francophone de la C.-B. (SD #93)
100 – 13511 Commerce Parkway
Richmond, BC V6V 2J8

Re: Support for Requests to Amend the School Act, BC Reg. 212-99 and BC Reg. 213-99

Dear SD #93 Chairperson,

As you are aware, the BC Francophone Parents Federation (Fédération des parents francophones de Colombie-Britannique) represents Parent Advisory Councils of schools under the jurisdiction of the Conseil scolaire francophone, SD #93 (the CSF). The BC Francophone Parents Federation is also the official voice of Francophone parents in British Columbia.

I am writing to you on behalf of the BC Francophone Parents Federation Board of Directors. We would like to express our support for the request the CSF is making to the Ministry of Education to amend the School Act, BC Reg. 212-99, and BC Reg. 213-99.

We strongly believe that implementing the proposed changes will greatly improve the Francophone education system, allowing for better representation. The proposed changes to the timeline of school elections will better reflect how the CSF's electoral process functions now.

The change that is especially critical for us is outlined in Section (2) of Paragraph 5 of BC Reg. 213-99. This change would allow all parents to vote in the ward that's covered by the catchment area of their child's school. During the past school elections, many parents living in a ward that's currently outside of where their child attends school were very surprised to be requested to vote in a ward that isn't where their child's school is located. Those parents contacted us in order to find out what could be done to change that situation. Consequently, we are very pleased that the CSF is taking steps to make this change possible.

Therefore, we strongly support the request made by the CSF to the Ministry of Education to make the changes to the legislation. And we ask the provincial government to amend the School Act, BC Reg. 212-99, and BC Reg. 213-99 in a very prompt manner, so that Francophone British Columbians can benefit from a more modern and fair electoral system during the 2018 school elections.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Marie-Pierre Lavoie
President