

October 18, 2017

The Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister
Ministry of Education
PO Box 9151, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9H1

Subject: Changes to BC Regs 212.99 and 213.99

Dear Minister:

The Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique is proposing changes to BC School Act, BC Reg. 212.99 and BC Reg. 213.99. We have submitted our proposal to the Governance and Analytics department of the Ministry of Education and have met with the department's representatives twice, once in March in person and once in August by teleconferencing. Our collaborative work with the department of Governance and Analytics has been positive and supportive.

While the changes to the School Act require a lengthy process, we understand that changes to BC Regulations can be accomplished at a much faster pace. We are writing to convey to you the need to move forward with the proposed changes to the BC Regulations as soon as possible. The next school trustee elections will take place in October 2018 and we are hoping to prepare for the event.

BC Reg. 212.99

We are, in a nutshell, asking for a faster pace election administrative schedule because, instead of using regular mail to contact our members, we can now reach them efficiently thanks to modern technology. We are hopeful that the electorate will benefit from these changes by being informed in a timely matter and therefore stay interested in what matters to them.

BC Reg. 213.99

The proposal addresses changes to the electoral wards, mainly in Greater Vancouver. The outcome is twofold:

1. Rectify the inequity between the Greater Vancouver Ward and the Fraser Valley Ward by creating a balance of schools and population in between the two.
2. Allow all members to vote for a trustee representing the ward where the school their children attend is situated instead of voting for a trustee representing the area where they reside.

For CSF administrators, these changes, if accepted, will require a make-over of its members' data base; and that takes time. Please let me remind you that our members vote by electronic ballots.

It is our hope that you will have the opportunity to meet with the Governance and Analytics department staff to accelerate the process. We are confident that they understand the reason for the proposed changes and that they will represent our interests well. While accepting these changes would be of very little budgetary cost to you, it would greatly benefit the francophone school community.

Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at mariefrance_lapierre@csf.bc.ca or Mr. Sylvain Allison, CSFCB Secretary-Treasurer by email at sallison@csf.bc.ca.

In the hope of hearing from you soon, we remain,

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lapierre', is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Marie-France Lapierre
President

Cc : Sylvain Allison, Secretary-Treasurer

Incl. : 170103 SA to K. Godin – legislation
170127 192266 Allison Outgoing – CSF proposed amendment School Act, BC Reg. 212.99 and BC Reg. 213.99
170620 SA to K. Godin – legislation
170616 PFCB support CSF - changes school Act - BC Reg. 212.99 - BC Reg. 213.99.pdf
170614 SCFP support CSF - changes school Act - BC Reg. 212.99 - BC Reg. 213.99.pdf
170710 194738 Allison Outgoing School Act and Reg. Changes Request Letter