

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

## West Vancouver School District No.45 Correspondence List – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

Letter Date	From	To	Type	Description	Reply by	Copied To	Action
March 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Board Chair Carolyn Broady	Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Member of Parliament	Sent	<p>Chair Broady writes with reference to concerns raised at the February 21st Public Board Meeting related to federal funding for Settlement Workers in Schools.</p> <p>She urges the Member of Parliament to advocate for expansion rather than reduction of funding for this program.</p>		<p>WV Board of Education</p> <p>C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools</p> <p>Honourable Ahmed D. Hussan, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship</p> <p>Ralph Sultan, MLA, West Vancouver-Capilano</p> <p>Jordan Sturdy, MLA, West Vancouver – Sea to Sky</p>	
March 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Board Chair Carolyn Broady	Honourable Mike Bernier Minister of Education	Sent	<p>Chair Broady writes to the Minister to request permission to borrow up to \$10 million in order to implement an infrastructure upgrade to address critical infrastructure renewal.</p> <p>The Chair provides the Minister with the Business Case for the proposal and indicates she would like to speak with him about the opportunity</p>		WV Board of Education	
March 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Honourable Mike Bernier Minister of Education	Board Chair, Carolyn Broady	Recd.	<p>The Minister writes to thank Chair Broady for her letter requesting approval to borrow up to \$10 million to implement an infrastructure upgrade to various schools in West Vancouver.</p> <p>He advises input will be sought from the Ministry of Finance to determine next steps.</p>		<p>Ralph Sultan, MLA, West Vancouver-Capilano</p> <p>WV Board of Education</p> <p>C. Kennedy</p> <p>J. Leiterman</p> <p>W. Hickey</p>	



March 6, 2017

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Member of Parliament  
West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea-to-Sky Country  
6367 Bruce Street  
West Vancouver, British Columbia V7W 2B8

Dear Ms. Goldsmith-Jones:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the West Vancouver Board of Education (School District #45), regarding concerns raised at our February public Board meeting related to federal funding that supports the Settlement Workers in Schools program (SWIS). It is our understanding that despite several funding cuts in recent years, the Department of Citizenship, Refugees and Immigration is considering a further 10% cut for 2017, even while demographics and enrolment projections show increasing need for settlement support in communities across the North Shore, in Metro Vancouver and across the country.

Schools provide a critical link to our community at large, and partnerships like the one we have with North Shore Multicultural Society — which provides SWIS services to families in our district — deliver fundamental support for children and their families as they resettle into Canada's diverse communities. This program, which provides important proactive services to adults and children, including orientation, referrals, networking, needs assessment, multi-lingual information sessions and a range of other vital settlement services for families new to our community, quickly becomes a newcomer's lifeline.

Many refugees and permanent resident populations come from very different cultures and backgrounds, and they depend on these services to successfully navigate our schools and take an active role in the life of their community. Our SWIS workers have played, and will continue to play, an integral role in supporting student success in our school district, our province and our country. When polled on their satisfaction rates, families who accessed SWIS services, reported a satisfaction rate greater than 98%, and agreed that the services they received had contributed positively to their overall settlement experience.

Our school district is proud of our country's multicultural heritage and we want all immigrants to feel welcome, supported and eager to participate in the life of our schools and community. We urge you to advocate for expansion, rather than reduction of funding for this program, to ensure that families facing the many challenges of adapting to life in a new country are well supported.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Broady".

Carolyn Broady, Chair  
School District #45 (West Vancouver)

Cc: Board of Education (West Vancouver)  
Chris Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools  
Honourable Ahmed D. Hussen, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship  
Ralph Sultan, MLA, West Vancouver-Capilano  
Jordan Sturdy, MLA, West Vancouver-Sea to Sky



March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Honourable Mike Bernier  
Minister of Education  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Bernier,

The West Vancouver school district is seeking permission from the Ministry of Education for the Province of British Columbia to borrow up to \$10 million in order to implement an Infrastructure upgrade to address critical infrastructure renewal and a capital funding shortfall. The loan will be repaid / funded by the elimination of existing utility waste streams that these upgrades will facilitate. These waste savings will be guaranteed by a third party ESCo (Energy Service Company) to West Vancouver Schools to eliminate the risk for the school district. The debt is expected to be paid for on a term ranging from 20 to 30 years.

The length of term is similar to terms approved by the province for P3 (Public-Private-Partnership) projects but unlike P3's, this will not require any new taxpayer funds. Moreover, if the project is not undertaken, West Vancouver schools will continue to pay the same amount annually on the utility waste streams as it would have on the loan.

West Vancouver Schools cannot act on this opportunity unilaterally as it would contravene the law regarding debt approvals being granted by the Province. As such, we are requesting for the appropriate approval authority from the Province of British Columbia.

I have attached the Business Case for this proposal, which was provided to Michael Nyikes Director, Standards and Construction Branch, Capital Division, Ministry of Education in December 2016.

I look forward to speaking to you about this exciting opportunity.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Broady, Chair  
West Vancouver Board of Education



March 27, 2017

Ref: 193256

Carolyn Broady, Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 45 (West Vancouver)  
Email: [cbroady@wvschools.ca](mailto:cbroady@wvschools.ca)

Dear Ms. Broady:

Thank you for your letter of March 8, 2017, requesting to borrow up to \$10 million to implement an infrastructure upgrade to various schools in West Vancouver.

As this request affects government's debt servicing, we are seeking input from the Ministry of Finance regarding this request and to determine next steps.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or require further information, please contact Michael Nyikes, Director, Capital Standards and Construction by phone at (250) 893-6268 or by email at [Michael.Nyikes@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Michael.Nyikes@gov.bc.ca).

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Bernier".

Mike Bernier  
Minister

pc: Ralph Sultan, MLA, West Vancouver-Capilano