

May 13th, 2016

West Vancouver School District No.45 Correspondence List – May 13th, 2016

Letter Date	From	To	Type	Description	Reply by	Copied To	Action
March 4 th , 2016	Geoff Jopson, Chair, WV Community Foundation	Carolyn Broady Board Chair	Rec'd.	<p>On behalf of the WV Community Foundation, Mr. Jopson writes to express his thanks to the West Vancouver School District for the "outstanding contribution" made with regard to the visit of the Governor General of Canada.</p> <p>He specifically mentions the assistance provided by Superintendent Kennedy in selecting and preparing the panelists, as well as moderating the panel.</p>	N/A	WV Board of Education WV District Leadership Team	
May 4 th , 2016	Michelle Lebeau Open the Doors Campaign Coordinator Capilano University	Carolyn Broady Board Chair	Rec'd.	Ms. Lebeau writes to the Board Chair to advise of a local awareness campaign called "Open the Doors", and requests a meeting to discuss options for basic adult education on the North Shore	CB	WV Board of Education WV District Leadership Team	
May 10 th , 2016	Carolyn Broady, Chair	Michelle Lebeau Open the Doors Campaign Coordinator Capilano University	Sent	Ms. Broady writes to thank Ms. Lebeau for her letter. She advises Ms. Lebeau that her letter will be included in the Board Correspondence and brought to the attention of the West Vancouver Board of Education.	N/A	WV Board of Education WV District Leadership Team	

From: Geoff Jopson [grjopson@gmail.com]

Sent: March 4, 2016 11:00 AM

To: Carolyn Broady

Subject: Public Education at its Very Best

Dear Carolyn:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of the West Vancouver Community Foundation to recognize the outstanding contribution made by your school district with regard to the visit of our Governor General. When we first conceived the idea of inviting the His Excellency to West Vancouver it was with the goal of raising our profile in the community by establishing our Foundation as an organization that has as its focus our commitment to building a smarter, more caring community. I hope that you will agree that we achieved both of these goals yesterday.

Our Board is fully aware, however, that we could not have produced a program of this quality without the West Vancouver School District. Chris Kennedy saw our vision from the beginning, and brought all of the school district's resources to the table. Nothing happens by chance with Chris, and his selection and preparation of the panelists led to a discussion that, quite frankly, amazed the audience. I have had many members of our community comment to me that they found the panel to be the most inspiring they have ever witnessed - smart young people led by a great educator and supported by two very wise and thoughtful adults.

Thanks also to Sentinel Secondary School, and in particular to Mike Finch and Meghan McGuinness-Gill, who allowed us to squeeze into that time slot between performances, when their contract with the Meek gave them the right to hold that space for set up and technical changes. As I'm sure you understand, this was really the only venue that would have been suitable, and Sentinel could not have been more cooperative.

If one wanted to showcase the talent, creativity and intellect of our youth to this community, they need only to look at the confidence and charm displayed by Sooah Choi, Alison James, Tom Smyth, Scott Brooks, Bradley Friend, Maria Carina Concepcion, Isabella Qian, and Liam Grant on stage yesterday. Wonderful performances that delighted the audience and so impressed Their Excellencies.

Thanks as well to Sharon Pierce, who, as always, made things happen quietly behind the scenes. When I was unable to get a program ready on short notice, Sharon produced it, had it printed and delivered within 24 hours.

Finally, let me acknowledge the achievements of your district with regard to the relationships you have established with our aboriginal community. The welcome that Their Excellencies received from Sahplek Lanakila and Tsitsyxamat seems to me a model for communities across the country, and was only made possible by a genuine sense of trust and friendship that has developed in recent years between the school district and the Squamish Nation.

Carolyn, I have heard from a great many people how much they enjoyed and appreciated the event yesterday, and each time I take care to acknowledge how much the school district did to make it happen.

I would be grateful if you would pass this message on to your colleagues on the Board.

Again, thank you, and congratulations.

Sincerely,

Geoff Jopson
Chair, West Vancouver Community Foundation

Michelle Lebeau
Open The Doors Campaign Coordinator
Capilano Faculty Association/Federation of Post Secondary Educators
2055 Purcell Way North Vancouver BC V7J 3H5
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May 4, 2016

Carolyn Broady
President, Board of Education
West Vancouver School District # 45

Dear Ms Broady,

I am contacting you regarding diminishing options for basic education support or upgrading for North Shore adults, including young adults. Over the past few years, we've seen, for example:

- Closure of the North Vancouver School District run Lucas Centre that provided face to face instruction to over 500 adult learners at all levels,
- Discontinuation of foundational/fundamental level courses through either the school district or Capilano University, and
- The application of post-secondary level tuition fees for many adults needing basic education, making access impossible for some and adding a significant debt burden to others.

This impacts:

- Young adults (and others) who have not graduated and who can't find the courses they need
- Young adults (and others) who have graduated and who need upgrading, further support to transition into post secondary, or pre-requisites not taken in high school
- Those who will need to pay post-secondary level tuition fees.

On the North Shore, one or two students in ten who entered Grade Eight six years prior did not graduate, potentially with lower than high school level literacy. Of those who did graduate, about half will not have the academic credentials they need to enter a research university (based on BC statistic). The school districts and boards are under a great deal of public scrutiny regarding statistics like these, but the reality is this: we need more than one way to help people succeed. By taking away clear pathways after age 19, we are severely impacting adults, including young adults and their parents.

We are undertaking a local awareness raising campaign called "Open The Doors" that connects with a provincial campaign led by the Federation of Post Secondary Educators. We would like the opportunity to meet with you and others to talk with you about how diminishing options for basic adult education impacts young adults and their parents on the North Shore. We would be willing to attend your regularly meetings or to arrange a meeting specifically on this issue that includes a range of school district/board and PAC groups (cc'd on this correspondence). I look forward to hearing back from you.

Warm regards,
Michelle Lebeau
NS Literacy Outreach Coordinator
Open The Door Campaign Coordinator
Capilano University
2055 Purcell Way
North Vancouver
Email: mlebeau@capilanou.ca
Phone: 604-986-1911 Local 5824

<http://www.educationfairness.ca/>

BASIC EDUCATION IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT

Failure to complete high school limits job and career options and is often associated with poor life outcomes such as higher criminality, poorer health and a greater dependence on social services. It holds individuals back from realizing their potential. It holds back our collective, economic and social progress. The public interest in eliminating barriers to participation in post-secondary education requires that no tuition be charged to any adult learner seeking to upgrade their education by completing high school courses. — GEOFF PLANT, Campus 2020

cc: Chris Kennedy, Superintendent, West Vancouver School District #45
Dave Platt, District Administrator, WVSD#45
Abbie Milavsky, President, West Vancouver District PAC



May 10th, 2016

Michelle Lebeau
North Shore Literacy Outreach Coordinator
Open the Doors Campaign Coordinator
Capilano University
2055 Purcell Way
North Vancouver, BC V7J 3H5

Dear Ms. Lebeau,

Thank you for your letter of May 4th advising us of the "Open the Doors" awareness-raising campaign and your request to meet with the Board of Education to discuss options for basic adult education on the North Shore.

Please be advised that your letter will be included with our public list of Board Correspondence, and this issue will be brought to the attention of all members of the West Vancouver Board of Education.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Broady, Chair
West Vancouver Board of Education

cc: West Vancouver Board of Education
Chris Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools
Dave Platt, District Administrator
Abbie Milavsky, President, WV District Parent Advisory Council