



Reference: 270876

June 27, 2022

VIA EMAIL: dforse@exc.sd73.bc.ca

Heather Grieve, Board Chair
School District No. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson)
1383 – 9th Avenue
Kamloops, British Columbia
V2C 3X7

Dear Heather Grieve:

Thank you for your letter of June 14, 2022, to Minister Conroy, regarding your request to expedite the Crown Grant application for the Pineview Elementary School (File 3407965) and to further your other two Crown Grant applications for schools in Batchelor Heights and Juniper Ridge.

I appreciate your concerns with timelines associated with the Crown Grant process and the School District's desire to respond to enrolment and capacity issues by securing funding to build new schools. I also recognize the importance of these applications and appreciate the School District's patience as Lands staff work through the complex process of creating an Order in Council to grant the land for these projects.

Presently, the Pineview Elementary Order in Council has been routed to Cabinet Operations for final consideration. Your application for Crown Grants in Juniper Ridge (File 3413531) and Batchelor Heights (File 3413702) were accepted on December 15, 2021 and March 1, 2022 respectively, and therefore, are in the early stages of the process. Our staff are aware of the priority of these applications and are actively working on them. Both applications are currently in the referral and consultation stage of the process.

Crown Grant applications are amongst the most complex *Land Act* applications, and they commonly take over four years to complete. I encourage you to take this timeline into consideration for your future planning. Furthermore, I recommend that SD73 conducts thorough consultation with all affected First Nations in advance of making an application as this will expedite our process.

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Heather Grieve, Board Chair

I encourage you to continue working closely with Lands staff to see the timely resolution of these applications.

Again, thank you for writing to share your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerry MacDougall', is centered on a light gray rectangular background.

Gerry MacDougall
Regional Executive Director

pc: Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests
Gord Humphrey, A/Section Head, Crown Lands, Thompson-Okanagan Region