

February 17, 2024

via email: educ.minister@gov.bc.ca

Honourable Minister of Education, Rachna Singh
PO Box 9045, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2

Re: Expedite Crown Grant Application

Dear Honourable Minister Rachna Singh:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Kamloops-Thompson Board of Education. We have attempted to appeal to the Honourable Minister Cullen regarding a matter of urgency pertaining to a Crown Grant application. We are requesting your assistance in communicating the urgency to Honourable Minister Cullen in his new role as Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to expedite the Crown Grant application for Batchelor Heights Elementary School site.

We have provided Minister Cullen with this information:

On February 4, 2023, we had written a thank you letter to Mr. Gord Humphrey who had expedited the Crown application through the local Ministry of Forests office. The need to expedite this application was because our Board had just approved a catchment change to manage the overflow of students in Westmount Elementary School which was at 181% capacity utilization. We displaced 90 Batchelor Heights students out of Westmount Elementary School and relocated them to two non-catchment area schools while we wait for funding approval and construction of a new school in Batchelor Heights.

For the Ministry of Education and Child Care to provide funding approval for this new school, we first require Crown Grant approval. On April 19, 2023, our Director of Facilities, Mr. Art McDonald, had been informed that the Order In Council request had been sent to Victoria for processing.

Our Board appeals to you for your assistance to make the processing of this Crown Grant application a high priority. Your support is appreciated and necessary now to help us to expedite the funding approval for the new Batchelor Heights Elementary School.

Sincerely,



Heather Grieve,
Board Chair, School District No. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson)

cc: SD73 Board of Education, Secretary Treasurer, Superintendent, Director of Facilities,
Minister of Water, Land and Resource; MLAs, City of Kamloops Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer