



September 24, 2014

Ref: 177384

Peg Orcherton, Chair  
School District No. 61 (Victoria)  
**Email: pegorcherton@telus.net**

Dear Mrs. Orcherton:

Thank you for your letter sharing your views about the recent job action. I greatly appreciate you taking the time to bring your concerns to my attention.

As you know, a negotiated settlement has been reached between the BCTF and BCPSEA with an historic six-year contract with teachers—both sides should be congratulated for their efforts in reaching a deal.

Government has found a way to give teachers a fair raise, improve classroom composition, and address class size, all without raising taxes. The settlement is also an important step in building a better relationship with the BCTF.

We can now have meaningful and productive discussions with teachers, parents, and our education partners in the years to come as we continue to transform our world-class education system.

In the meantime, educators are confident that schools can deliver full education programs and meet all curriculum and learning outcomes within the remaining school calendar timeframe.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Fassbender". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peter Fassbender  
Minister