



July 2, 2015

Ref: 179112

Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
**Email: [eloring@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:eloring@sd61.bc.ca)**

Dear Ms. Loring-Kuhanga:

Thank you for your letter of December 12, 2014, addressed to the Honourable Michael de Jong, Minister of Finance, regarding K–12 education recommendations of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services. I am pleased to respond on the Minister's behalf and apologize for the delay.

In line with the Committee's recommendations, I agree that secure education funding is important to ensure the effective planning and sustainable delivery of public education provincially, and we believe *Budget 2015* achieves this goal. The new collective agreements with teachers and support staff provide important and significant investments into our public school system in each of the coming three years. School district operating grants for public boards of education will reach \$4.827 billion in the 2015/16 school year, which includes an increase of \$101 million over 2014/15 funding levels. In addition, the Learning Improvement Fund will increase 33 percent to \$100 million in 2015/16.

We recognize that school districts are making great efforts to provide the highest quality public education for their communities with the funding they are provided.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Peter Fassbender  
Minister

pc: Honourable Michael de Jong, Minister of Finance