

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61 (GREATER VICTORIA) 556 BOLESKINE ROAD, VICTORIA, BC V8Z 1E8 PHONE (250) 475-4106 FAX (250) 475-4112

May 17, 2017

Via email: educ.minister@gov.bc.ca
Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca

The Honourable Mike Bernier
Minister of Education
The Honourable Stephanie Cadieux
Minister of Children and Family Development
PO Box 9045, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 9E2

IRE: \$10 per day Child Care Plan

Dear Ministers Bernier and Cadieux:

On February 18, 2013, the Greater Victoria Board of Education passed the following motion unanimously:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter of endorsement to the Premier Christy Clark and the Leader of the Opposition Adrian Dix supporting the Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning, otherwise known as the \$10/Day/Child Care Plan.

On April 24, 2017, the Greater Victoria Board of Education reaffirmed their commitment to the \$10 a day Child Care Plan and passed the following motion unanimously:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) re-affirm their endorsement of the \$10 a day Childcare Plan including the inclusion of early learning and childcare being brought under the Ministry of Education and that a letter be written to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Children and Family Development urging this change and the necessary capital investment to create childcare space on school district property with the announced \$7.5 billion Federal funding.

Quality child care and learning programs are critical for children's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development. These play-based programs provide support for families and a strong foundation for young learners.

The \$10 a Day Child Care Plan emphasizes the importance of quality programming with qualified, fairly compensated Early Childhood Educators (ECEs). Children who have experienced quality child care and learning come to school with a solid foundation and are more likely to graduate and, therefore, contribute positively to the society in British Columbia.

The \$10 a Day Child Care Plan will provide needed assistance for families, reduce poverty, provide opportunities for parents to work and study and, in the end, it makes sense economically.

In addition, we see the value of bringing the Ministry of Children and Families and the Ministry of Education into a single structure. We feel that it would provide a seamless support system for children from birth to graduation.

Further, we feel that this is a timely request given our urgent need for capital to support the continuation of child care on District properties, particularly given the Federal Government's recent \$7.5 billion commitment to child care.

Sincerely,

Edith Loring-Kuhanga

Board Chair

Cc: Board of Education

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools

Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer