



July 26, 2018

Ref: 204001

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 dated June 26, 2018, regarding the K–12 Education Funding Model Review. I appreciate Greater Victoria School District's interest in continuing further consultation on the funding formula and your expression of support for several motions from the BCSTA Annual General Meeting.

As per my letter of July 13, 2018, to all board chairs, the Funding Model Review consultations undertaken by the Independent Review Panel have concluded and the Panel is deliberating on their recommendations. I am pleased to report the panel completed an extensive engagement process where it heard from all 60 school districts. In addition, the panel held direct meetings with the First Nations Education Steering Committee, and numerous other educational partners and stakeholder groups engaged with the panel in person or in writing. Written submissions received by the panel can be viewed [here](#) and the Panel's "What we Heard" paper can be found [here](#).

I expect to receive the panel's report toward the end of the summer, and I anticipate being able to share the Panel's full report later this winter. To ensure appropriate technical expertise from the sector is incorporated, Ministry of Education staff will call upon the Technical Review Committee as needed throughout this process and will be establishing a small Implementation Advisory Committee to ensure we consider the most appropriate transition plan. I would like to reassure the Board that I recognize there will be a need to create an implementation plan to help facilitate the transition from the old funding model to the new. Throughout this transition period, we will keep all school districts informed on progress with regular updates and through working cooperatively with educational partners.

With regard to suspending audits, we will not be making a change to the system at this time. Current policies remain in place and are expected to be followed until any new funding rules take effect, as the people of British Columbia expect the provincial government to continue to be good stewards of the funds it receives and distributes. To address your question about future change as a result of the panel's recommendations, I would anticipate that the audit process would be updated accordingly to be aligned with new policies at that time.

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