



## TOWN OF VIEW ROYAL

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March 21, 2025

Honourable Lisa Beare  
Minister of Education and Child Care  
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Via Email: [ECC.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ECC.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Beare,

### **Re: Support for a Trustee Electoral Area Election Model for SD 61**

On behalf of Council, the Town of View Royal wishes to express its strong support for the Township of Esquimalt's request for the Ministry of Education and Child Care to consider and approve the implementation of a Trustee Electoral Area election model for School District 61 (Greater Victoria).

We believe that equitable and localized representation is foundational to effective and accountable school governance. The current at-large system fails to adequately reflect the distinct voices and educational priorities of the many unique communities within SD 61, including municipalities such as View Royal, as well as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

In support of this effort, the Town of View Royal urges the Ministry to direct the establishment of an inclusive and collaborative task force—led by SD 61 and including representation from all six member municipalities, as well as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations. Their inclusion is vital to ensuring that Indigenous perspectives are fully recognized and embedded in the governance of our public education system.

A Trustee Electoral Area model that is fair, geographically representative, and reflective of the diversity of communities in SD 61 will strengthen our shared commitment to equity, reconciliation, and good governance. We respectfully ask that the Ministry consider this change in advance of the 2026 Local Government and School Board Elections.

Sincerely,

Sid Tobias, MSM, CD, MA  
Mayor

cc: Sherri Bell, Official Trustee, School District No. 61  
Hon. Darlene Rotchford, MLA Esquimalt-Colwood  
Hon. Diana Gibson, MLA Oak Bay-Gordon Head  
Hon. Grace Lore, MLA Victoria-Beacon Hill  
Hon. Lana Popham, MLA Saanich South  
Hon. Nina Krieger, MLA Victoria-Swan Lake  
Esquimalt Nation  
Township of Esquimalt  
District of Highlands  
District of Oak Bay  
District of Saanich  
Songhees Nation  
City of Victoria