



THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF OAK BAY
MUNICIPAL HALL – 2167 OAK BAY AVENUE – VICTORIA, BC V8R 1G2
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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Via email: ecc.minister@gov.bc.ca

April 7, 2025

Honourable Lisa Beare
Ministry of Education and Child Care
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt,
Victoria, BC V8W9E2

Dear Minister Beare:

Re: Support for a Trustee Electoral Area Election Model for School District 61

At the Oak Bay Council meeting held March 24, 2025, Council received correspondence from the Township of Esquimalt dated March 19, 2025 and resolved: *“THAT the Mayor draft a letter to the Province in support of Esquimalt’s request to explore Trustee Electoral Area options for School District 61.”*

On behalf of Council, I would like to express our support for the Township of Esquimalt’s request that the Ministry of Education and Child Care consider the implementation of a Trustee Electoral Area election model for School District 61, following comprehensive consultation with the communities served by the School District. The District of Oak Bay believes that an inclusive and collaborative task force would ensure that a proposed model reflects the diverse needs and perspectives of those it serves.

We respectfully request that the Ministry consider this task force and any proposed changes in advance of the 2026 Local Government and School Board Elections, ensuring sufficient time for consultation and planning. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response and to the opportunity to collaborate on this important initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Murdoch, Mayor
District of Oak Bay

*c. 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
Songhees Nation
Township of Esquimalt
Town of View Royal
City of Victoria
District of Saanich*