



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

December 18, 2017

The Honourable Rob Fleming

Minister of Education

PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fleming,

RE: Request for trustee inclusion on funding model review panel

The current Ministry of Education review of the funding distribution model (i.e. the funding formula to school districts) is of significant importance to the BC School Trustees Association and our member boards. As you would appreciate, the relative distribution of financial resources to individual school districts and programs is key to the business of boards of education. As locally elected representatives of our communities, we are asked to make decisions and value judgements about the priorities for our school districts and where best to assign limited resources to meet the needs of our students.

With this in mind, I would respectfully request the inclusion of a trustee representative on the independent review panel to be formed this spring. BCSTA believes the inclusion of a trustee representative will ensure a direct connection to local boards of education and the communities across BC that they represent.

BCSTA supports the need for a review of the current funding model, and the goal of ensuring resources are equitably distributed to all 60 of our school districts. We also believe, however, that equitable funding must allow a reasonable opportunity for each and every student to have their educational needs and aspirations addressed. Elected trustees serve as representatives of these students, their families and communities toward ensuring this goal is met.

Thank you for considering my request. I would be pleased to discuss this matter with you and your senior team at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G B Swan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gordon Swan

President

BC School Trustees Association

cc: Scott MacDonald, Deputy Minister of Education