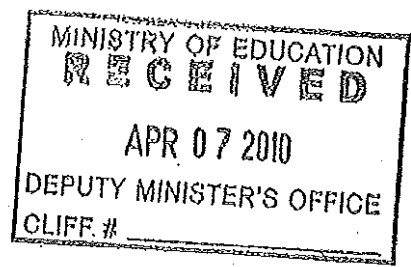


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Hon. Margaret MacDiarmid,
Minister of Education

We, the undersigned, constitute the majority of the membership of the Council of the British Columbia College of Teachers and represent both elected and appointed members of the College Council.

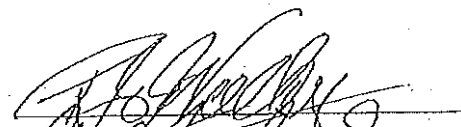
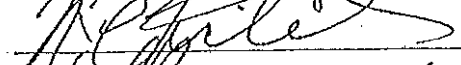
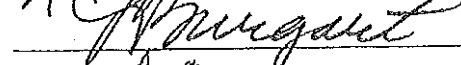

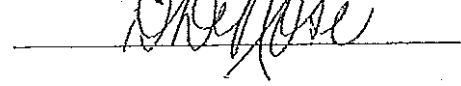
The members of other self-regulating bodies consent to the obligations required of professional self-regulation and agree to the need for independence in the exercise of a regulating body's legislated mandate. Since its creation in 1988, the College has been hampered in its role by the ongoing influence of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation over the College Council. This influence is exercised through the endorsement of candidates, union policy and liaison between the BCTF and BCTF-endorsed council members. The result of this influence is a widespread concern that the College is unable to carry out its mandate in the public interest.

Recent efforts by the majority of Council to initiate reform to advance the independence of the College have been thwarted. The inability to resolve the governance issue impedes Council's ability to conduct the important business of the College. The undersigned believe that the possibility of making necessary and lasting reforms cannot be accomplished in the current circumstances.

As a consequence, the undersigned call on government to:

- 1) suspend upcoming elections and appointments to the College Council until such time as the government can
- 2) appoint an independent investigator to undertake an examination of the function of the College Council and make recommendations regarding self-regulation of the teaching profession.

Signed this 1st Day of April, 2010, in the city of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

 Richard Walker, Chair
 Norm Nichols, Vice Chair
 Louise Burgart
 Tim Dunford
 DeDe DeRose



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

April 16, 2010

The Honourable Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt,
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister MacDiarmid,

I write on behalf of the BCSTA Board of Directors to voice our support to the recent request from the BC College of Teachers for an independent examination of the function of the College Council.

The College's role of assuring high professional standards for teachers in British Columbia is vital to boards of education, the general public, and in particular students. It is evident that the College Council has reached an impasse in its efforts to internally resolve questions of the independence of its work. This issue has escalated to a level of dysfunction that is now impeding the functioning of the College.

BCSTA believes that it would be very helpful if the Ministry immediately initiated an independent review of the College so that public and education partner confidence can be restored as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Connie Denesiuk", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Connie Denesiuk
President

Cc: James Gorman, Deputy Minister of Education
Richard Walker, Chair, BC College of Teachers



BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

Suite 350, 5172 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 2E8
Tel: (604) 687-4433 Toll free: 1-866-529-4397 Fax: (604) 687-4488
E-mail: info@bccpac.bc.ca

April 12, 2010

Honourable Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education (Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy)
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt,
Victoria BC V8W9E2
Minister.Educ@gov.bc.ca
Tel: 250-367-1977 / Fax: 250-387-3200

RE: B.C. CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS MEMBER RESOLUTIONS – BC COLLEGE OF TEACHERS (BCCT)

Dear Minister Margret MacDiarmid,

At the BCCPAC Annual General Meetings, member delegates representing Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) and District Parent Advisory Councils (DPACs) gather together from around the province to discuss important issues vital to student success. Parents have long debated the BCCT at our meetings over the years and have several resolutions on record. Recent events unfolding at the BC College of Teachers compel us to remind you of our member resolution;

2004.19 Assuring the Independence of the BC College of Teachers

That BCCPAC urge the Ministry of Education to ensure that the Teaching Profession Amendment Act paragraph 28(4)(C.1) (Bill 51, 2003) guarantees the Independence of the BC College of Teachers and its freedom from the influence of any one voice in the education community to ensure student, parent, and the public interest is protected.

We bring your attention to this resolution to express the concerns of parents with the current situation occurring at the BCCT. We understand that Chair Richard Walker has called for an investigation and we would urge the Ministry of Education to follow through with this request, to ensure that the public interest is protected by processes that guarantee its independence.

Sincerely,

Ann Whiteaker, BCCPAC President

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BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

Suite 350, 5172. Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 2E8
Tel: (604) 687-4433 Toll free: 1-866-529-4397 Fax: (604) 687-4488
E-mail: info@bccpac.bc.ca

Wednesday, April 28

Honourable Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt,
Victoria, BC V8W9E2
Minister.Educ@gov.bc.ca
Tel: 250-367-1977/Fax: 250-387-3200

Dear Minister MacDiarmid,

Further to our letter dated, April 12, 2010 (copy attached for your convenience) we are writing to express our concern that an Independent investigation has not yet been announced.

As you know we had our Spring Conference and AGM recently and at this event we heard from many delegates from numerous districts throughout the province with concerns regarding the current structure and functioning of the College. We would also at this time bring your attention to the following:

- 1) Unlike teachers, parents do not have the right to appeal a decision of the College.
- 2) The current process for filing and reviewing of complaints and the time it takes for these to be dealt with, often negates a parent's rights to other remedies. (e.g. statute of limitations on Human Rights)
- 3) Information to complainants, as to what actions are taken, if any, is very limited.
- 4) Information and understanding that the BCCT exists as an avenue for parents to file a complaint is limited throughout the province and seldom offered or discouraged at the school or district level.

We would again urge the Ministry of Education to follow through with the request for an independent investigation which would ensure that the public interest is protected by processes that guarantee the independence of the College and improve the ability to have the legislative mandate met. If you require additional information or we can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

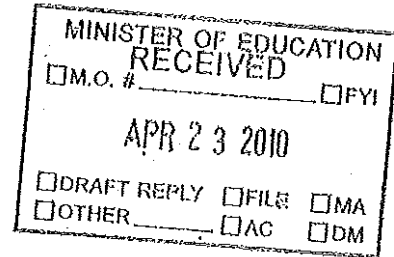
Sincerely,

Ann Whiteaker, President
Supporting student success through parent involvement.

c.c.

- James Gorman, Deputy Minister of Education / Sherril Mohoruk, Ministry of Education
- Richard Walker, Chair BCCT/Kit Krieger, Registrar, BCCT
- Irene Lanzinger, President, BCTF

20 April 2010



The Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V9W 0E2

Dear Minister MacDiarmid,

I write this on behalf of the BCPVPA Board of Directors in support of the recent request from the BC College of Teachers to suspend upcoming elections and appointments to the College Council until such time as the government can appoint an independent investigator to undertake an examination of the function of the College Council and to make recommendations regarding self-regulation of the teaching profession.

Our association is concerned with the erosion of public confidence in the ability of the College Council to function and believes that this request is both timely and appropriate in potentially restoring faith in the College's ability to undertake its mandate in the public interest.

Yours sincerely,

Marilyn Merler
President

MM:N

FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS



150 Robson Street
Vancouver, BC
V6B 2A7

Freedom Involves Secure Alternatives

April 20, 2010

Hon. Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister MacDiarmid,

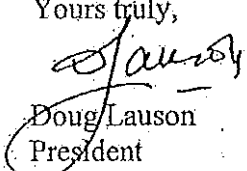
For many years the Federation of Independent School Associations (FISA) has worked closely with the BC College of Teachers to ensure that the teaching profession in our Province is held to high but fair standards. Through our mutual understanding of the mandate of the College, the FISA and the College have been able to collaborate together for the common good of the teaching profession and in the public interest.

Most recently, the issue of the governance of the BC College of Teachers has been in the forefront of the College Council's business. To be an effective self-regulating body, the BC College of Teachers Council must be allowed to function free and clear of external forces and pressures from the stakeholder groups that it is to govern. The FISA supports the report and recommendations of the Governance Sub-Committee published on January 27, 2010. Please find attached a copy of the presentation made to the College Council at the public meeting of April 1, 2010. This presentation clearly states the position of the FISA on this matter of College governance.

Having witnessed first-hand how this issue has taken over the business of the Council, and how the College Council is now paralyzed and unable to do the good work that it is mandated to do, I write this letter to urge you to protect the functionality and independence of the College. This is essential to the future of the teaching profession.

Should you wish to further discuss this matter, the Executive Director, Fred Herfst and I would be willing to meet in the near future.

Yours truly,


Doug Lawson
President

Tel 604 684.6023 or 604 684.7846

Fax 604 684.3163

E-mail fisabc@telus.net

Web www.fisabc.ca



BCSSA

British Columbia
School Superintendents
Association

Suite 208, 1118 Homer St
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6B 6L5
www.bcssa.org

April 26, 2010

The Honourable Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister MacDiarmid

On behalf of the BC School Superintendents Association, I would like to express our support for an independent examination of the function of the College Council.

The BCSSA has long supported the standards of the College, which must be administered professionally and independently in protection of the public interest and our students. The BCSSA will be very supportive of the Ministry in its efforts to review the College and make recommendations that will restore it to a fully independent professional self-regulation in which we can all trust.

Sincerely

Dr. Keven Elder
President

c.c. James Gorman, Deputy Minister
Richard Walker, Chair, BCCT
Connie Dènesiuk, President, BCSTA
Marilyn Merler, President, BCPVPA
Ann Whiteacker, President, BCCPAC
Irene Lanzinger, President, BCTF
David Green, President, BCASBO