

School District No. 74 (Gold Trail)

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November 29, 2019

Honourable Shane Simpson
Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
engageaccessibility@gov.bc.ca

Dear Honourable Minister,

The Gold Trail Board of Education would like to express our appreciation to the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction in their public engagement process regarding accessibility through legislation.

As the governors of a public school district, we see the importance of accessibility and inclusion through the students and families we serve and the staff employed in the district. We also see the negative impact when individuals face systems and organizations that are not accessible or inclusive. The board wants each person to have the genuine right and ability to achieve their potential throughout their life.

Far too many seen and unseen barriers are preventing individuals from achieving their goals and we fear are keeping people from dreaming of what their lives could be. Our societal systems and structures were established to benefit the privileged while disadvantaging others. New legislation and the creation of accessibility standards, as described in the survey, will move British Columbia forward to becoming an equitable province for each citizen.

We look forward to hearing the results of the public engagement process on this topic.

Sincerely,

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Rempel".

NANCY REMPEL
Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Valerie Adrian".

VALERIE ADRIAN
Co-Chair

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