



## BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

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August 6, 2015

Jim Iker, President  
BC Teachers' Federation  
#100-550 West 6th Ave  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2  
email: jiker@bctf.ca

### **RE: 2015 B.C. CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS - MEMBER RESOLUTIONS**

Dear Mr. Iker,

At the 2015 BCCPAC Annual General Meeting, member delegates representing Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) and District Parent Advisory Councils (DPACs) gathered together from around the province to discuss important issues vital to student success and approved several resolutions.

At this time, we would like to bring to your attention the following resolutions; we kindly ask that you review these resolutions **listed in Section A** and provide a written response indicating steps you are prepared to take to address the concerns expressed. We also welcome an opportunity to discuss them in person with your organization at your earliest convenience.

#### ***Section A:***

##### ***2015.27 Gender Identification***

BCCPAC call on the Ministry of Education to allow students to select and use their preferred gender and name on district documentation and in the classroom.

##### ***2015.28 Seismic Upgrades Needed for Schools***

BCCPAC call on the Ministry of Education to fully fund repairs and replacement of all British Columbia schools that have deemed 'High risk' and in need of seismic upgrades by 2020.

**In addition we have listed the following resolutions (Section B) passed by our membership that may be of specific interest to your organisation and you may wish to comment on:**

#### ***Section B:***

##### ***2015.13 – Reaffirmation of Resolution 2007.6: Prohibition on Asbestos Removal***

BCCPAC advocates for prohibition on asbestos removal in schools except in emergency situations when asbestos cannot be covered, contained, or sealed.

**2015.14 – Reaffirmation of Resolution 2008:22: Construction Guidelines**

BCCPAC advocate for the development of guidelines to protect student Health and Safety during construction when students occupy a school

**2015.18 – Advocating for Systemic and Cultural Change**

BCCPAC advocates for systemic and cultural change in our schools to reflect the principles of sustaining passion for learning, building on strengths and addressing challenges.

**2015.19- Transitional Support for Systemic Change**

BCCPAC advocates for additional resources including support services for school staff whenever substantial systemic change is being implemented.

**2015.20 - Funding for Private Schools**

BCCPAC insist that the government redesign its funding formula for independent schools to remove the unfair advantages inherent in its current policy by doing the following:

1. Only include the funding amounts for English Language Learners, Aboriginal Students, Adult Learners and Vulnerable Students (associated with poverty) if the independent school actually has equivalent proportions of properly identified students in those categories enrolled.
2. Remove the public school's declining enrolment supplement from the base amount used to calculate the per student grant for independent schools.
3. Only fund distributed learning programs to the 50% (Group 1) or 35% (Group 2) base standards used for independent school grants.

**2015.21– Proper Funding for Quality Public Education in B.C.**

BCCPAC insist on the Government's commitment to an immediate significant increase in grants to School Districts in B.C., which directly address the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services' five recommendations for K-12 Public Education in B.C. - Nov. 2014 (pgs.24-25) which read as follows:

22. Provide stable, predictable, and adequate funding to enable school districts to fulfill their responsibility to provide continued equitable access to quality public education, and to meet required repair and maintenance needs.
23. Provide adequate capital funding to school districts for facility improvements, seismic upgrades, and additional schools in rapidly growing communities.
24. Provide support for proposed new K-12 initiatives such as personalized learning and enhanced trades and technology training.
25. Provide resources to identify and address the growing number of students with special needs and those with minimal English language skills.
26. Restore the separate library line item in the Ministry of Education budget for public libraries, and commit to stable, ongoing funding.

**2015.22 – Reflective Clothing Recommendations**

BCCPAC advocate for guidelines that require reflective material on all outerwear that is supplied to students by districts for school sponsored programs.

**2015.23 – Regulation of Special Education Assistants**

BCCPAC advocates for the creation of an organization similar to the Teacher Regulation Branch to oversee and regulate the conduct of Special Education Assistants.

**2015.24 – Standards for Special Education Assistants**

BCCPAC advocates for provincially mandated standards and practices for Special Education Assistants and similar support staff that include training, conduct and discipline processes.

**2015.25 – Reaffirmation of 1998.2 Retribution**

BCCPAC promote the development of policy and procedure in collaboration with schools and school districts to ensure that students and parents will not experience retribution when bringing their concerns forward to school district staff.

**2015.26 – Outdoor Play Structures**

BCCPAC call on the provincial government to provide new funds to cover the full cost of accessible outdoor play environments and equipment for new and replacement schools and for schools where existing equipment is deemed unsafe.

We have included a compilation of all the approved resolutions from our 2015 Annual General Meeting for your interest.

If you have any comments or questions about how to respond, please direct them to [info@bccpac.bc.ca](mailto:info@bccpac.bc.ca)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Makohoniuk', is written over a light yellow rectangular background.

Nicole Makohoniuk, BCCPAC President  
On behalf of the BCCPAC Board of Directors  
[nicolemakohoniuk@bccpac.bc.ca](mailto:nicolemakohoniuk@bccpac.bc.ca)

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