



May 10, 2018

Ref: 201758

Gordon Swan, President  
BC School Trustees Association  
**Email: gswan@bcsta.org**

Dear Mr. Swan:

Thank you for your letter of March 16, 2018, requesting the Ministry of Education conclude a long-term comprehensive strategic plan for Aboriginal education.

The first recommendation in the Auditor General's November 2015 report called on the Ministry to lead the collaboratively development of a system-wide strategy with accountabilities. The Ministry met with BC's education partners, after which it articulated a handful of goals spanning topics, such as learning environments, academic outcomes, and transitions between systems. Thank you for the invaluable input of the BC School Trustees Association.

While conversations with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) are ongoing, the Ministry continues to pursue the goals identified to date, just as it continues to act on all 11 recommendations made by the Auditor General. For example, the Ministry has recently addressed the educational experience of Aboriginal students through a variety of measures, from changes to curriculum and investments in language learning to the improvements in practice stemming from the emerging Equity in Action project.

Again, thank you for your letter and its acknowledgment of our shared responsibility to ensure Aboriginal learners are provided real opportunities for success no matter where they live and what schools they attend. Your membership's desire to contribute to reconciliation, and your organization's commitment to cooperate effectively with other key partners, such as FNESC, will go a long way to achieving that objective.

Sincerely,

Rob Fleming  
Minister