



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

August 18, 2023

The Honourable Rachna Singh
Minister of Education and Child Care
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2
ecc.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Singh,

Subject: Funding for CommunityLINK and the Equity of Opportunity Supplement

At the British Columbia School Trustees Association's 2023 annual general meeting, our members, representing all 60 boards of education in B.C., passed the following resolution:

"That BCSTA request the Ministry of Education and Child Care provide the data and rationale on how CommunityLINK and the Equity of Opportunity Supplement funding is determined and distributed to districts, and further, that the Ministry of Education and Child Care increase the funding for CommunityLINK and the Equity of Opportunity Supplement to ensure equitable distribution without a negative impact to current levels of district funding."

On May 31, I had the opportunity to meet with several members of your ministry alongside BCSTA CEO Suzanne Hoffman. During those meetings, we met with Assistant Deputy Minister Chris Brown, and his team, to discuss the motion outlined above.

Our discussions informed us that, with the introduction of the Feeding Futures Fund, the Ministry of Education and Child Care is currently reviewing CommunityLINK funding allocations. Our membership has indicated that the current CommunityLINK and the Equity of Opportunity Supplement allocations are insufficient to serve growing student populations, and we are encouraged to hear that they are actively being reviewed. We understand that the ministry is working with the Funding Equity Committee as part of reviewing resources directed toward vulnerable students, and we look forward to hearing of improvements to funding in the near future.



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By increasing CommunityLINK and the Equity of Opportunity Supplement allocations, we can provide better programs that students need to meet their full potential while not burdening school districts with a reliance on grants and community support to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Broady". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carolyn Broady

President

British Columbia School Trustees Association

Motion: A202328

Enclosure: Original motion rationale

CC: Christina Zacharuk, Deputy Minister of Education and Child Care
Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister
BCSTA member boards of education
Suzanne Hoffman, CEO, BCSTA
BCSTA Board of Directors