



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 47 (POWELL RIVER)

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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July 12, 2016

Honourable M. Bernier
Minister of Education
Office of the Minister
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Government
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Bernier,

I am writing to thank you and your staff for your exemplary efforts in recognizing the importance of rural schools and the significance they have in our communities. The funding commitment you have provided allows us to complete our long term plan without any further closures or loss of programming. Our long term plan has been witness to the closure of 40% of our schools to maximize capacity and enhance the educational opportunities for students. This funding will bring much needed stability to our District.

We appreciate your staff's quick response to these issues and their ability to put this plan in place in such a short time frame. This process has shown your ability to listen to boards and be responsive to their needs at critical times. We would like to recognize your staff specifically Kim Abbott and George Farkas for their ability to be flexible, recognize our unique situation, and work under pressure with competing interests to have a plan that work for us.

Yours truly,

Mr. Doug Skinner
Chairperson
Board of Education
School District 47 (Powell River)

cc: George.Farkas@gov.bc.ca
Kim.Abbott@gov.bc.ca

DS/ac