



April 12, 2023

Ref: 285978

Marie-Pierre Lavoie, Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 93 (Conseil scolaire francophone)
Email: mariepierre_lavoie@csf.bc.ca

Dear Mme. Lavoie:

I am responding to a letter dated September 29, 2022, from Patrick Gatien, former Board Chair, requesting approval for the Conseil scolaire francophone Board of Education to underspend its targeted Indigenous Education funding amount for the 2021/22 school year. As this is targeted funding under Section 106.4 of the *School Act*, Boards of Education must request permission from the Minister of Education and Child Care to underspend their target on an annual basis. As Deputy Minister of Education and Child Care, I am pleased to respond on the Minister's behalf.

Pursuant to Section 106.4(2) of the *School Act*, approval is granted for the Board to underspend its 2021/22 school year Indigenous Education target in an amount up to \$45,344. This variation of direction is granted on the condition that these funds will be brought forward and added to the 2022/23 school year Indigenous Education targeted amount to be expended on Indigenous Education programs. I encourage you to discuss your Indigenous Education targeted funding plans with the District Indigenous Education Council or equivalent, including the Nations and Métis Chartered communities whom you serve, to ensure respectful and meaningful engagement with Indigenous Peoples on the use of these funds.

Appendix to this letter contains statistics about your school district's Indigenous student outcomes. I hope we will see you build upon these achievements and strive for strong academic results for all your students in the current and subsequent school years.

If you have any questions or require further information regarding the financial reporting of Indigenous Education expenses, please contact Ian Aaron, Director, School District Financial Reporting, Resource Management Division, by phone at (250) 415-1073 or by email at Ian.Aaron@gov.bc.ca.

If you have any questions or require further information regarding how the Ministry is supporting delivery of Indigenous Education programs, please contact Stephanie Sinitsin, A/Director, Indigenous Education, Learning Division, by phone at (250) 896-4603 or by email at Stephanie.Sinitsin@gov.bc.ca.

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Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Christina Zacharuk
Deputy Minister

pc: Bertrand Dupain, Superintendent of Schools
Simon Couture, Secretary-Treasurer
Bonnie Lepine Antoine, District Principal of Indigenous Education
Stephanie Sinitsin, A/Director, Indigenous Education, Learning Division, Ministry of Education
Jonathan Foweraker, Executive Director, Resource Management Division, Ministry of Education
Ian Aaron, Director, School District Financial Reporting, Resource Management Division

Appendix – SD93 (Conseil scolaire francophone) Indigenous Student Achievements

In 2021/22 on the Grade 4 Literacy assessment, 79% of Indigenous students were “On Track” or “Extending” expectations on the revised FSA compared to 80% of Non-Indigenous students in SD93.

In 2021/22 on the Grade 4 Numeracy assessment, 67% of Indigenous students were “On Track” or “Extending” expectations on the revised FSA compared to 74% of Non-Indigenous students in SD93.

In 2021/22 on the Grade 7 Literacy assessment, 85% of Indigenous students were “On Track” or “Extending” expectations on the revised FSA compared to 82% of Non-Indigenous students in SD93.

In 2021/22 on the Grade 7 Numeracy assessment, 58% of Indigenous students were “On Track” or “Extending” expectations on the revised FSA compared to 75% of Non-Indigenous students in SD93.

Six-year completion rate for Indigenous students has increased from 94.5% in 2017/18 to 100.0% in 2021/22.

Six-year completion rate for Non-Indigenous students have increased from 98.9% in 2017/18 to 100.0% in 2021/22.

Of 17 Indigenous graduates from SD93 in 2016/17, 8 (47%) immediately transitioned to B.C. public post-secondary institutions, and 4 years after grad, 11 (65%) had transitioned into post-secondary.

Of 141 Non-Indigenous graduates from SD93 in 2016/17, 79 (56%) immediately transitioned to B.C. public post-secondary institutions, and 4 years after grad, 105 (74%) had transitioned into post-secondary.

There is no Indigenous non-graduate from SD93 in 2016/17.

Of 156 Non-Indigenous non-graduates from SD93 in 2016/17, 1 (1%) immediately transitioned to B.C. public post-secondary institutions, and 4 years after grad, 1 (1%) had transitioned into post-secondary.