



NORTH VANCOUVER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44

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November 2, 2006

Honourable Shirley Bond
Minister of Education and Deputy Premier
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Bond:

Further to my letter of October 5, 2006 expressing our Board's serious concerns about the possibility that the Annual Facilities Grant (AFG) might either be eliminated or substantially reduced this year as a result of a capital projects review, it is my understanding that the entire amount of the expected Annual Facilities Grant will be forthcoming within the next few weeks. While our Board is pleased with this announcement, we wish to emphasize the importance of this funding to School Districts. As you know this funding is used for the ongoing and preventive maintenance of school facilities, which is essential not only for the health and safety of our students but to protect and preserve these valuable assets for the citizens of British Columbia.

As I indicated in my earlier letter, from a facility planning perspective, where projects are planned years in advance, it is imperative that AFG funding be predictable and stable. Delaying release of AFG funding and even considering the possibility of reduced funding is extremely disruptive to our operations and not in the best interests of the School District, nor the citizens of British Columbia as represented by the Government and particularly the Minister of Education.

Thank you for carefully considering the importance of this issue to School Boards and we look forward to receiving this essential funding as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

Pat Heal
Chairperson, Board of School Trustees

pc: Trustees
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