

February 28, 2018

Public Statement from the North Vancouver School District on the Ministry of Education Recommendations

After a public newspaper report in the North Shore News in November 2017, the Ministry of Education was contacted to provide support for the North Vancouver Board of Education. Dr. Lee Southern, former Executive Director of the British Columbia School Trustees Association, was contracted by the Ministry of Education to provide recommendations to the Minister of Education to support the governance of the North Vancouver School District. Six recommendations were provided by the Ministry of Education to the Superintendent of Schools on February 15, 2018 (see attached). The Board of Education was provided the recommendations for their consideration on February 20, 2018.

After meeting and discussing as a whole, the North Vancouver Board of Education has accepted, and will implement Recommendations #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and Bullet 2 of Recommendation #2. The Board will not implement Bullets 1 and 3 of Recommendation #2 at the current time for the following reasons:

Recommendation #2 – Bullet 1:

The North Vancouver Board of Education appreciates the recommendation to formally review Trustee governance roles and standards of acceptable Trustee behaviour. In this term the Board has participated in governance workshops facilitated by the British Columbia School Trustees Association, Eli Mina (Parliamentarian consultant), and other experts in the field. The Board believes a further meeting and/or presentation would not provide any new information for review. Instead the Board believes it would be more beneficial to focus its efforts on Bullet 2 of Recommendation #2 which is the new Handbook of Trustee governance.

Recommendation #2 – Bullet 3:

The North Vancouver Board of Education believes at this time it would be premature to schedule a Trustee review meeting prior to the completion of the implementation of the Recommendations. The Board will revisit Bullet 3 at a later date.

The Board continues to focus on fulfilling its fiduciary duties as outlined in the School Act in support of Public Education in North Vancouver. We appreciate the support and guidance that the Ministry of Education has provided and look forward to providing an update to the Ministry at the end of April on the work that is being completed.

Sincerely,

NORTH VANCOUVER  
BOARD OF EDUCATION



Christie Sacré  
Chair

