

December 15, 2023

Mayor and Council Township of Langley 20338 65 Avenue Langley, BC V2Y 3J1 via email: mayorcouncil@tol.ca

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Joint School District No. 35 / Municipal Liaison Committee

Upon direction from the Board of Education, I am writing to request that Township of Langley Council reconsider its decision to withdraw as a member of the Joint School District No. 35 / Municipal Liaison Committee. The correspondence the District received Re: Joint School District No. 35 / Municipal Liaison Committee dated October 25, 2023, outlining the wish to withdraw came as a surprise to the Board.

As per the approved April 2012 Terms of Reference for the Committee, the purpose of the Committee is "to provide a forum for the exchange of information and regular communication between the Township of Langley and the Board of Education; to promote partnerships, opportunities, and development of programs and initiatives between the Township of Langley and the Langley School District; and to provide input and recommendations to the Board of Education and the Township of Langley on policies and matters of mutual interest within the community."

Our Board values this Committee and recognizes the benefits of having formal structured meetings that allow for the time and space to facilitate open, collaborative conversations with our community partner, the Township of Langley. Our Board takes pride in building strong relationships with our partners and sees them as key players in ensuring our students receive the best education possible. As a growing District, we feel it is critical to continue working together to build schools and recreational spaces, not only to help meet our mission to inspire all learners to reach their full potential and create a positive legacy for the future; but also to benefit all residents of the Township of Langley by building strong communities.

We acknowledge Council's suggestion to host an annual workshop for our Board to join, but we feel it is critical to carry on this Committee. Our Board would welcome the opportunity to meet with Mayor and Council to discuss how we can continue with this committee so it's mutually beneficial for both partners.

We look forward to your response and when you would be available to discuss next steps, so we can continue the good work that has been accomplished through this committee since its inception in 2012.

Sincerely,

Candy Ashdown, Chair Langley Board of Education