



LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

February 26, 2018

The Honourable Ian Wishart
Minister of Education and Training
Legislative Building
168-450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister Wishart:

The Manitoba School Boards Association has long been an advocate of local bargaining between school boards and employee groups. For that reason, we do not at this time have an official position on provincial bargaining. We do, however, have the experience and expertise needed to ensure that any new bargaining structure will be as efficient and effective as possible, thus meeting the needs of government, school boards, and teachers. Therefore, we would strongly encourage you to convene a meaningful consultation process focused on provincial bargaining in Manitoba as soon as possible.

We recognize that in light of the expiration date of existing teacher collective agreements (June 30, 2018) and the legislative calendar, the timelines for both the consultations promised in the news release accompanying the 2018-19 schools funding announcement and any subsequent legislative changes is tight. We assure you that we will make ourselves available to work within those timelines, to engage in the informed dialogue that is so critical to ensuring a positive outcome.

Further to this point, please be advised that there will be at least one resolution before our AGM in mid-March that will address the issue of provincial bargaining, and we will be incorporating time into our convention to facilitate information sharing and discussion on this important topic. Any additional information you can provide prior to the event to inform our discussions would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future concerning your plans for consultations. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Josh Watt.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Cameron".

Ken Cameron
President

KC/hd