



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

## ***News Release***

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***For immediate release***

### **Manitoba school boards welcome public education review**

Manitoba School Boards Association President Alan Campbell welcomed today's announcement of a long-anticipated review of K-12 public education in the province, saying that it will provide an opportunity for all Manitobans to share their thoughts about what they need and value in our school system.

"Public education is a cornerstone of democratic society, and school boards, as locally elected trustees of that system, are models of grassroots democracy in action," noted Mr. Campbell. "As community representatives, we work with students, families, and the public at large to ensure that schools provide the programs and services that are wanted and needed locally. This review will provide an opportunity for Manitobans to have their voices heard on a larger, provincial scale."

Mr. Campbell went on to note that school boards appreciated the timeline established for the review. "The Commission is expected to conclude its work and submit its report to government by spring, 2020. That report will include key findings and recommendations. This review window will provide due time for reflection and decision on the part of all stakeholders, given both the importance and magnitude of this initiative."

In its news release, the government indicated that it will be seeking input from a wide variety of groups, including school boards, and Mr. Campbell committed the full support of the Manitoba School Boards Association in this regard. "The government has indicated that the focus of this review will be student outcomes, long-term sustainability and enhanced public confidence in our public schools. These are goals that are shared by Manitoba's public school boards, and we welcome this significant opportunity to work collaboratively with our provincial partner on such a major undertaking as this review."

Mr. Campbell closed his comments by inviting all Manitobans to find out more about the work and achievements of school boards, and the variety of local programming and services they help to make available for communities and students, by visiting the Local Voices, Local Choices page at <http://www.mbschoolboards.ca/localVoices.php>

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