

Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration

Director, Post-Secondary Institutions, Advanced Education Division 401 – 1181 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3G 0N4 T 204-945-1833 www.manitoba.ca

May 19, 2021

Mr. Allan M. Campbell President Manitoba School Boards Association JWatt@mbschoolboards.ca

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Thank you for your correspondence dated April 28, 2021 to Honourable Wayne Ewasko, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration regarding the Educational Assistant programs at the Université de Saint-Boniface and the admission of underrepresented groups in our institutions. As Director of Post-Secondary Institutions, I am pleased to respond.

The Manitoba government supports the French language teacher recruitment and retention strategy. We recognize the significant value that French teachers bring to our schools and remain committed to ensuring our public schools have the teachers required to deliver high quality French language education in Manitoba.

Our department continues to work with the Department of Education and our education partners including the Université de Saint-Boniface (USB) to ensure that the Teacher Education and Educational Assistant programs offered at USB remain fully subscribed.

Regarding student admission, please note that under the Advanced Education Administration Act, admission of students is the sole responsibility of institutions. Universities and Colleges act independently and have full authority in setting standards for admissions. Any admission requirements can be set or changed by institutions, if such adjustments are desired and align with their mandate and strategic plans.

We continue to support efforts by our post-secondary institutions to ensure that we have the trained staff required to deliver high quality education in Manitoba.

I look forward to working towards our shared goals now and in years ahead.

Sincerely,

Agnes Wittmann

c. Honourable Wayne Ewasko, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration Tracey Maconachie, Acting Deputy Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration