



FACT:

Bill 64 removes the restriction on the closure of local schools. The government will make all decisions on whether schools in your community stay open or are closed.



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FACT:

Bill 64 eliminates the requirement for bus rides of 1 hour or less.



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FACT:

Indigenous representatives in First Nations communities where their community elects trustees are not referenced in Bill 64. Other minority voices on school boards across Manitoba are also at risk of disappearing altogether.



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FACT:

Education is the second largest investment made in Manitoba. The central government will solely control access to money that flows to our schools and local communities under Bill 64.



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FACT:

If savings of \$40 million is even possible after creating a province-wide education bureaucracy, this amounts to less than \$200 per student.



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FACT:

Bill 64 allows for uninformed influence over decision-making in areas best suited for trained education professionals' expertise.



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FACT:

In reading, math and science, 8 out of 10 Manitoba students meet or exceed expectations. This is also true of every other province.



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FACT:

Plans are already underway to take staff out of small communities. What will this loss of employment mean for rural and northern Manitoba?



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FACT:

Eliminating school divisions and moving schools under one authority means creating a bigger, disconnected, centralized bureaucracy that is not in tune with local students' and communities' needs.



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FACT:

Local programs students receive could be in jeopardy, especially with the discontinuation of these programs as every community becomes the same under one central authority.



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FACT:

The government already has plans in motion to move staff, families, jobs, taxpayers out of local communities.



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FACT:

Bill 64 authorizes government-appointed board members to implement potentially sensitive curricular content policies, opening the door for regressive curriculum.



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FACT:

Bill 64 attacks local democracy through a public appointment structure that can be subject to politically partisan influence and loyalty without ensuring diverse community representation.



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FACT:

Bill 64 lacks evidence for improvements of educational outcomes - the stated intent of the education review.



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FACT:

Bill 64 changes the status of principals and vice-principals within the bargaining unit. How will this contribute to the improvement of educational outcomes? Ask your MLA.



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FACT:

Bill 64 provides mechanisms for inexperienced influence over decision-making in education such as hiring, evaluations, discipline and student achievement.



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FACT:

Under Bill 64 the proposed parent volunteer councils will have no authority to create language, religious, culture, special needs or local business and community based programming as your school board does now.



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FACT:

Bill 64 eliminates the languages advisory council for education, a legally mandated mechanism for promoting Francophone, French Immersion and Heritage Language instruction in Manitoba's schools.



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FACT:

History repeating? A Ministerially appointed “education advisory board” — similar to Bill 64’s proposed “Provincial Advisory Council” — already exists by law. In over 20 years, the Minister of Education has not called a meeting of this advisory board even once.



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FACT:

If parental voice is important as Bill 64 claims, isn't that just as important now? Why then did the Government eliminate their legal requirement to meet with the Manitoba Association of Parent Councils, just last year?



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FACT:

The wheels on the bus go round and round... but Bill 64 removes current bus transportation services from local delivery, paving the road to privatized bussing for all students across Manitoba.



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FACT:

In a province where Indigenous students will represent close to one in five students over the next decades, Bill 64 contains only one reference to Indigenous peoples, an interpretive clause that only encourages and does not mandate Indigenous student success and reconciliation.



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FACT:

One employer for education in Manitoba under Bill 64 means one decision-maker who decides where employees report to work. With all schools merged under one provincial authority, staff could be told to report for work anywhere in Manitoba.



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FACT:

Early tests of the impact of multiple COVID-19 shutdowns on student performance show us that now is the time for all in education to remain focused on the classroom. Bill 64's boardroom-based distractions are the enemy of helping our students catch up on lost time.



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FACT:

Bill 64 is bad for local business. The proposed centralization of education authority means billions of dollars in local spending each year will be taken away from local purchasers and controlled only by the Winnipeg-based central authority.



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