



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

February 4, 2019

Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould
Member of Parliament, Vancouver Granville
Suite 104 - 1245 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V6H 1G7
Jody.Wilson-Raybould@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Wilson-Raybould,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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School districts throughout the province of British Columbia struggle to provide adequate support to meet the needs of immigrant students who are eligible for federal funding, and they also do their best to support ineligible immigrant students who receive no funding.

On behalf of our Board I am writing this letter to you, to inform you of the importance of making ineligible clients eligible for federally funded settlement services and programs, and the need for increased funding to do so.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Janet Fraser'.

Janet Fraser
Chairperson

Attachment

cc: VBE Trustees
Suzanne Hoffman, Superintendent
J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer

Board of School Trustees:

Janet Fraser – Board Chair

Allan Wong – Vice-Chair

Fraser Ballantyne Lois Chan-Pedley Carmen Cho

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February 4, 2019

Honourable Harjit Sajjan
Member of Parliament, Vancouver South
6406 Victoria Drive
Vancouver, BC V5P 3X7
Harjit.Sajjan@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Sajjan,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Ms. Joyce Murray
Member of Parliament, Vancouver Quadra
Suite 206 - 2112 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V6K 2C8
joyce.murray@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Murray,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Ms. Jenny Kwan
Member of Parliament, Vancouver East
2572 East Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC V5K 1Z3
Jenny.Kwan@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Kwan,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Honourable Hedy Fry
Member of Parliament, Vancouver Centre
Suite 112 - 1030 Denman Street
Vancouver, BC V6G 2M6
hedy.fry@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Fry,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Mr. Don Davies
Member of Parliament, Vancouver Kingsway
2951 Kingsway
Vancouver, BC V5R 5J4
don.davies@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Davies,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Honourable Ahmed Hussen
Member of Parliament
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
99D Ingram Drive (Main Office)
Toronto, Ontario M6M 2L7
Ahmed.Hussen@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Hussen,

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February 4, 2019

Mr. Spencer Chandra Herbert
MLA, Vancouver-West End
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
s.chandraherbert.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Chandra Herbert,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Mr. Andrew Wilkinson Q.C.
Leader of the Official Opposition
MLA, Vancouver-Quilchena
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
andrew.wilkinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Wilkinson,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Honourable Melanie Mark
Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
MLA, Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Room 133 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
melanie.mark.mla@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Mark,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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February 4, 2019

Mr. Michael Lee
MLA, Vancouver-Langara
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
michael.lee.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Lee,

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February 4, 2019

Honourable David Eby Q.C.
Attorney General
MLA, Vancouver-Point Grey
Room 232 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
david.eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Eby,

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February 4, 2019

Honourable Shane Simpson
Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
MLA, Vancouver-Hastings
Room 247 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
shane.simpson.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Simpson,

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Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
MLA, Vancouver-Fairview
Room 112 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
george.heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Heyman,

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February 4, 2019

Mr. Robert Oliphant
Member of Parliament
Chair, Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration
1670 Bayview Avenue (Main Office), Suite 310
Toronto, Ontario M4G 3C2
Rob.Oliphant@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Oliphant,

School districts throughout the province of British Columbia struggle to provide adequate support to meet the needs of immigrant students who are eligible for federal funding, and they also do their best to support ineligible immigrant students who receive no funding.

The attached report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

This report was presented at the Board meeting on January 28, 2019 where the following motion passed:

"That the Vancouver School Board sends letters to Robert Oliphant, MP and Chair and The Honourable Ahmed D. Hussen, MP and Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) Committee with a copy to Vancouver MPs and Vancouver MLAs noting the importance of making ineligible clients (students and their families) eligible for settlement services and programs that are delivered from within our schools and that funds are increased accordingly".

On behalf of our Board I am writing this letter to you, to inform you of the importance of making ineligible clients eligible for federally funded settlement services and programs, and the need for increased funding to do so.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Janet Fraser'.

Janet Fraser
Chairperson

Attachment

cc: VBE Trustees
Suzanne Hoffman, Superintendent
J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer

Board of School Trustees:

Janet Fraser – Board Chair

Allan Wong – Vice-Chair

Fraser Ballantyne Lois Chan-Pedley Carmen Cho

Estrellita Gonzalez Oliver Hanson

Barb Parrott Jennifer Reddy



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8
Telephone: 604-713-5000

February 4, 2019

Ms. Mable Elmore
MLA, Vancouver-Kensington
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
mable.elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Elmore,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

February 4, 2019

Honourable George Chow
Minister of State for Trade
MLA, Vancouver-Fraserview
Room 137 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
george.chow.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Chow,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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School District No. 39

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Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

February 4, 2019

Honourable Adrian Dix
Minister of Health
MLA, Vancouver-Kingsway
Room 337 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
adrian.dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Dix,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

February 4, 2019

Mr. Sam Sullivan
MLA, Vancouver-False Creek
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
sam.sullivan.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

Further to our letter of December 17, 2018 inviting you to the English Language Learner Consortium meeting on January 9, 2019, attached is the Liaison Trustee Report from that meeting. The Report contains VSB settlement figures for ineligible and eligible students from August 1, 2014 to January 9, 2019. The most recent full year data (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018) shows that the VSB had 4,315 eligible and 3,057 ineligible students, and for April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019 there were more ineligible students, 5,437, than eligible students, 3,554.

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Liaison Trustee Report

Name of Committee/Organization: English Language Learner (ELL) Consortium

Liaison Trustee: Jennifer Reddy

Date of Meeting: January 9, 2019

Overview of ELL Consortium:

The ELL Consortium is an ad hoc committee of the BC School Trustees Association that includes staff from various districts who provide updates and accurate information on what is happening at the municipal, provincial and federal levels in the area of English Language Learners.

Key Topic:

Movement of Settlement funds from Provincial to Federal government in 2014 resulted in: a) change in criteria for settlement services, restricting services for students and families of certain status; b) change in federal schedule of funds misaligning with school-year; c) provincial funds left as minimal; d) impacts on other services including health, employment, education completion, relationships, and stability; e) 3-year average timeline of services with federal funding results in lag of services; f) call-for-proposal (CFP) model as opposed to Grant model; g) tight timelines for 'top up' funds

VSB ELL Students Ineligible for Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) Services:

Ineligible students represent between 30% and 50%+ of newcomers in School Districts. Ineligible students under Federal SWIS Funding include: work permit and post-secondary student visa holders, provincial nominees awaiting their permanent residency, refugee claimants, and returning citizens who have settlement needs.

Settlement needs of any ELL student, regardless of status, can go beyond learning English to include:

- status in Canada and Federal/Provincial funding for service levels based on status
- school act that does not limit access to support services
- pathways to post-secondary including adult education
- schools as critical point of contact
- poverty and housing issues, trauma, and gender-based and domestic violence

Committee / Organization Actions:

Invited MPs and MLAs to January 2019 Consortium Meeting:

MP Jenny Kwan, MP John Aldag, MLA Mable Elmore, and Assistant to MP Carla Qualtrough were in attendance, reviewed presentations from 6 districts including: Vancouver, Burnaby, Langley, Surrey, Coquitlam, and Richmond

It was agreed that each School District is experiencing similar barriers to serving ineligible students and their families and could therefore:

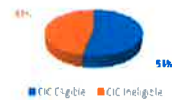
1. Obtain specific data on ineligible students and families by school district (see details below)
2. Advocate with federal government for additional funding to support ineligible students and families (targeted funds transferred to Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec)
3. Engage in Witnessing with the federal government standing committee on immigration to illustrate the issue and ask for financial support
4. Advocate with Boards to reach out to more MPs and MLAs with letters outlining the issues in particular districts
5. Advocate with Boards to reach out to IRCC with letter outlining issue and request (see details below)

ITEM 1

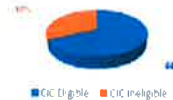
VSB Settlement Figures

	August 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015	April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016	April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017
CIC Eligible			
Becoming PR- CIC Letter	25	33	22
Permanent Resident	3634	4568	4498
Refugee or Protected Person	16	10	22
Sub Total	3676	4611	4543
CIC Ineligible			
Child Born in Canada of Immigrant Parent	214	377	347
Canadian Citizen by Birth	7	3	101
Naturalized Canadian Citizen	282	550	501
Refugee Claimant	15	20	61
Foreign Student (Not Fee Paying Int Student)	179	172	211
Temporary Foreign Worker	261	469	731
Other Temporary Resident (non-fee payers to the SD)	84	119	95
Valid Nomination Certificate from BC under PNP but no CIC Letter	8	9	4
Visitor	36	93	141
Unknown	2169	198	159
Sub-Total	3250	2160	2371
Grand Total	6926	6771	6914

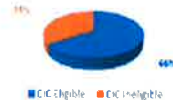
August 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015



April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016



April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016



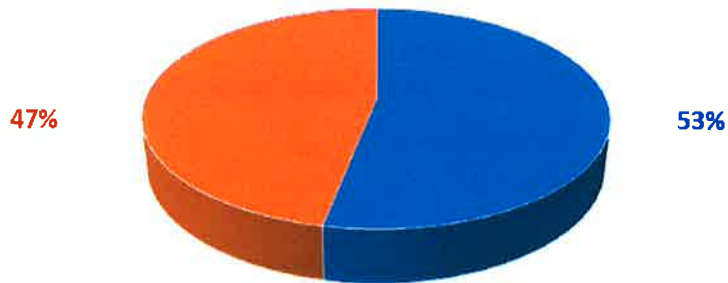
August 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015

CIC Eligible	
Becoming PR- CIC Letter	25
Permanent Resident	3634
Refugee or Protected Person	16
Sub-Total	3676

CIC Ineligible	
Child Born in Canada of Immigrant Parent	214
Canadian Citizen by Birth	2
Naturalized Canadian Citizen	282
Refugee Claimant	15
Foreign Student (Not Fee Paying Int Student)	179
Temporary Foreign Worker	261
Other Temporary Resident (non-fee payers to the SD)	84
Valid Nomination Certificate from BC under PNP but no CIC Letter	8
Visitor	36
Unknown	2169
Sub-Total	3250

Grand Total 6926

August 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015



April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

CIC Eligible

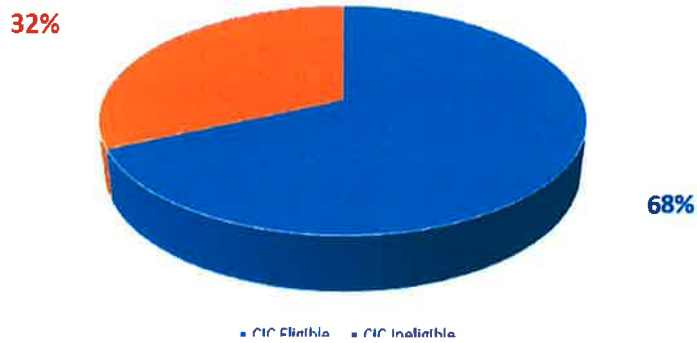
Becoming PR- CIC Letter	33
Permanant Resident	4568
Refugee or Protected Person	10
Sub-Total	4611

CIC Ineligible

Child Born in Canada of Immigrant Parent	377
Canadian Citizen by Birth	3
Naturalized Canadian Citizen	550
Refugee Claimant	20
Foreign Student (Not Fee Paying Int Student)	322
Temporary Foreign Worker	469
Other Temporary Resident (non-fee payers to the SD)	119
Valid Nomination Certificate from BC under PNP but no CIC Letter	9
Visitor	93
Unknown	198
Sub-Total	2160

Grand Total **6771**

April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016



April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017

IRCC Eligible

Becoming PR- CIC Letter	22
Permanent Resident	4498
Refugee or Protected Person	22

Sub-Total **4543**

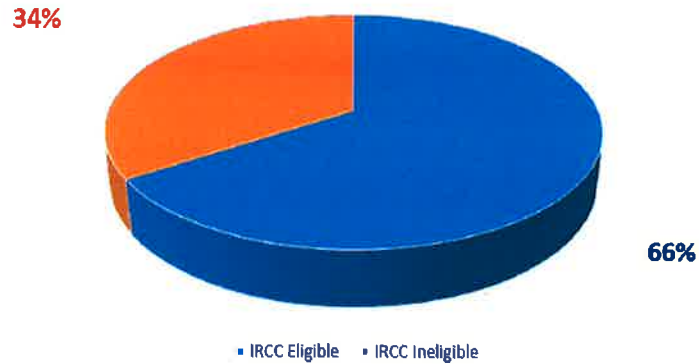
IRCC Ineligible

Child Born in Canada of Immigrant Parent	347
Canadian Citizen by Birth	101
Naturalized Canadian Citizen	501
Refugee Claimant	61
Foreign Student (Not Fee Paying Int Student)	231
Temporary Foreign Worker	731
Other Temporary Resident (non-fee payers to the SD)	95
Valid Nomination Certificate from BC under PNP but no CIC Letter	4
Visitor	141
Unknown	159

Sub-Total **2371**

Grand Total **6914**

April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017



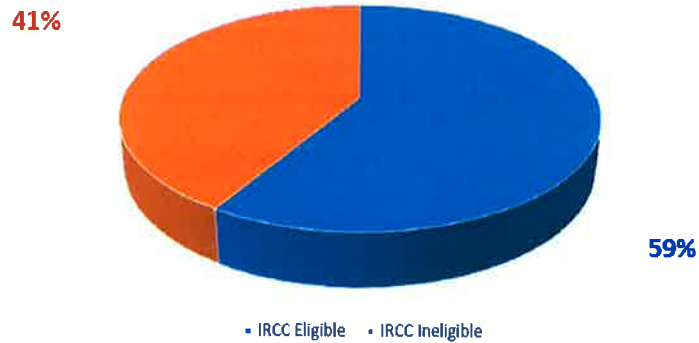
April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

IRCC Eligible	
Becoming PR- CIC Letter	25
Permanent Resident	4258
Refugee or Protected Person	32
Sub-Total	4315

IRCC Ineligible	
Child Born in Canada of Immigrant Parent	311
Canadian Citizen by Birth	155
Naturalized Canadian Citizen	592
Refugee Claimant	112
Foreign Student (Not Fee Paying Int Student)	360
Temporary Foreign Worker	770
Other Temporary Resident (non-fee payers to the SD)	141
Valid Nomination Certificate from BC under PNP but no CIC Letter	7
Visitor	139
Unknown	470
Sub-Total	3057

Grand Total 7372

April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018



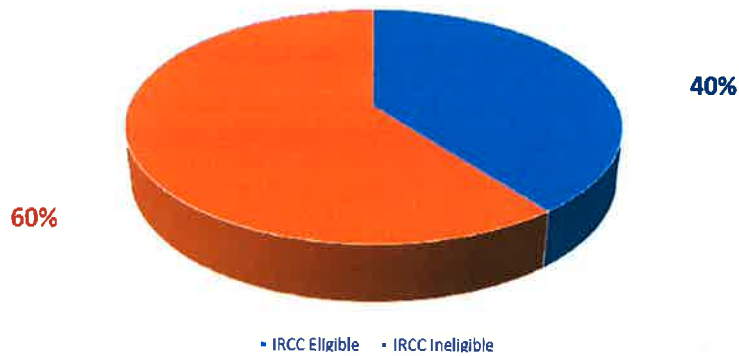
April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019

IRCC Eligible	
Becoming PR- CIC Letter	19
Permanent Resident	3498
Refugee or Protected Person	37
Sub-Total	3554

IRCC Ineligible	
Child Born in Canada of Immigrant Parent	571
Canadian Citizen by Birth	273
Naturalized Canadian Citizen	993
Refugee Claimant	160
Foreign Student (Not Fee Paying Int Student)	601
Temporary Foreign Worker	1144
Other Temporary Resident (non-fee payers to the SD)	312
Valid Nomination Certificate from BC under PNP but no CIC Letter	17
Visitor	240
Unknown	1126
Sub-Total	5437

Grand Total 8991

April 1, 2018 to January 9, 2019



ITEM 5

Board Motion:

That the Vancouver School Board sends letters to Robert Oliphant, MP and Chair and The Honourable Ahmed D. Hussen, MP and Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) Committee with a copy to MPs and MLAs noting the importance of making ineligible clients (students and their families) are made eligible for settlement services and programs that are delivered from within our schools and that funds are increased accordingly.

Whereas:

As Canada welcomes newcomers to our country, it is difficult to understand why funding to help newcomers with settlement challenges are provided only for "eligible" clients. Those deemed to be "ineligible" are downloaded on to other levels of government without the funding to support programmes needed to help newcomers settle in Canada.

In our public-school system in British Columbia, we support all students and families who walk through our doors. Our goal is to help families settle in to our communities so their children can benefit from the education our system provides. Newcomers come to Canada to make a better life for their families. They want to be productive, contributing members to Canadian society and to pay their way as they are able.

Over the years, the numbers of newcomers, both eligible and ineligible, have increased, however, the funding has not kept up with the rising numbers. The numbers of ineligible clients has risen the most and yet they are not recognized for funding purposes.

There is an upcoming immigration funding review

The ELL Consortium will present at an upcoming Standing Committee in Ottawa in February with date and time to-be-confirmed

The ELL Consortium is engaging in concerted Board letters to IRCC to indicate a need for funds in BC

The Honourable Ahmed D. Hussen MP, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Ahmed.Hussen@parl.gc.ca

Robert Oliphant, MP Chair of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Robert.Oliphant@parl.gc.ca

Other Actions:

Federal Government (MPs)

- Increased, predictable, stable funding to enable Boards of Education to provide essential support services for immigrant families settling in our communities (BCSTA AGM 2018 motion)
- Additional funding to properly service ineligible clients

Provincial Government (MLAs)

- Asylum seekers – Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba are receiving funds from a \$50 million federal pot to help with costs. BC has more asylum seekers than Manitoba but receives no funding. BC government to request some of that funding
- Encourage Provincial government to lobby federal government for funding for ineligible clients and increased federal settlement funding
- Provincial government to include school districts in extra funding for newcomers (in 2017, only non-profit organizations in BC received this funding)
- Increase provincial settlement funding