



# Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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April 27, 2015

The Honourable Peter Fassbender  
Minister of Education  
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender,

During the April 20, 2015 public meeting of the Vancouver Board of Education, the Board passed a motion stating "that the Vancouver Board of Education demand the government of British Columbia to immediately withdraw the sections of Bill 11 that override the authority of democratically elected Boards of Education. Specifically, where Bill 11 adds new provisions which broaden the Minister's authority to issue administrative directives, where Bill 11 would amend the special advisor provision and where shared service providers are designated by the Minister of Education."

It appears that the intention in introducing this legislation is to increase oversight on board actions to an unprecedented degree. In effect, this legislation erodes what democratically elected boards are elected to do.

At no time were boards consulted nor represented in discussions about this proposed legislation. We would therefore request that you engage in productive dialogue with boards across the province rather than enacting legislation that will damage the relationship between boards of education and the Ministry of Education, and result in the ability of boards to fulfill their role being compromised.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Richardson".

Christopher JK Richardson, CPA, FCA  
Chairperson

cc: Vancouver Board of Education Trustees  
Scott Robinson, Superintendent of Schools  
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer

Board of School Trustees:  
Christopher Richardson – Chairperson  
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