

May 7, 2008

Ms. Kimberlee Howland
President and CEO
BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils
350 – 5172 Kingsway
Burnaby BC V5H 2E8

Dear Ms. Howland:

I am responding to your January 28, 2008 letter which included Resolution 2007.12, made at the 2007 AGM of the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCPAC).

Specifically, the resolution requests that additional funds be made available for distribution to Parent Advisory Councils, based on the percentage of students in each school from low income families. I understand the intent of this resolution.

Government is committed to ensuring that all students are provided with the best educational programs through the Ministry of Education. Further, government provides Parent Advisory Councils with gaming grants to support extra-curricular opportunities.

Each Parent Advisory Council that applies receives an automatic grant of \$20.00 per student. It would require a much more complicated data set to distribute these grants in varying per student amounts to reflect, for instance, the percentage of low income families in the school. At this time, I am not confident that we have the appropriate data set to modify this formula so that its application could be made in a fair and consistent fashion.

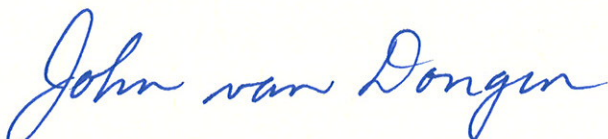
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It is also important that each student is supported in a consistent manner by government. As a result, we will not be changing the methodology for the annual granting of gaming funds to PACs.

I appreciate the views provided by BCCPAC and I am sorry we cannot implement this resolution.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John van Dongen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John van Dongen
Solicitor General

pc: The Honourable Shirley Bond