

From: Keely Flannigan <Keely.Flannigan@sd23.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 5:20:14 PM

To: Julia Fraser <Julia.Fraser@sd23.bc.ca>; Lisa Guderyan <Lisa.Guderyan@sd23.bc.ca>; Wayne Broughton <Wayne.Broughton@sd23.bc.ca>; Chantelle Desrosiers <Chantelle.Desrosiers@sd23.bc.ca>; Amy Geistlinger <Amy.Geistlinger@sd23.bc.ca>; Valene Johnson <Valene.Johnson@sd23.bc.ca>; Lee-Ann Tiede <Lee-Ann.Tiede@sd23.bc.ca>; Kevin Kaardal <Kevin.Kaardal@sd23.bc.ca>; Jon Rever <Jon.Rever@sd23.bc.ca>

Cc: Michelle Relova <Michelle.Relova@sd23.bc.ca>; Ryan Ward <Ryan.Ward@sd23.bc.ca>

Subject: A heartfelt thank you...

Good afternoon, Board of Education Trustees:

I wish to share my deep gratitude for the statement you issued today regarding Indigenous Sovereignty. We have been exploring the conversation happening in our community right now with many of our children, particularly our grade 5s, and your response was such a strong, hopeful, powerful example of people speaking up and using their voices (and their power) for change. As our inquiry has unfolded this year, the children have been seeking and striving to find examples of those who choose to use their power and influence for good. Thank you for being another such example for all the learners, young and older, in our system.

I am so proud and grateful to work in a district that honours and lives these values. Thank you for your commitment to Truth & Reconciliation. Thank you for your commitment to inclusivity and equity. And thank you for making these commitments visible for all to see.

Sincerely,
Keely Flannigan

Keely Flannigan (she/her)
Teacher-Librarian, Black Mountain Elementary

I am grateful to live, work, and play as an uninvited guest on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the syilx/Okanagan people.