

2-24 South Academic Building (SAB)  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G7  
Tel: 780.492.3212  
[www.president.ualberta.ca](http://www.president.ualberta.ca)

28 October 2016

Adriana LaGrange  
President  
Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association  
Suite 205, 9940 – 106 Street  
Edmonton, AB  
T5K 2N2

Dear Ms. LaGrange,

I am following up on your letter that you sent to the Chancellor last month. We received four expressions of concern from Alberta Catholic Education organizations. The various offices of the University of Alberta (interim Dean of Education, President's and Provost's Office, and the Office of the Chancellor) have come together to collectively respond to your concerns. Be assured that we take seriously the issues raised and appreciate your patience as we needed time to begin to address them.

First, we value the University's relationships with publicly funded school systems in Alberta, and view them as functioning well. We recognize the importance of the long-term partnerships we have with Alberta Catholic school systems: we depend on the learning experiences your teachers provide to our student teachers; we have benefited from your teachers and professionals choosing the U of A as a place for advanced professional education; we have learned from the expertise we've gained from teacher secondments to the University; and we know that our teacher education programs have been enriched by the many research and other collaborations we've had with your schools and divisions.

The issues you bring to our attention are complex, as we navigate our relationship with schools and the choices made by Dr. Wells in conducting his work as a faculty member at the U of A. On matters of university policy, the president is the spokesperson for the institution; but within any university there is a diversity of voices. Professors have the academic freedom to express opinions on their research expertise, which stimulates dialogue and builds greater understanding about multifaceted issues.

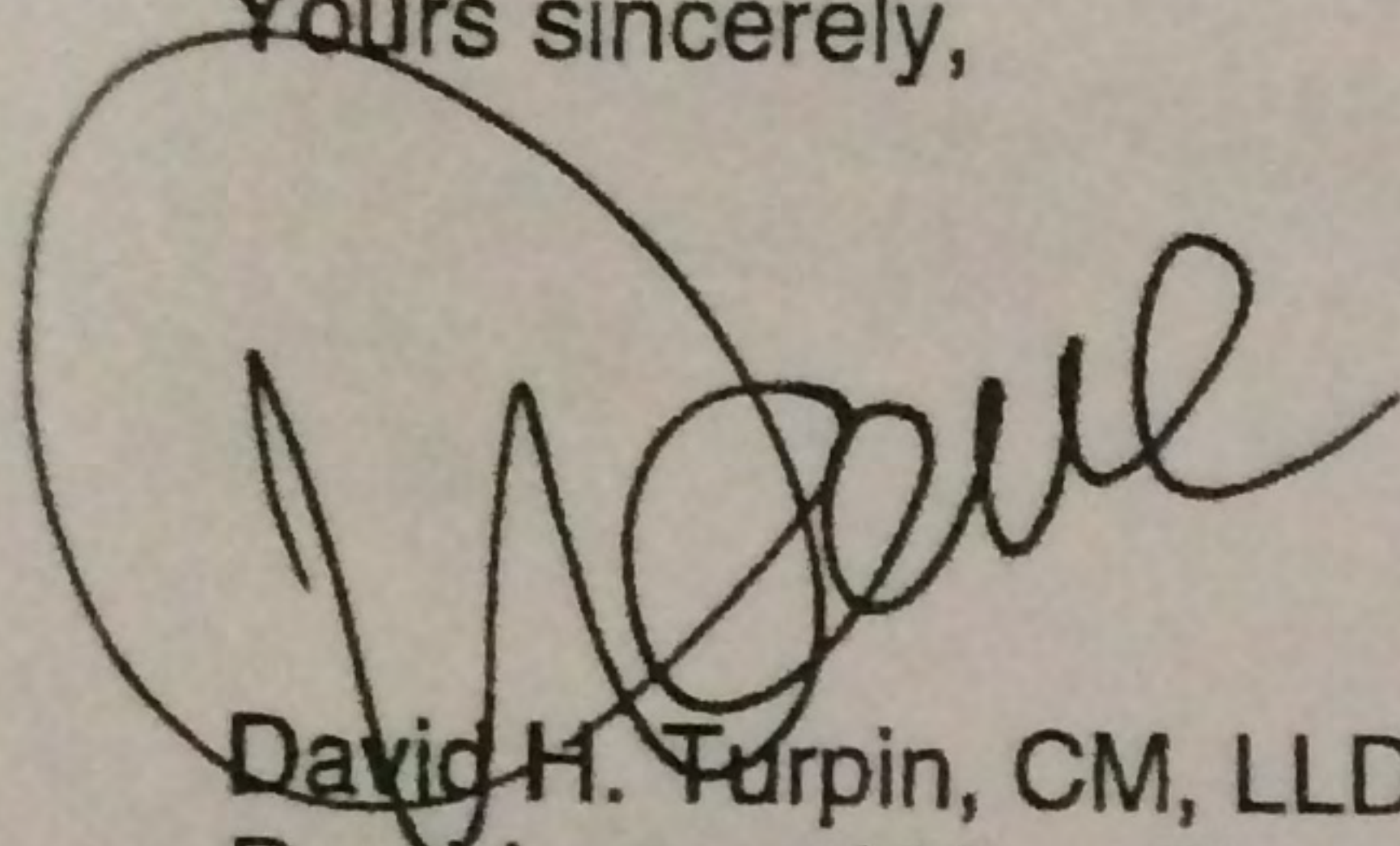
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may be hesitation on your part to meet with Dr. Wells and other faculty members, we hope that you will participate in these conversations.

We hope that you see what we have outlined above as an acknowledgement of your concerns, and a starting point for what we hope to be an educative process for all of us.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We are optimistic that we can move forward in a positive and informative way.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David H. Turpin", is written over a large, faint circular stamp or watermark.

David H. Turpin, CM, LLD, FRSC  
President and Vice-Chancellor

cc: Mr. Douglas Stollery, Chancellor, University of Alberta  
Dr. Randy Wimmer, Interim Dean (Faculty of Education), University of Alberta

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28 October 2016

Karl Germann  
Superintendent of Schools  
Grande Prairie and District Catholic Schools  
9902 101 Street  
Grande Prairie, AB  
T8V 2P4

Dear Mr. Germann,

I am following up on your letter that you sent to me last month. We received four expressions of concern from Alberta Catholic Education organizations. The various offices of the University of Alberta (interim Dean of Education, President's and Provost's Office, and the Office of the Chancellor) have come together to collectively respond to your concerns. Be assured that we take seriously the issues raised and appreciate your patience as we needed time to begin to address them.

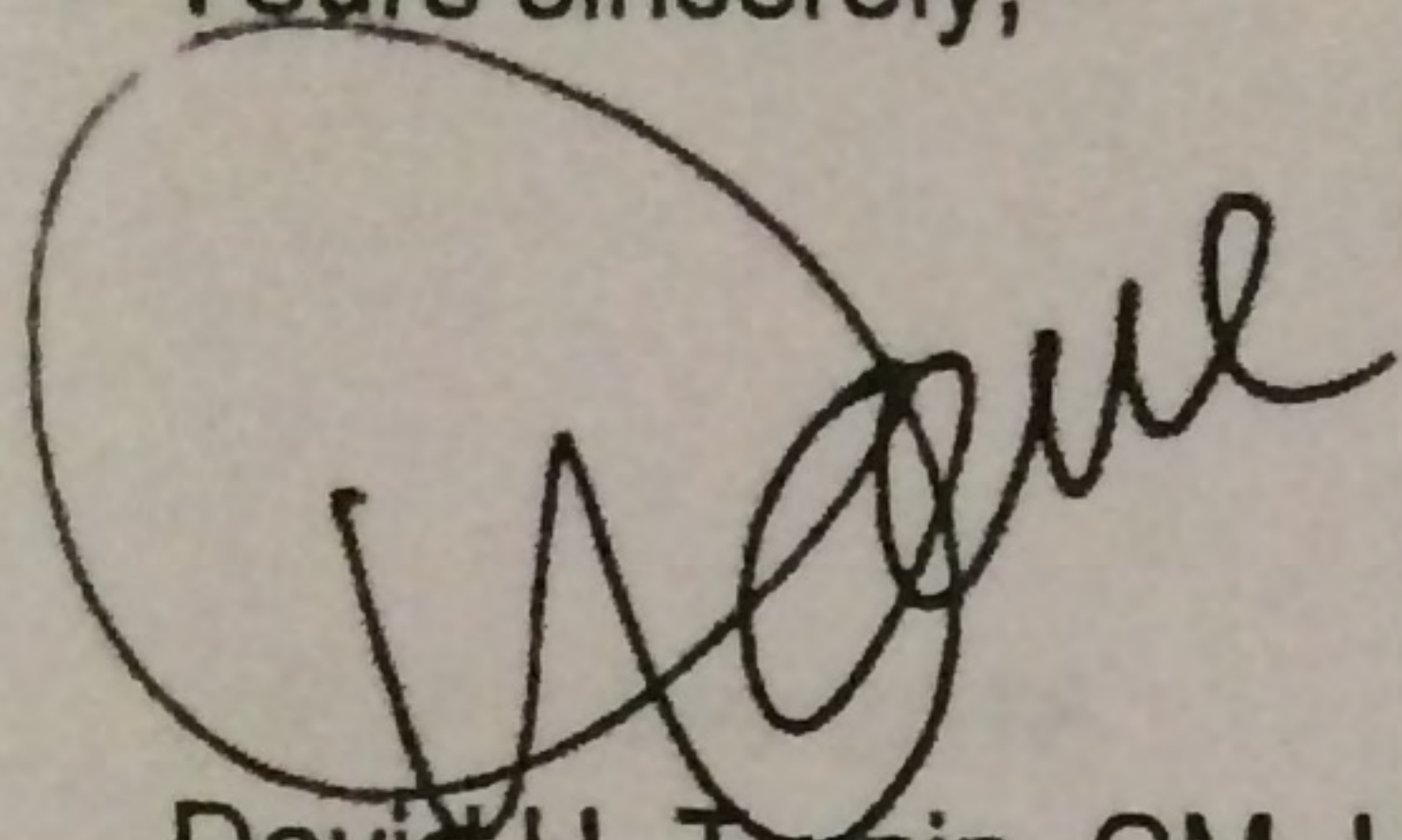
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Yours sincerely,

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David H. Turpin, CM, LLD, FRSC  
President and Vice-Chancellor

cc: Dr. Randy Wimmer, Interim Dean (Faculty of Education), University of Alberta  
Board of Trustees, Grande Prairie & District Catholic Schools

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28 October 2016

David Keohane  
Superintendent  
Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools  
6 St. Vital Avenue  
St. Albert, AB  
T8N 1K2

Dear Mr. Keohane,

I am following up on your letter that you sent to me last month. We received four expressions of concern from Alberta Catholic Education organizations. The various offices of the University of Alberta (interim Dean of Education, President's and Provost's Office, and the Office of the Chancellor) have come together to collectively respond to your concerns. Be assured that we take seriously the issues raised and appreciate your patience as we needed time to begin to address them.

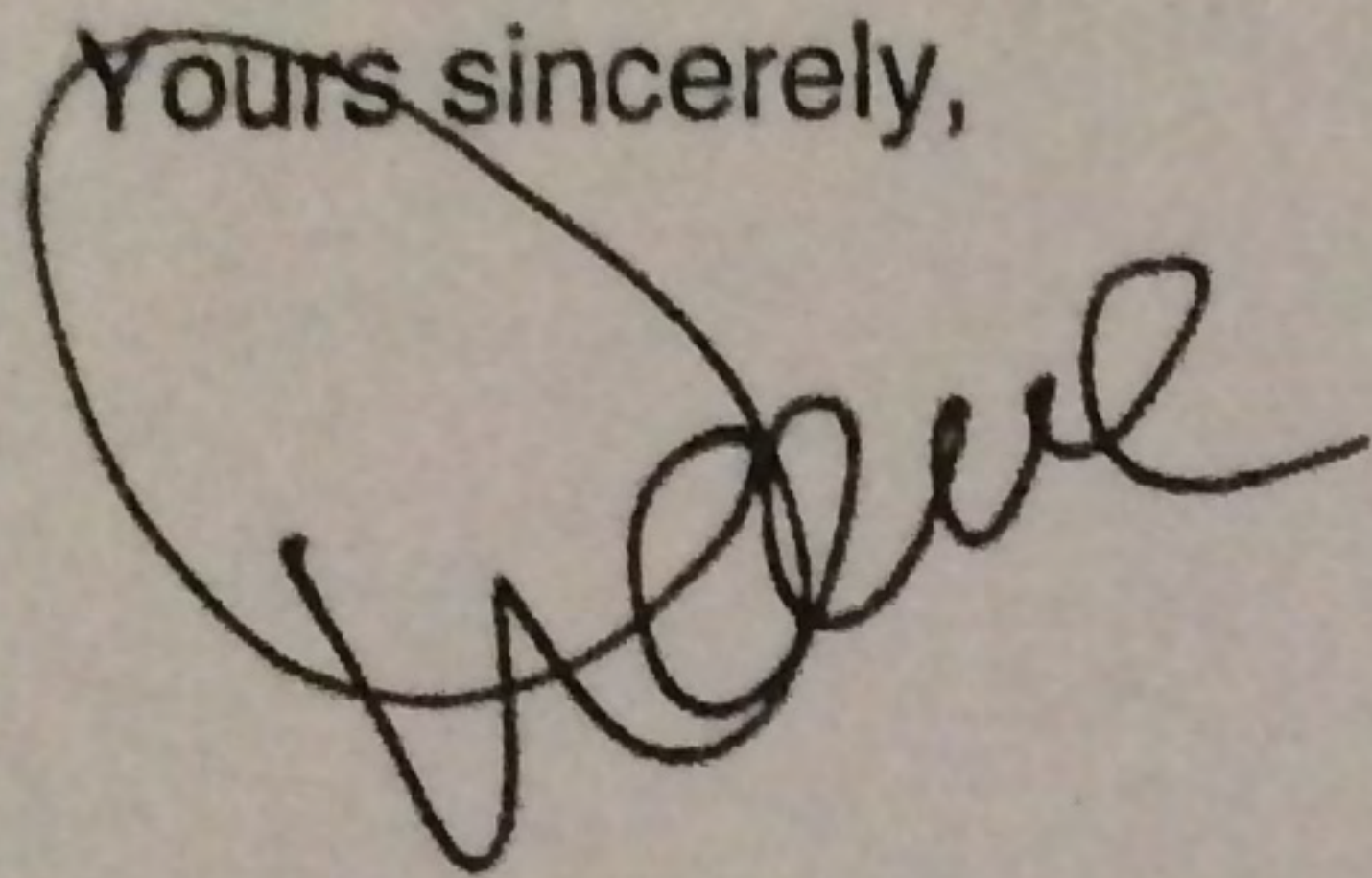
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Yours sincerely,

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David H. Turpin, CM, LLD, FRSC  
President and Vice-Chancellor

cc: Dr. Randy Wimmer, Interim Dean (Faculty of Education), University of Alberta

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28 October 2016

Shawn Haggarty  
CCSA President  
Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta  
c/o 21 Walters Place  
Leduc, AB  
T9E 857

Dear Mr. Haggarty,

I am following up on your letter that you sent to me last month. We received four expressions of concern from Alberta Catholic Education organizations. The various offices of the University of Alberta (interim Dean of Education, President's and Provost's Office, and the Office of the Chancellor) have come together to collectively respond to your concerns. Be assured that we take seriously the issues raised and appreciate your patience as we needed time to begin to address them.

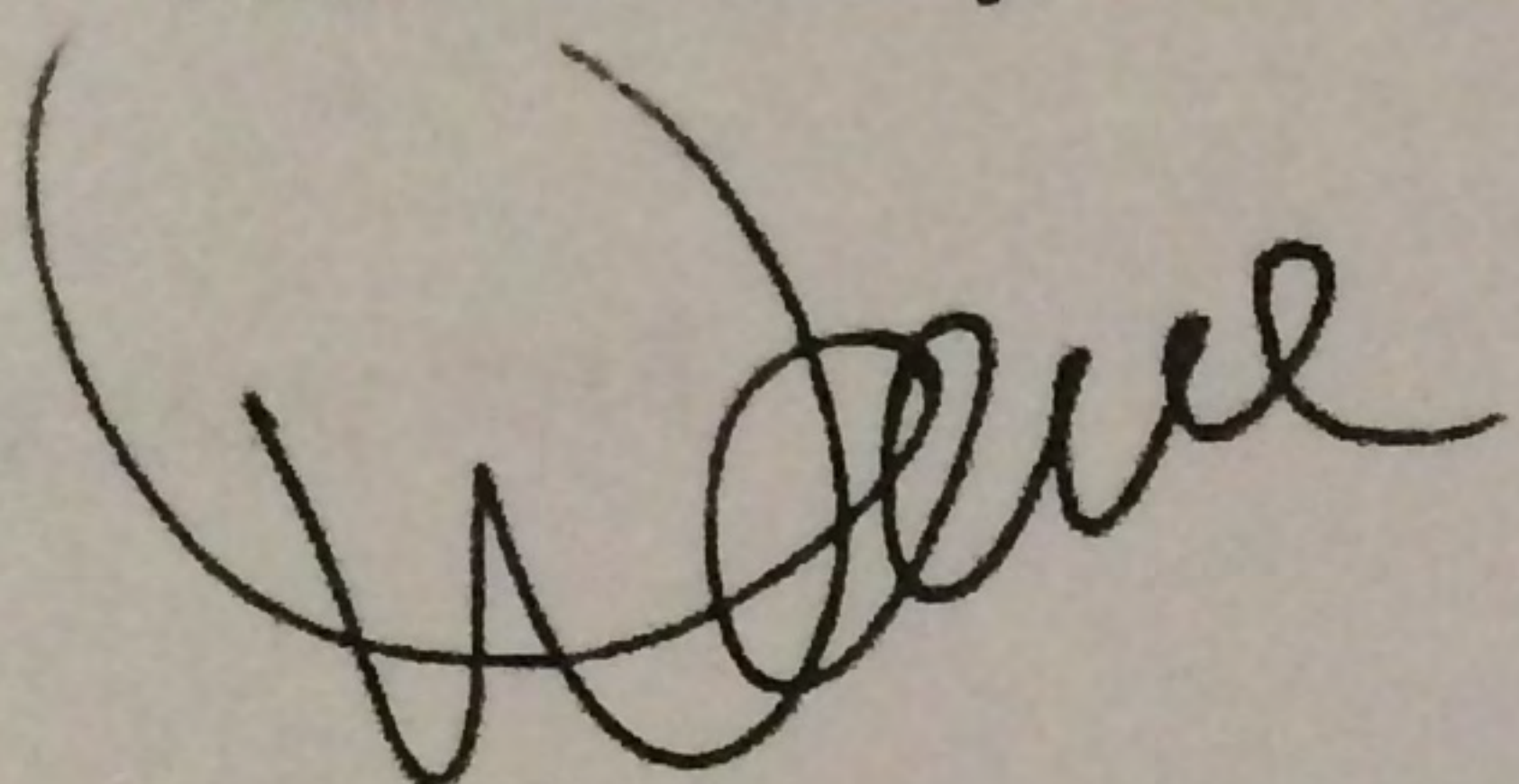
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Yours sincerely,

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David H. Turpin, CM, LLD, FRSC  
President and Vice-Chancellor

cc: Dr. Randy Wimmer, Interim Dean (Faculty of Education), University of Alberta