



VIA FAX
Ref: 138915

May 27, 2010

Patti Bacchus, Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 39 (Vancouver)
Fax: 604-713-5049

Dear Ms. Bacchus:

The Province has committed to facilitate and implement efficiencies, wherever it makes sense, within the business operations of the K-12 Education sector. Currently, payroll operations are managed individually in 60 school districts through a number of different software applications. In 2004, government put in place a contract for a centralized payroll solution, which also contemplated an extension to the schools, universities, colleges and hospitals (SUCH) sector.

The Ministry of Education is leading a project to assess a pilot group of school districts' requirements to leverage government's shared payroll solution and human resource applications. The Ministry acknowledges that many boards are looking for an integrated solution comprised of payroll, human resource information, absence management and dispatch, and financial systems. The Ministry will include these functional areas in the review with the goal to providing an integrated solution to meet district needs.

The Ministry of Education is inviting the Vancouver Board of Education to participate as part of the initial pilot group to assess requirements and potentially help direct and form the eventual solution.

A shared payroll solution and integrated human resource and financial system will allow school districts to:

- Put in place an advanced payroll solution and human resource/financial system, with built-in back-ups, for less cost than if done alone;
- Improve efficient delivery of administration functions;
- Transfer system and processing risk to a central provider;
- Re-deploy current payroll resources to benefit students; and
- Integrate seamlessly with government reporting requirements.

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Accepting this invitation will ensure your district's needs are considered as the solution is designed. The plan is to begin a period of fact finding and due diligence review with each district in the pilot group as soon as possible. This will require some sessions with senior management over a number of weeks, to be scheduled through a jointly coordinated effort.

I await your response to this great opportunity to work together with the Ministry to ensure the efficient delivery of school district administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret MacDiarmid". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "M" and "D".

Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister