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January 24, 2014

Honourable Jeff Johnson  
Minister of Education  
424 Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5K 2B6

Honourable Ric McIver  
Minister of Infrastructure  
324 Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. Johnson and Mr. McIver

**RE: Calgary Student Accommodation**

The Board of Trustees wishes to thank both of you for the recently announced modernization projects for the Aboriginal Family School at Harold W Riley School, Jack James School, Bowness High School and the replacement facility for Christine Meikle School.

These schools have been identified as high priorities for many years, and the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) is pleased that the Government of Alberta has recognized the urgent need to provide these necessary upgrades and modernizations. This capital investment for improved and modern facilities and equipment will contribute significantly to the desired objectives and outcomes of Inspiring Education.

We are also delighted that our children with exceptional needs and our First Nations, Metis and Inuit children are being recognized with this important capital announcement. Our Board is grateful that the Government of Alberta continues to recognize that education is a priority for Albertans.

Administration is ready to work with both of your Departments to immediately commence the implementation of the project scoping, final budgeting, procurement and construction delivery process. We are assuming that the delivery model for these modernizations will be a design-bid-build, lump sum contract process, led by the CBE, in consultation with your technical staff, and as outlined in the School Capital Manual.

Our administrative staff are committed to delivering these projects in the shortest possible timeframe and look forward to commencing these challenging projects immediately.

We are currently receiving many inquiries from the parents in communities across Calgary regarding the timing of new schools in their neighborhoods. Our forecasts indicate that there will be over 9,000 more students in the CBE by the time the five CBE schools announced last May 2013 open in September 2016.

As there is an urgent need for more schools in Calgary, we do trust that the Alberta Government will approve many of the new schools listed in our Three-Year School Capital Plan (2014-2017).

We are concerned that if a Public-Private-Partnership (P3) model approach is used for any new schools which are approved, that the schools would not be available until September 2017. As our Administration could expedite the design and construction of these schools for completion a year earlier in September 2016, we would request that you consider awarding the responsibility for delivery of new schools to the CBE, in order that we may meet the community demand for new schools in their areas.

Sincerely,



Sheila Taylor, Chair  
Board of Trustees

cc: Naomi Johnson, Chief Superintendent, Calgary Board of Education

