

## MAR 0 3 2022

Dr. Shawn Davidson, President Saskatchewan School Boards Association sdavidson@saskschoolboards.ca

Dear Dr. Shawn Davidson:

Thank you for your letter dated January 31, 2022. It was a privilege and honour to bring greetings to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association's (SSBA) virtual Fall Assembly in November of 2021 and announce the recipients of the Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence on behalf of Premier Scott Moe.

In your letter, you also attached the results and resolutions that were adopted by the SSBA membership at the 2021 Annual General Meeting. Please find below the Ministry of Education's responses to the two adopted resolutions specifically directed to the Ministry of Education.

Resolution 21-07 – Future Advocacy for September 30<sup>th</sup> to be observed as a provincial statutory Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

The Ministry of Education will bring this resolution to the attention of ministry partners that have the legislative authority to make this recommendation for change. The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to reconciliation and ensuring that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools is acknowledged, and that Saskatchewan residents have opportunities to learn about the experiences of Indigenous children in these schools to ensure that this part of our shared history is never forgotten.

On October 5, 2021, the Ministry of Education invited school divisions, qualified independent schools and historical high schools to apply for a one-time grant of up to \$5,000 to work with local Indigenous communities to plan and implement actions towards reconciliation in the 2021-22 school year. It is expected that the actions will create opportunities for students, staff and Indigenous communities to work together on actions to advance reconciliation.

Resolution 21-08 – Recommendation that provincial examinations be eliminated at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year for students in the provincial K-12 system.

The Ministry of Education will consider this resolution as part of its ongoing evaluation of the provincial examination program. In fall 2019 and spring 2021, the Ministry of Education consulted with education stakeholders to discuss how the current provincial examination program was meeting the needs of students in the province. Input that was provided during the consultation sessions will be used to guide future decisions regarding the provincial examination program.

I acknowledge that these two adopted resolutions are aligned with the SSBA's efforts to further innovation, inclusion and investment in the education system.

Thank you for taking the time to share these two ministry-specific resolutions and for providing the Ministry of Education with an opportunity to formally respond to both.

Sincerely,

Dustin Duncan

Minister of Education

cc: Donna Johnson, Deputy Minister, Education
Darren McKee, Executive Director, Saskatchewan School Boards Association