



Dr. Peter Froese, Executive Director  
Federation of Independent School Associations  
4885 Saint John Paul Way  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 0G3

March 23, 2017

Dear Dr. Froese:

Thank you for writing to Today's BC Liberals, and for your organization's advocacy on behalf of the thousands of families who choose to send their children to independent schools.

Our party strongly supports parents having the choice of a school that works for them – whether for faith, location, or any other reason. We believe diversity is one of British Columbia's greatest strengths – and our education system should reflect that diversity by meeting a wide spectrum of needs and preferences while we continue to make record investments in public education.

At this time, we are not contemplating any amendments to the current laws and regulations pertaining to British Columbia's independent schools.

We also have no plans to disrupt the current funding formula for independent schools. If re-elected, we are committed to supporting independent schools at their respective percentages of 50% and 35%, as well as proportional funding on additional operating funds provided to public schools. And in our fifth straight balanced budget this year, we further increased our investment in education, allowing for an increase of \$25 million to independent schools.

You and your members can rest assured that Today's BC Liberals are committed to the right of every family to choose an independent school if they wish. I urge you to press the opposition parties and their candidates for honesty and forthrightness with respect to their plans – as their public comments have varied.

A strong, diverse, and growing economy is critical to government's continued ability to invest in our students and schools, public and independent alike. Only Today's BC Liberals have a plan to keep British Columbia's economy strong and build on our success to date.

Thank you once again for the important work you do.

Sincerely,

Premier Christy Clark