



Board Chair Report

January 22, 2019

Good evening and welcome.

I want to take this opportunity to share some information that came to our attention last week. We learned about some changes happening within the Fraser Health Authority that impact youth outreach services in Burnaby. This involves youth who may be out of school for a variety of reasons, including struggles with addiction or mental health.

As soon as these changes came to our attention, we immediately asked for information, as we are aware of just how important support is for youth-at-risk. We wanted to ensure that young people in our community would not be negatively impacted.

It was implied that we, as a school district, were aware of and consulted with regarding these changes. We, in fact, were not.

We have since followed up with Fraser Health and have learned that they are making changes in their organization in order to improve and streamline their services. They have assured us that there will be no disruption in service for their clients.

Fraser Health is an important partner in our community and provides a critical service for young people. We hope for a smooth transition for all in this process. Our interest in the well-being of our community's youth does not stop when they're outside of our school buildings. We will continue to do what we can to support our community's vulnerable youth.

On behalf of the Board—thank you.

Gary Wong, Chair
Burnaby Board of Education