

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session on Tuesday, February 28, 2023

1. Moving Forward – Action Against Racism

In June 2020, the Board of Education passed a motion directing staff to engage in a consultative process to develop a district anti-racism action plan. The motion provided the opportunity to engage with, listen to, and learn from the Burnaby community.

The Burnaby School District enlisted the expertise of The Co-Laboratorio (Co-Lab), an external engagement firm co-founded by Dr. June Francis and Dr. Kristina Henriksson. Co-Lab worked with the school district throughout the engagement phase – a process aimed at providing meaningful, safe and culturally-sensitive opportunities for students, staff and families to share experiences. Opportunities were designed to hear directly from those impacted by racism.

On September 27, 2022, Drs. Francis and Henriksson presented their final report to the Board at a public meeting. The report included recommended priority elements for the district to consider moving forward.

Following the meeting, the school district's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Reconciliation leadership team began a scan with school and district staff to gain a deeper understanding of what is already happening in relation to the recommendations, what gaps may exist, and what next steps might entail.

This evening, Assistant Superintendent, Brandon Curr and Executive Director of Human Resources, Harpinder Hothi, will share some work underway, information gathered to date, and initial plans to continue to move this critical work forward.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education receive the information.