



November 8, 2017

Glen Hansman, President
BC Teachers' Federation
100 – 550 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2

Dear Glen:

Thank you for your letter dated October 24, 2017 advising of the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) intention to commence the next round of collective bargaining no later than December 1, 2018.

We agree that there are many important issues to discuss in the upcoming round of collective bargaining and share your hope that the negotiations will be positive and productive.

As you know, BCPSEA is in the preparation phase for collective bargaining, as is the BCTF. Our preparation phase includes extensive consultation with our stakeholders to inform our approach, which will be further guided by a focus on achieving the province's vision for education by providing supports and services to students within available resources.

We must also consider the implications of events that will impact both parties' preparation and readiness for productive negotiations, including trustee elections on October 20, 2018 (with trustees taking the oath of office in November/December 2018), which will require BCPSEA to ensure that new trustees/boards of education are fully informed of the bargaining preparations/approach. Further, the arbitration on special needs designations is to be concluded by January 31, 2019. We also believe that our discussions at the bargaining table will benefit from as much experience as possible in working with the restored class size and composition language.

Many of the discussions that will inform our respective approaches at the bargaining table are already underway through the regularly scheduled labour–management meetings, the meetings to address issues arising from implementation of the Letter of Understanding No. 17 Memorandum of Agreement, as well as the committees established under the 2013-2019 Provincial Collective Agreement including, for example, teacher compensation matters and teacher teaching on call (TTOC) call-out and hiring practices. These ongoing discussions between the parties on a number of foundational issues will assist in our shared objective.

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Given all of the above, we therefore look forward to continuing our discussions with the BCTF, identifying priorities, and working with you to determine the most optimal date at which to commence formal negotiations within the parameters as set out in the *Labour Relations Code*.

Yours truly,



Renzo Del Negro
Chief Executive Officer

c: Honourable Carole James, Minister of Finance
Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education
Honourable Harry Bains, Minister of Labour
Don Wright, Deputy Minister to the Premier
Scott MacDonald, Deputy Minister of Education
Trevor Hughes, Deputy Minister of Labour
Christina Zacharuk, President and CEO, PSEC Secretariat
Gordon Swan, President, BCSTA
Janet Stewart, Chief Operating Officer, BCPSEA