



February 22, 2023

Ref: 287856

Shelley Carter, Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 75 (Mission)  
**Email: [shelley.carter@mpsd.ca](mailto:shelley.carter@mpsd.ca)**

Dear Shelley Carter:

Thank you for your letter dated January 30, 2023, regarding the importance of universal school food programs for K-12 students across British Columbia.

We share a common goal to ensure students across BC are properly fed for school success and the understanding that students who are eating nutritious food every day are better prepared to learn and grow.

Ensuring students are receiving nutritious food at school each day is an important part of my mandate letter supported by the Minister of Agriculture and Food to include more locally grown foods in schools. The one-time Student and Family Affordability funding provided to districts was an important first step in government's commitment to make sure students are properly fed for learning.

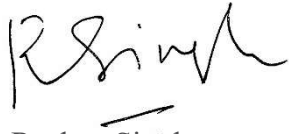
The last few years has emphasized existing food security inequities for families and highlighted the importance of providing school districts with sustainable resources to create flexible school food programs. The Ministry of Education and Child Care has been working with Ministry of Agriculture and Foods on a provincial approach to sustainable, equitable and community-supported school food programs.

We are pleased that the federal government reiterated their commitment to a national school food policy within their 2021 mandate letters and look forward to collaborative opportunities ahead.

.../2

Thank you for your shared concern as well as your commitment to our common goal that all BC students are fed properly to support their learning each day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Singh', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Rachna Singh  
Minister

pc: Tracy Loffler, Randy Cairns, Jash Bains, Linda Hamel, Vice Chair and Trustees,  
School District No. 75 (Mission)  
Ilona Schmidt, Executive Assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer and Board of Education,  
School District No. 75 (Mission)