

Thank you very much for the
Lillian Wright Memorial Scholarship
Award. I very much appreciated it.

Sincerely,

Kate Olechowski

Thank You



Medicine Hat School District No. 76

601 – 1st Avenue S.W., Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 4Y7 Fax: (403) 529-5339 Phone: (403) 528-6701

December 3, 2015

Hon. Mr. David Eggen
Minister of Education
Suite 228 Legislature Building
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Eggen:

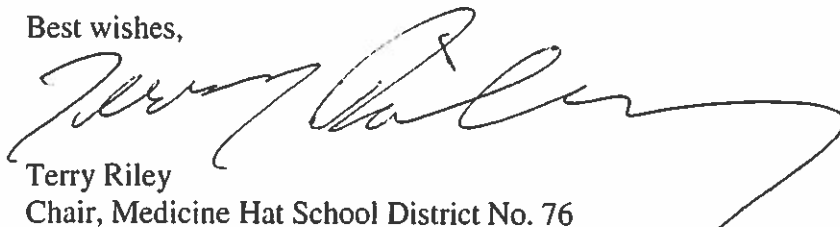
I just wanted to inform you that Medicine Hat School District No. 76 has decided to install solar panels in our new school in the Ranchlands area. We are able to do this for two reasons. First, it is a new build, and we have built into the design a sufficiently strong roof structure to support the weight. Secondly, we have sufficient reserves to do this one project – an additional cost of about \$220,000 - \$250,000. We understand that the annual savings in electricity costs would enable us to recoup the capital costs in 17-20 years. (In addition, we have agreed to spend approximately another \$800,000 to enhance the gymnasium and a learning commons.)

I have asked my officials to investigate the feasibility and the cost of two other ideas.

1. Although the Medicine Hat High School project has been let to tender and initial work is about to start, could the roof of that reconstructed building sustain the weight of solar panels, and what would be the cost of adding these to that project? (We have already put considerable local funds to enhance the gym and learning commons space in this school.)
2. We have a number of schools with flat roofs built in the mid 1960's to the mid 1980's. Could these schools sustain solar panels, and what would be the cost of these?

In light of the government's initiatives on green energy, we wanted to enquire if there could be some financial assistance to proceed with these initiatives should they prove structurally and financially feasible upon completion of the investigation mentioned above. This investigation may take some time to complete because our local resources to conduct this investigation are very limited.

Best wishes,



Terry Riley
Chair, Medicine Hat School District No. 76

cc Hon. Brian Mason, Minister of Infrastructure
Hon. Shannon Phillips, Minister of the Environment