

To the Board,

Thank you for your leadership and guidance during my tenure with SDG76. I am so grateful for the many opportunities afforded to me by the Board.

Elm Street School has my heart and I will continue to be its biggest fan.

All the best going forward,
Reagan



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

Office of the Minister

JAN 21 2016

AR91950

Mr. Terry Riley
Board Chair
Medicine Hat School District
601 - 1 Avenue SW
Medicine Hat AB T1A 4Y7

Dear Mr. Riley:

Thank you for your December 3, 2015 letter regarding the installation of solar panels at the new Ranchlands school and your board's intentions to further explore the use of solar panels at other school facilities in the Medicine Hat School District.

I understand your administration has concluded the design layout of the new Ranchlands school, which includes an increase to the gymnasium area, learning commons and gym storage. I support the use of your capital reserves for this purpose, and I ask that your administration continue to work closely with the ministries of Education and Infrastructure on the project.

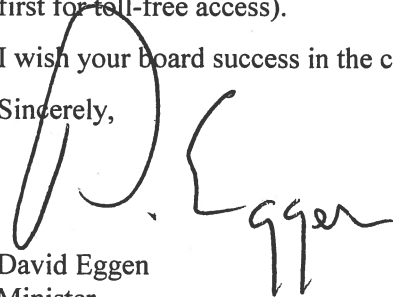
I am encouraged by your board's leadership in installing solar panels at the school. The commitment of capital reserves for this purpose will result in the use of renewable energy at the school with a reasonable payback period on the initial investment. I understand from ministry staff that your board may be able to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold certification as a result of the installation of the solar panels, and I wish your board success in this endeavour.

I commend your administration for its proactive work to explore other opportunities for solar panel installation in your schools in an effort to reduce negative impacts on the environment. Currently, there is not a separate capital budget for solar panels within Alberta Education. However, I would like to highlight that the *Capital Borrowing Regulation* enables school boards to raise funds for energy conservation on school buildings, which may assist your board with its environmental strategy.

For answers to the specific questions you have raised, I encourage you to contact Mark Jummun, Senior Manager, Capital Planning – South, at mark.jummun@gov.ab.ca or 780-643-0736 (dial 310-0000 first for toll-free access).

I wish your board success in the completion of the exciting Ranchlands project.

Sincerely,


David Eggen
Minister

cc: Honourable Brian Mason, Minister of Infrastructure
Honourable Shannon Phillips, Minister of Environment and Parks



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Riley Terry
Medicine Hat School District No. 76
601 - 1 Ave S.W.
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 4Y7

February 1, 2016

Dear Mr. Terry:

Medicine Hat College is celebrating its 50th Anniversary and I am writing to you personally in the hope that you will save the date for our first ever Pathways Gala on Saturday, June 4, 2016.

Official convocation ceremonies are being held the day before, where we recognize the achievements and successes of our graduates. As a continuation of this event, we are inviting prominent community members, esteemed guests and leading dignitaries to attend this inaugural gala.

Our hope is not only to celebrate our 50th Anniversary in an outstanding way, but also to grow this first gala into our annual, signature fundraiser. Medicine Hat College understands the sober statistics clouding our provincial and regional economy and we want to extend support to help bridge the gap for those individuals faced with challenging financial times. Education has and always will be an important step to elevate minds and open doors to opportunities. Our Pathways Gala will introduce our collective effort to build a student life enhancement fund that will provide financial assistance to those who need it most.

It would be an honour to host you and your guest(s). The official invitation will be sent to you in the coming weeks, but please mark June 4, 2016 on your calendar.

I hope you can attend this special event.

Sincerely,

Dr. Denise K. Henning
President and CEO
Medicine Hat College



Office of the Minister

AR91960

JAN 28 2016

Mr. Terry Riley
Board Chair
Medicine Hat School District
601 - 1 Avenue SW
Medicine Hat AB T1A 4Y7

Dear Mr. Riley:

Thank you for your November 30, 2015 letter regarding the *Public Education Collective Bargaining Act*, formerly Bill 8. I appreciate the feedback you provided on behalf of the Medicine Hat School District Board of Trustees. Thank you for agreeing to serve as your board's representative to the Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to consult with school boards prior to the third reading of Bill 8. As you know, in response to the feedback I received through letters and discussions about the bill, I brought forward an amendment on December 8, 2015 to include school boards in the process of determining local and central matters during this first round of bargaining. The Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association, comprising school board and government representatives, will negotiate with the Alberta Teachers' Association which matters will be bargained at the central and local tables. This ensures that schools boards are involved in collective bargaining at the provincial level and all stages. Bill 8 received Royal Assent on December 11, 2015 and came into force on January 1, 2016.

I look forward to working with all school boards as we continue to implement a fair and effective bargaining process.

Sincerely,

David Eggen
Minister