

AR95255

AUG 12 2016

Mr. Mark Davidson  
Superintendent  
Medicine Hat School District  
601 - 1 Avenue SW  
Medicine Hat AB T1A 4Y7

Dear Mr. Davidson:

Thank you for your July 20, 2016 letter regarding your concerns about the possible discontinuation of the Southeast Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD) hold harmless funding in the fall of 2017.

RCSD promotes collaboration among the various partners, including Alberta Health Services, Human Services, school authorities and other community stakeholders. RCSD regional partners are expected to work collaboratively to pool and share resources to provide streamlined, co-ordinated and equitable access to supports and services. Each RCSD region has the flexibility to determine and prioritize the supports and services that are provided to meet regional and local needs. This includes examining the services the RCSD region currently offers and reviewing if they require regional collaboration or if they would be better provided through one of the collaborative partners.

As you are aware, hold harmless funding of \$419,000 is currently being provided to the Southeast RCSD group. This funding commenced in the 2014/2015 school year, for a three-year period, to allow the region to continue its transition to delivering the services established by your region. The continuation of the hold harmless funding will be reviewed prior to the 2017/2018 school year.

The RCSD formula is an allocation methodology to ensure equitable distribution of funding across the province. The formula is based on the Inclusive Education grant formula, which was developed and endorsed by a stakeholder group that included school jurisdiction members. More than 75 per cent of the grant is allocated on a per-student basis, while the rest is based on regional differential factors. The distance and sparsity differential component of the formula is only 1.12 per cent of the overall grant, which is less than \$700,000 provincially. Both the RCSD and Inclusive Education grants have steadily increased over the past four years.

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Mr. Mark Davidson  
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The grant allocation formula is reviewed periodically and refined only after following a rigorous evidence-based process. If you have further questions regarding the allocation methodology, please contact Daimen Tan, Director, School Finance Branch, at 780-422-0865 (toll-free in Alberta by first dialing 310-0000) or [daimen.tan@gov.ab.ca](mailto:daimen.tan@gov.ab.ca).

I appreciate you taking the time to share your concerns with me. I value your comments and will bring them forward for discussion as we begin our Budget 2017 deliberations in the fall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Clarke', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Curtis Clarke, PhD  
Deputy Minister

It is with great appreciation that  
I thank Medicine Hat School District #7  
for the plaque and cheque received  
in recognition of my retirement from  
the District.

I enjoyed my years teaching immensely,  
and extend my appreciation and  
gratitude to so many within the District  
for the wonderful contributions made  
to enrich my teaching career.

Yours truly,  
Susan Steller

To: The Board of Trustees

I was one of the five grade 7 students at  
Dr. Roy Wilson Learning Centre to receive  
the Thelma Berkley Robinson Scholarship.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Emily Haukeness

Thank you, for giving me this  
opportunity to accept this scholarship  
and open up more opportunities like such  
in the future.

-Tristin Blize

Thank you for choosing me to be a recipient for your Helma Berkeley  
Robinson Memorial Scholarship. I am honored to be the recipient of  
this award, and your generosity will help me get one step closer to  
achieving my future academic goals.  
Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

-Suzie Goner  
Graduate of Medicine Hat High School

Thank you for awarding me with the  
Thelma Berkley Robinson Scholarship. I  
plan to use this Scholarship for my future  
education.

Matthew Schwengler

To the Board of Trustees:

Thank you so much for this award, I really appreciate it! I'm so honoured to receive this award and \$50 ~~scholarship~~ scholarship, and I just want to say thank you for choosing me as one of the recipients for the Thelma Berkley Robinson scholarship!

-from Kyla Scharfenberg ☺



Thank you so much for this award  
I'm just beginning to realize how much  
this will help me in my pursuit in post  
secondary education. This award will help  
me lots in starting down my career p

Thank you again

Justin Jensen

Justin Jensen

*...for being so nice!*

To the Thelma Bertely Robinson Memorial Scholarship  
Committee,

Thank you for sponsoring my \$2500 award for having  
top marks in 12th grade. It is truly an honor to have  
received this scholarship but also to be recognised as  
Valedictorian and to represent my grade class at  
our ceremonies. This scholarship will help me to pay  
for my tuition, residence fees, meal plan, and books when  
I begin attending the University of Calgary this fall.  
I will study Health Sciences there with a major in the  
Biomedical Sciences. I truly appreciate everything and  
I am so beyond excited to see what the upcoming  
years hold.

...for being so nice!

Thank you!

Viviana Buckholz

I'm very very sorry for the <sup>very</sup> late reply.  
I didn't know where I put it so  
it took me a very long time to  
say thank you. Me and my  
parents are very thankful that  
I receive this kind of reward.

I'm also very very happy  
that I'm one of the student

who is a great example to the  
younger kids. I will always do  
my best and work harder  
to achieve my goal. I'll be  
a really good student always.  
I'm very sorry for the late  
Thank You. We're very thankful.

-Arriane Lozada