



Office of the Minister MLA, Edmonton - Castle Downs

May 8, 2012

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AR 74313

Ms. Barb McNeill Board Chair Elk Island Public Schools 683 Wye Road Sherwood Park AB T8B 1N2

Dear Ms. McNeill:

Thank you for your letter requesting funding to modernize Fultonvale School and increase its capacity to include the Colchester students and, potentially, Ministik students. As Minister of Education, I am pleased to respond.

I appreciate that a Value Management Session was undertaken to help assess the best option for the communities of Colchester, Fultonvale and Ministik. I understand your school board's decision and recognize the influence of other factors on the timing of such a project. I recognize the importance of the Fultonvale modernization project, and I am encouraged that it was included as the highest priority in your updated capital plan for 2013-2016. It is my understanding that Elk Island Public Schools staff are working with staff from both Education and Infrastructure to develop an accommodation strategy for the proposed project so that when funding becomes available, work can proceed quickly.

School infrastructure needs are a top priority for the Government of Alberta. On April 4, 2012, Premier Alison M. Redford committed to building 50 new schools and to upgrading and revitalizing 70 existing schools in communities throughout Alberta. As the work of meeting this commitment gets underway, I can assure you that your request will receive appropriate consideration.

Thank you for notifying me of your board's decision on a solution for Colchester students.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Lukaszuk Minister of Education MLA-Elect, Edmonton – Castle Downs

cc: Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister of Infrastructure Dave Quest, MLA-Elect, Strathcona – Sherwood Park

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