

July 8, 2025

Honourable Anne Kang
Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Via Email: PSFS.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Kang,

Re: Request for Update on Ridge-Meadows Post-Secondary Feasibility Study

On behalf of the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows Board of Education, I am writing to respectfully request an update on the Ridge-Meadows Post-Secondary Feasibility Study.

As you are aware, the August 2023 *Ridge-Meadows Post-Secondary Needs Assessment*, conducted by Osier Consulting and funded by the Province, confirmed both a perceived and projected long-term need for increased access to post-secondary education and training opportunities in our region. In response, we were pleased by the Province's February 2, 2024 announcement of a \$250,000 investment in a regional feasibility study, to be led by Kwantlen Polytechnic University in collaboration with Douglas College, the Justice Institute of British Columbia, and the University of the Fraser Valley.

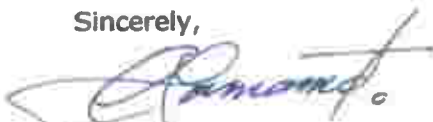
The Board of Education and district staff participated in this process, along with other key stakeholders from the community, and we remain deeply invested in supporting improved post-secondary access for local learners.

We understand from Osier Consulting that the final report was submitted to the Steering Committee and the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills in June 2025. In light of this, we are writing to respectfully inquire about the anticipated next steps and timeline for the Ministry's review of the report and any related decisions or announcements.

We continue to believe that enhanced access to post-secondary programming in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows is not only essential for our students and families, but also aligned with the Province's long-term workforce strategy.

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to expanding opportunities for all British Columbians. We look forward to your response and remain available to support this work in any way we can.

Sincerely,



Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson
Board of Education

cc: The Board of Education, School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows)
The Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care and MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Lawrence Mok, MLA, Maple Ridge East
Mayor and Council, City of Maple Ridge
Mayor and Council, City of Pitt Meadows
Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools & CEO
Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer, SD42



July 17, 2025
Our Ref. 146743
X-Ref. 131606

Elaine Yamamoto
Chairperson, Board of Education
School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows)
22225 Brown Avenue
Maple Ridge, BC V2X 8N6

Email Address: c/o [Rebecca Lyle@sd42.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Lyle@sd42.ca)

Dear Elaine Yamamoto:

Thank you for your letter of July 8, 2025, sent to the Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care and MLA for Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows, and to the Honourable Anne Kang, former Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills and Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport, that requested an update on the Ridge-Meadows Post-Secondary Feasibility Study. As the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills is now within the responsibility of the Honourable Jessie Sunner, your correspondence has been forwarded to me. I am responding on behalf of Minister Sunner.

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills received the final report of the feasibility study in July 2025. I would like to thank you and the other members of the School District who contributed to the study.

Staff at the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills are reviewing the report and will give due consideration to its findings, including potential options to improve access to post-secondary education for residents of Ridge-Meadows. These options span a range of approaches, costs and anticipated impacts. When considering any proposal to enhance access to post-secondary programs and facilities, the Ministry also assesses whether initiatives are sustainable, benefit the entire region and its economy, and fit within the context of British Columbia's broader post-secondary system.

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The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills intends to share the final report with partners and stakeholders who were involved in the development of the feasibility study in the coming weeks.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



Jamie Edwardson
Acting Executive Director
Strategic Policy and Initiatives Branch
Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

pc: Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Education and Child Care

ECC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Honourable Jessie Sunner
Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

PSFS.Minister@gov.bc.ca