

The Corporation of the District of Saanich | Mayor's Office 770 Vernon Avenue Victoria BC V8X 2W7 | T 250-475-5510 | www.saanich.ca

March 14, 2024

Nicole Duncan Chair, Board of Education, School District No.61 556 Boleskine Road Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8

Email: nduncan@sd61.bc.ca

Dear Nicole Duncan:

RE: SCHOOL DISTRICT 61 POLICE SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICERS

On March 11th, 2024, Saanich Council passed the following motion:

That Council request the Mayor to write to the Chair of the Board of Education for School District 61 requesting reinstatement of the Police School Liaison Officers and that the letter be copied to the appropriate Provincial bodies, other School District 61 school hosting municipalities and the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

Safety for students and young people is a priority for everyone in our community. Council has heard from many concerned parents that they would like to see the return of the school liaison officer program in the Greater Victoria School District.

We recognize the sensitivity of the program for some students and families. Their concerns must be managed with respect and care. Council encourages the Board of Education to consider modifications to the program that address those concerns and ensures the safety of all students.

We know that the Board has to consider a lot of factors when it comes to school safety. Council requests that the Board give consideration to implementing a modified version of the school liaison program.

We appreciate your consideration.

Dean Murdock

Sincerely,

Dean Murdock Mayor

cc: Mayor Marianne Alto and Victoria City Council

Mayor Barb Desjardins and Esquimalt Council

Mayor Kevin Murdoch and Oak Bay Council

Mayor Sid Tobias and View Royal Council

Honourable Rachna Singh, Minister of Education

Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

Honourable Rob Flemming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

Honourable Murray Rankin, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Chief Ron Sam and Songhees Nation Council

Chief Jerome Thomas and Esquimalt Nation Council