

From: [Julia Fraser](#)
To: [Keely Flannigan](#); [Lisa Gudervan](#); [Wayne Broughton](#); [Chantelle Desrosiers](#); [Amy Geistlinger](#); [Valene Johnson](#); [Lee-Ann Tiede](#); [Kevin Kaardal](#); [Jon Rever](#); [Lise Bradshaw](#)
Cc: [Michelle Relova](#); [Ryan Ward](#)
Subject: Re: A heartfelt thank you...
Date: Thursday, May 22, 2025 5:46:46 PM

Dear Keely,

Thank you for your thoughtful message and for taking the time to share how the Board's recent Public Statement on Indigenous Sovereignty resonated with you and your students.

Hearing that your Grade 5 learners are actively engaging in conversations about power, voice, and change is incredibly moving—and inspiring. Knowing that our statement has contributed to their inquiry and offered a real-time example of leadership for justice fills me with both hope and a profound sense of responsibility. Your words remind me of the importance of visible, values-driven leadership, especially in the eyes of our youngest learners.

As Board Chair, it has been my driving commitment to ensure our legacy reflects steadfast support for Indigenous sovereignty, Truth and Reconciliation, and equity. I am fortunate to work alongside fellow trustees who have shown courage and unity in advancing this important work.

It is my sincere intention to lead in a way that ensures we always advocate for what is right—for Indigenous Peoples and for all equity-deserving communities. Under my leadership, the Board will continue to take strong, principled stances in support of every student, staff member, and family in our district.

We are proud to live and model the values of inclusivity, equity, and reconciliation. Your affirmation reminds us why this work matters so deeply and how powerfully it can ripple through classrooms and hearts.

With deep appreciation for all you do,
Julia Fraser
Chair, Board of Education

Warmest Regards,

Julia Fraser

Board Chair & Ex-Officio of All Committees,

Central Okanagan Board of Education

Resolutions Committee Chair,

BCSTA Thompson-Okanagan Branch

Cell: 250-681-0269

Email: Julia.Fraser@sd23.bc.ca