

From: [Julia Fraser](#)
To: [Lois Beischer](#); [Wayne Broughton](#); [Amy Geistlinger](#); [Lee-Ann Tiede](#); [Lisa Guderyan](#); [Chantelle Desrosiers](#); [Valene Johnson](#); [Jon Rever](#); [Kevin Kaardal](#); [Delta Carmichael](#); [Lise Bradshaw](#)
Subject: With Gratitude and Respect – Response to Your Message from stqa?tkʷlcnīwt (Windy Bay)
Date: Friday, June 13, 2025 5:05:57 PM

Dear Lois,

Tansi way, limləmt and thank you — for your words, for your truth, and for the spirit with which you so generously reached out.

On behalf of the Board of Education for Central Okanagan Public Schools, I want to express our deep gratitude for your message and for the powerful solidarity you offer.

Your reflections — shared from stqa?tkʷlcnīwt, Windy Bay — are rooted in lived experience, profound wisdom, and a love for community, land, and all living things. They moved us deeply.

We hold with reverence the truths you have shared: about the ongoing trauma of colonization, the strength found in intergenerational healing, and the richness of cultural diversity within families like yours. Your words affirm for us the essential work of education — not only as academic instruction, but as a path toward empathy, truth-telling, and justice.

Our district remains unwavering in our commitment to the Syilx Okanagan Nation, to Indigenous sovereignty, and to advancing reconciliation through action. When hateful, misinformed, and harmful public statements are made — especially by those in positions of influence — it is not only our duty but our responsibility to speak clearly and courageously in opposition.

We are honored to know that your children were supported through their time in both Sensisyusten and our public schools. That our schools were able to provide a space of acceptance, cultural understanding, and belonging means everything. It speaks to the relationships and the shared journey we must all continue — every student, educator, support staff member, family, and leader.

Your support, as a community member, as a CUPE member, and as someone deeply committed to the 94 Calls to Action and UNDRIP, strengthens us. Your voice is not only heard — it is honored.

Together, we will continue to walk this path — to listen, to speak truth, to restore, and to create a future grounded in respect, dignity, and reconciliation.

Maarsii. Limləmt. With heartfelt thanks and solidarity,

Julia Fraser

Chair, Board of Education

Central Okanagan Public Schools