

From: [Andy Thomsen](#)
To: [Board of Education](#)
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 1:54:57 PM

WARNING: This email originated from outside Central Okanagan Public Schools. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

**Dear Members of the Board
of the Central Okanagan School District 23**

**It was disappointing to read on Castanet
How this School board calls out Kelowna-area MLA's statements on
Indigenous sovereignty,**

by [Kathy Michaels](#) , May 22, 2025.

We are all multi-generational immigrants, and have the same rights, opportunities, and responsibilities. Consult does not mean consent in any dictionary, in any country, and nobody has VETO rights over anybody or anything, anywhere in Canada, Indigenous people included.

We are all protected by the same human rights, and are equals under the same laws.

To be blunt, you have absolutely no mandate to engage in colonial politics, let alone insinuate your disturbing interpretations of who has the right to occupancy and use of the land, and the development of our natural resources on our children.

It is disturbing to see the extent to which the people we used to consider our community leaders have allowed themselves to become distracted by Trudeau's toxic and one-sided Indigenous KOOL-AID, and assigning blame on people who were not even remotely engaged in this disaster.

You have clearly lost sight of your mandate, and the fundamental reasons for education, to promote academic achievements and critical thinking, to help our children resolve the challenges they will be facing in their lifetime, not to fill their heads with your unsolicited and unqualified biases.

An estimated 150,000 Indigenous children may have been forced to attend residential schools over a century. About half of them went to those schools because the Chiefs wanted them to get an education, to help them get a better quality of life.

Our children have the right to know the truth.
Please do the right thing, and resign from our school district Board.

Thanks,

Andv Thomsen

