

October 3, 2022

Brandi Rai, President
Alberta School Councils' Association
Suite 207, 11010 - 142 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5N 2R1

Dear Brandi,

Response to ASCA request for support

Thank you for your letter dated September 2, 2022. We share your frustration and disappointment that, in the last two years, the funding provided to the Association by the Ministry of Education has been drastically reduced. We know how important school councils are as bridges between schools and communities, and how beneficial well-functioning councils can be to enhancing student learning. School councils promote positive relationships between parents, teachers, principals, central office personnel and school trustees.

The support that the Alberta School Councils' Association provides to school councils through training, education and advocacy is so valuable and we agree it should be adequately resourced. While the option of a sponsorship commitment is not one we will pursue as we don't co-brand materials we are not involved with creating, there are several other ways in which our Board is committed to maintaining our support for ASCA.

For the 11th year, our Board has paid for ASCA memberships for all 212 of our schools. We have also booked three training sessions to be held centrally this fall, so that our school councils can get off to a good start. Our Communications department is ensuring school council chairs and school principals are aware of the offerings available

from ASCA and the Alberta School Council Engagement grant funding of \$500 available to each school council. We have applied for and administer the grants centrally to make accessing the funds even easier for school councils.

We value the work of ASCA and remain committed to supporting this work to help ensure that our school councils feel supported and confident.

Thank you for all you do,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trisha Estabrooks". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Trisha Estabrooks
Board Chair

c. Wendy Keiver, Executive Director, Alberta School Councils' Association

