



Our Ref: 124175

APR 11 2008

Connie Denesiuk, President
British Columbia School Trustees Association
4th Flr 1580 Broadway W
Vancouver BC V6J 5K9

Dear Ms. Denesiuk:

Connie:

I am responding to a letter from your predecessor Penny Tees regarding support for refugee students. I apologize for the delayed response.

I appreciate the concerns of school districts regarding the growing number of refugee students entering our school system partway through the school year. Ministry of Education staff acknowledge the challenges for school districts in meeting the social, emotional and educational needs of these students. As you are aware, we are making the adjustments necessary to allow for a second count of refugee students.

I appreciate the opportunity to address your association's concerns.

Sincerely,

Shirley Bond
Minister
Deputy Premier