

PROTOCOL ON CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION



Between the
UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES (UBCM)
and the
BRITISH COLUMBIA SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION (BCSTA)



WHEREAS:

1. The BCSTA represents school districts in the Province of British Columbia.
2. The UBCM represents municipalities and regional districts in the Province of British Columbia.
3. The UBCM and BCSTA have common interests in the social, economic and environmental well being of the province and its communities and particularly in the importance of the public education system to communities and their residents.
4. The BCSTA and UBCM members have many shared interests in delivering their mandates, including, but not limited to, community planning, school sites, shared use facilities, libraries, safe and healthy environments, sport and recreation, etc.

THEREFORE:

This Protocol represents a commitment by the BCSTA and the UBCM to work together to achieve the province-wide benefits of collaboration on issues of mutual interest.

PRINCIPLES:

The following principles pertain to this Protocol and the actions arising from the Protocol:

1. Mutual respect for each Party's mandates, policies and areas of jurisdiction and that the Protocol does not fetter the individual mandates of the parties;

2. Co-operation in the development and distribution of information; and
3. Harmonization of projects or initiatives to maximize efficiency and effectiveness.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

The BCSTA and the UBCM have the following mutual objectives:

1. To promote understanding of the interests of the school districts and municipalities and regional districts in a province-wide context;
2. To discuss aspects of the legislative and regulatory setting which reflect the interests of the communities;
3. To provide notice of actions to achieve changes in provincial policy and regulations that might affect the interests of the other Party.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The BCSTA and the UBCM agree to establish joint working groups, as required, to further the objects as stated in this Agreement. The joint working groups shall meet from time to time, as required, to review joint initiatives and projects as well as the general progress on goals and objectives.

TERM:

The Parties may agree to amend or terminate this Protocol at any time. The term of this Protocol shall be three years from the date of signing unless otherwise amended.

COMMITMENT:

In witness of this Agreement, the parties have executed this Protocol on Consultation and Cooperation at Richmond on February 24, 2006.

SIGNED on behalf of the BRITISH COLUMBIA SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION by:

Penny Tees
President

SIGNED on behalf of the UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES by:

Marvin Hunt
President