



September 22, 2022

Ref: 281091

Charlene McKay, Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)  
**Email: [charlene.mckay@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:charlene.mckay@sd68.bc.ca)**

Dear Charlene McKay:

Thank you for your letter of May 3, 2022, requesting ministerial approval to provide housing to school district employees, pursuant to section 102 of the *School Act*. Please excuse the delay in this reply.

Rising house prices and low availability of rental stock are challenging issues in many communities across British Columbia. I can appreciate how these issues may interfere with the ability of school districts to hire and retain qualified staff.

Currently, there are a small number of boards who offer rental housing to school district staff in facilities known as teacherages, in rural and remote areas. The Ministry of Education and Child Care does not regularly receive requests to establish teacherages, and at present there is no Ministry policy or procedures for new requests or approvals. In particular, the concept of developing a teacherage in an urban area may present unique considerations that will require close examination. I have directed Ministry staff to carefully review your request; however, considering a number of competing priorities, it may take several months before staff are able to reach out for further dialogue.

If you have any questions in the interim, please contact Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division by phone at (778) 698-7584 or by email at [Chris.Brown@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Brown@gov.bc.ca).

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Whiteside  
Minister

pc: Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division