From: <u>Karen Matthews</u>
To: <u>Karen Matthews</u>

**Subject:** G. Boutilier Bayview Elementary Safe Access concerns

**Date:** February 1, 2023 8:09:31 PM

From: Grace Boutilier < >

**Sent:** January 31, 2023 8:46 PM

**To:** Chantelle Morvay < Chantelle.Morvay@sd68.bc.ca>; Greg Keller < Greg.Keller@sd68.bc.ca>; Naomi Bailey < Naomi.Bailey@sd68.bc.ca>; Tom Rokeby < Tom.Rokeby@sd68.bc.ca>; Leana Pellegrin < Leana.Pellegrin@sd68.bc.ca>; Mark Robinson < Mark.Robinson@sd68.bc.ca>; Tania Brzovic < Tania.Brzovic@sd68.bc.ca>; Charlene Mckay < Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca>; Leanne Lee

**Cc:** Echo McNaughton < >; Becky Thiessen < > **Subject:** Bayview Elementary Safe Access concerns

**CAUTION**: External Message

<leanne.lee@sd68.bc.ca>

Hello School Board Trustees,

On the invitation of Chantelle Morvay, I am writing to you to request your assistance with a matter that we feel strongly requires your attention.

We are part of a group of South End citizens wishing to advocate for safe, universal access to Bayview Elementary school. Our team includes a community occupational therapist, a teacher/PAC parent member and someone with a masters in accessible community development.

We have identified several inaccessible and unsafe street crossings to access the school as well as a dearth of curb cuts and separated sidewalks on Needham street, which has a significant blind crest bidirectionally. As you are aware, these are barriers for school attendees and community members with mobility impairments. We have begun to advocate for much needed infrastructure upgrades to promote safety and universal access. To this end, we have engaged various stakeholders in the area, including the City of Nanaimo, the South End Community Association, the Snuneymuxw Nation, as well as local disability advocates, childcare providers, developers and the Bayview PAC to contribute to this conversation.

We understand that the School Board will have a vested interest in ensuring safe access for school attendees and the community as a whole. We would be very grateful to know of any steps we can take to further this conversation with you, and what role the board could play in our advocacy efforts to promote safe, inclusive pedestrian access. Would you consider meeting with us for a deeper consultation?

We appreciate your time and interest in our concerns, Grace, Becky and Echo

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