From:
 Karen Matthews

 To:
 Karen Matthews

 Subject:
 FW: Letter of Concern

 Date:
 October 10, 2023 3:58:49 PM

From: Miriam Duckworth <> Sent: October 10, 2023 1:44 PM

To: Charlene Mckay < Charlene. Mckay@sd68.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Letter of Concern

**CAUTION**: External Message

Dear Ms. McKay,

On September 30 we observed Truth and Reconciliation Day when we acknowledged and expressed regret for removing First Nations children from their families and communities and placing them in Residential Schools for the express purpose of cutting them from their cultural, family and spiritual foundations. We have all seen the trauma and dysfunction that resulted in their communities that continues to the present.

My observation is that we are repeating the same mistakes. Young children are being taught views on gender and sexuality that contradict and undermine many family's values and morals. At a young age, they do not have the intellectual capacity to deal with these conflicts and so the confusion brings insecurity and alienation from the people they need most. Thus, we will have more children with anxiety, identity crises and mental illness, not less.

I understand the purpose of the SOGI curriculum is to eliminate bullying. However, we can teach care, compassion and responsibility without causing all children to question who they are. I ask that you use your power to balance the rights of parents and children to maintain the integrity of all of our many cultures. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

## Miriam Duckworth

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