

From: [Karen Matthews](#)
To: [Karen Matthews](#)
Subject: For Board Review: Sworn Testimony on Children & Education (National Citizens Inquiry)
Date: April 17, 2026 10:23:33 AM

From: Laureen Heisler
Sent: March 7, 2026 11:58 AM
To: Naomi Bailey <Naomi.Bailey@sd68.bc.ca>; Leanne Lee <leanne.lee@sd68.bc.ca>; Greg Keller <Greg.Keller@sd68.bc.ca>; Tania Brzovic <Tania.Brzovic@sd68.bc.ca>; Chantelle Morvay <Chantelle.Morvay@sd68.bc.ca>; Leana Pellegrin <Leana.Pellegrin@sd68.bc.ca>; Mark Robinson <Mark.Robinson@sd68.bc.ca>; Tim Harris <Tim.Harris@sd68.bc.ca>; Mark Robinson <Mark.Robinson@sd68.bc.ca>; District Administration Centre Manager <DistrictAdministrationCentreManager@sd68.bc.ca>; Superintendent <Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca>
Cc: info@nationalcitizensinquiry.ca
Subject: For Board Review: Sworn Testimony on Children & Education (National Citizens Inquiry)

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School District 68 Nanaimo-Ladysmith

Dear Superintendent / Robyn Gray

Chair / Naomi Bailey

Vice-Chair / Leanne Lee

Trustees / Greg Keller, Tania Brzovic, Chantelle Morvay, Leana Pellegrin, Tom Rokeby, Tim Harris, Mark Robinson

Manager Administrative Services / Karen Matthews

I am writing to you in your respective roles as Chair, Vice-Chair, Trustee, and/or School District Superintendent to provide information from the National Citizens Inquiry (NCI) for your awareness and review.

The NCI is an independent, citizen-led, citizen-funded, and non-partisan inquiry established to preserve sworn testimony from Canadians concerning the societal, legal, medical, and educational impacts of public policy during the COVID-19 period, as well as testimony addressing ongoing and evolving policies affecting child well-being, inclusion, and family engagement within educational settings.

The Inquiry was formed in response to concerns from parents, educators, healthcare professionals, and other citizens whose experiences—including those affecting children and youth—were not meaningfully heard or formally recorded through existing institutional or governmental processes. The sworn testimonies document lived experiences during and following the COVID-19 period, when public health measures and policy decisions significantly affected students, families, educators, and school communities, with many impacts not fully

examined at the time and remaining relevant today.

A significant portion of this testimony is contained within the Inquiry's "Are Children Safe in Canada?" hearings, which address students' mental and emotional well-being, learning disruption, parental engagement, and the effects of evolving institutional policies on children and youth. Within this testimony, some witnesses raise concerns about potential unintended effects of introducing ideological frameworks into educational environments, including impacts on student well-being, community cohesion, and parental confidence; these perspectives are not adjudicated by the Inquiry but are formally recorded and preserved for consideration alongside other evidence.

The purpose of this letter is to bring this citizen-generated public record to your attention and offer it as a resource to support listening, learning, and thoughtful reflection, and—where appropriate—to assist Superintendents and Boards in considering whether existing policies remain aligned with core educational objectives, student well-being, and public trust.

The National Citizens Inquiry has preserved sworn testimonies as part of a public archive and has produced a non-prescriptive Commissioners' Report that reviews the testimony, identifies recurring themes, and supports governance reflection and institutional learning.

In addition to the Board's review of this correspondence, I respectfully request the opportunity for a delegation from the National Citizens Inquiry to be heard at a future Board of Education meeting to provide further context, clarification, and an opportunity for Trustees to ask questions.

The proposed delegation would consist of Ted Kuntz, Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Citizens Inquiry, along with one NCI Commissioner. The delegation would provide a brief overview of the Inquiry, explain the nature and scope of its sworn testimony as it relates to education and student well-being, and respond to Trustees' questions regarding the Inquiry's mandate and public-record role.

I would be pleased to comply with any established delegation procedures, time limits, or submission requirements, and I am happy to provide advance materials should this assist the Board in its agenda-setting process.

Thank you for your service and for your commitment to students and families.

I look forward to your reply and acknowledgement of my email.

Respectfully,

Laureen Heisler

National Citizens Inquiry Ambassador

National Citizens Inquiry

Independent • Citizen-led • Citizen-funded • Non-partisan

Preserving sworn citizen testimony under oath as part of the public record

Truth Matters

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