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January 23, 2017

Submission to the Panel regarding the Dan Perrin Report

In response to the commissioned report released on December 21, 2016 describing options to the question "*What system of governance and administration is needed in Saskatchewan K-12 education sector to achieve the outcomes established in the Saskatchewan's Plan for Growth and the Educational Sector Plan?*", the Prince Albert Board of Education encourages the Panel and the Ministry of Education to consider three priorities when assessing the future system of governance and administration in the Saskatchewan education system.

The first consideration is that Catholic education is important to our families. The Minister has made a commitment to continued Catholic education in the province and we pleased with the response. We would like to affirm and applaud the Minister of Education on valuing the Constitutional Right to have publically funded Catholic Education in this province.

Secondly, student achievement is a priority for our children. Our school division is in the midst of completing the next three-year strategic plan and has had statistically meaningful academic improvement for our students in the last three-year plan 2014-2017. We encourage our Ministry to support our next three-year plan (2017-2020) that staff, parents, community stakeholders, Catholic constituents, trustees and children are developing to help our children meet the 2020 provincial growth plan.

The third consideration would be to support the idea that relationships are important. As board members of children participating in Catholic education, we value the local relationships and partnerships developed in our community that support the administration and management of the educational affairs of the school division. These relationships are important as our school division operates efficiently and has one of the highest graduation rates of success in the province for all students especially First Nation, Metis Graduation rates. We want to encourage long term, positive relationships with staff, parents, community stakeholders, Catholic constituents, trustees and children to respond locally to their needs in Prince Albert with the goal of supporting students to be engaged citizens who have a strong sense of self and community.

There is much that our Board of Education is grateful for in our school board history with the Ministry of Education and we are hopeful for continued and future support. In conclusion, we thank the Ministry of Education for the opportunity to provide feedback at this critical time. We look forward to receiving the information that will be forthcoming.

Yours in Catholic education,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Bolduc".

George Bolduc
Board Chair