Promoting parent engagement in public education

Alberta School Councils' Association

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December 3, 2024

Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides Minister of Education Office of the Minister, Education 228 Legislature Building 10800 - 97 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Sent via email: education.minister@gov.ab.ca

Dear Minister Nicolaides,

On behalf of the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Board of Directors, I am writing in support of the recent **2SLGBTQIA+ Rights** motion passed by Members of Alberta School Boards Association at their AGM, to have sexual education remain an "opt out" option for parents, and to maintain Alberta's school boards' autonomy to determine their own policies with respect to sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

My understanding is this emergent motion was brought forward by Edmonton Public School Board, following the successful adoption of the **2SLGBTQIA+ Rights** recommendations within a report received by the Board at its November 5th, 2024, Board meeting.

The ASCA Board of Directors has previously provided to you the several Member adopted Advocacy Policies in response to Bill 27. We are pleased to have and acknowledge the unwavering dedication of our Partners in Education who are also advocating for the rights and protections of 2SLGBTQIA+ students and staff, and their commitment to creating safe and inclusive learning environments for all Alberta's students.

We are eager to work with the Ministry of Education to find solutions that honour the perspectives of literally thousands of parents and hundreds of Trustees, in support of these students and staff.

Sincerely,

Ken Glazebrook (he/him) President, ASCA