

November 4, 2024

Superintendent Aziz (<u>jaziz@sd57.bc.ca</u>) and SD57 Trustees (<u>trustees@sd57.bc.ca</u>)

Dear Superintendent and Trustees:

I am writing on behalf of the Mackenzie Collaborative Community Table, a committee of stakeholders that includes representatives of government, business, and healthcare in Mackenzie. We are excited for the start of construction of your new childcare facility in Mackenzie. This project promises to address many critical needs in Mackenzie and will undoubtedly benefit numerous families.

However, we would like to bring to your attention an essential requirement for this initiative's success that remains unaddressed in our eyes. To ensure the daycare operates effectively from the outset, it is crucial to have qualified staff ready to work as soon as the facility opens. Currently, our community lacks access to an Early Childhood Education (ECE) certification program. This gap will hinder the successful launch and operation of the daycare.

We as a table respectfully request that School District 57 begin efforts to advocate for and work with the Ministry as well as Mackenzie community leaders to bring an ECE certification program locally and/or provide funding for residents to attend virtual courses. This support would enable prospective daycare staff to obtain the necessary qualifications in time for the facility's opening. We want to see this project be successful, and we look forward to working with you to make this happen.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am confident that addressing this need will significantly enhance the positive impact of the new daycare on our community.



Sincerely,

Shannon Bezo

Chair

CC: MLA Kiel Giddens kiel.giddens.mla@leg.bc.ca

Mayor and Council of Mackenzie info@districtofmackenzie.ca

