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Subject: FW: Heads up re: key messaging for announcement
Sent: 01/17/2024 19:31:36
Attachments: Key Messaging re Barry Neufeld's Lifetime Membershp.pdf

FYI-you may have heard about this already?

Announcement tomorrow apparently.

January 15, 2024

KEY MESSAGING

Former Trustee Barry Neufeld's Lifetime Membership in BCSTA

- BCSTA is committed to inclusivity and respect for all students and staff in every school district regardless of race, sex, gender identity or sexual orientation.
- After due consideration, BCSTA is revoking Neufeld's honorary lifetime membership.
- Our decision reflects both our commitment to upholding human rights and our support for representation in our public education system through locally elected boards of education.
- Neufeld's comments in favour of eliminating school boards do not align with our mission or our values.
- We are committed to prioritizing the well-being of our students and staff, ensuring everyone in our school communities feels safe and respected.
- Honorary life membership is a privilege, contingent on upholding BCSTA's values.
- BCSTA supports all 60 public boards of education in British Columbia. We believe strongly in the value of locally elected boards of education and the importance of democratically elected trustees.
- Locally elected boards of education offer local representation and accountability to communities, supporting the needs of their district and advocating for their communities.
- B.C.'s boards of education are mandated to focus on improving student achievement, ensuring that the education system remains responsive, accountable, and tailored to the specific needs and values of local communities.
- BCSTA is committed to supporting all school districts in B.C. in creating safe, welcoming schools for all learners.

Message Box Statement

After due consideration, BCSTA is revoking Barry Neufeld's honorary lifetime membership in light of recent comments that do not align with our commitment to upholding human rights and our firm support for public school boards. BCSTA is committed to supporting B.C.'s boards of education in helping every student succeed.