



# News Release

October 7, 2005

## **Surrey school board seeks urgent meeting with local MLAs over teacher dispute**

Surrey school board chair Shawn Wilson today sent a letter to each of the seven members of the legislative assembly representing constituencies in the Surrey school district asking for an urgent meeting with the board regarding the current disruption to education.

“As trustees, we are stewards of public education and strongly believe that in the interests of our students and teachers we must act to ensure the provincial government fully understands the impact of this dispute,” Wilson says. “We intend to make clear to the government our belief in the importance of positive and respectful teacher relationships, and that each and every day of our students’ education must be valued.”

The letter says the board wants to provide a local perspective on the dispute and offer any support it can to achieving a speedy and sensible resolution. The letter also says trustees value the work of all staff and want to build the kind of relationships with employees that will enhance the future of public education in our community.

“This contract dispute clearly requires the attention and efforts of the members of the legislature, in addition to the work done by the bargaining agents,” Wilson adds.

“Surrey school district trustees are committed to working in any way we can to win a sustaining peace in public education. Our children deserve no less.”

The letters have been sent to Kevin Falcon, Surrey-Cloverdale; Sue Hammell, Surrey-Green Timbers; Harry Bains, Surrey-Newton; Jagrup Brar, Surrey-Panorama Ridge, Dave Hayer, Surrey-Tynehead; Bruce Ralston, Surrey-Whalley and Gordon Hogg, Surrey-White Rock.

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