

## Board of Trustees

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November 15, 2025

The Honourable Danielle Smith  
Office of the Premier  
Legislature Building  
Unit 307, 10800 – 97 Ave.  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5K 2B6

The Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides  
Minister of Education and Childcare  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Smith and Minister Nicolaides,

### Re: Invitation to Tour CBE Schools Offering Specialized Programming

On behalf of the Calgary Board of Education, we support the government's commitment to addressing class size and classroom complexity. The creation of a Cabinet Committee is an important first step to make a meaningful difference for students by working collaboratively across important and connected ministries.

We want to work with you as a locally elected school board to assist the committee in identifying solutions and allocate resources quickly and effectively based on student needs. We share the common goal of creating the conditions that lead to the ultimate success of every student. We are here to support the work of the Cabinet Committee in offering sustainable and impactful solutions.

To that end, the Board of Trustees invites you and other cabinet Ministers of the Class Size and Complexity Cabinet Committee to visit a number of CBE specialized programs and schools that support students with a wide range of complexities.

These visits will allow you to witness learning in action. Seeing the range of supports students require will provide you with valuable insights to help you make informed, meaningful decisions that ultimately will improve classroom conditions and student outcomes. Your presence in these environments will equip the Committee with a clear understanding of the realities faced by students, staff, and families.

Key settings we have identified include:

**Emily Follensbee School**

- a unique setting school specializing in providing educational programs for 88 students attending K-9 who have complex medical profiles with multiple and severe learning needs. This includes cognitive disabilities, physical disabilities, sensory impairments, and augmentative/alternative communication needs.

**Christine Miekle School**

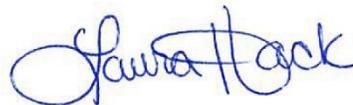
- a unique setting schools that provides educational programming for 118 students in Grades 7-12 who are diagnosed with moderate to severe developmental disabilities. Students at Christine Meikle School have complex learning, communication, physical and social-emotional needs and may require medical support from a licensed practical nurse (LPN) or health care aide (HCA).

**A K-6 School with Specialized Classes and Regular program (Location to be Determined)**

- The CBE provides a continuum of supports and services for students with diverse learning needs in regular community schools. Depending on the level of complexity, students may attend a specialized class that offers targeted classroom supports and/or be supported by multi-disciplinary team members (such as occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, physiotherapists, etc)

We look forward to working with your office to identify a date in the near future that works for you and the other Ministers named to the Cabinet Committee.

With appreciation,



Laura Hack  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Calgary Board of Education

cc: James Johnson, Chief of Staff for the Alberta Minister of Education and Children  
Joanne Pitman, Chief Superintendent of Schools