



March 31, 2014

Colleagues,

Together with our Teamster colleagues, we work to give students a high-quality, inclusive, and safe education. As unions, we work to defend public services, to ensure all of our members are treated fairly, and to advocate for our students to get the support they need and deserve.

As you are aware, our support staff colleagues have been at the bargaining table for over a year, and they have taken a strike vote to apply additional pressure at their bargaining table by possibly withdrawing services.

As BCTF/ADTA members, it is important that we show our support for our Teamster colleagues, and stand together in solidarity to ensure respect for BC's education workers and to protect services for students. In the event of a strike that sees Teamsters set up picket lines at school sites, teachers will respect them and join with Teamsters in solidarity. Teachers who were part of the BCTF's/ADTA's two-week strike in October 2005 will remember the Teamsters' support of teachers in joining our picket lines in support of our efforts.

We appreciate the strong stand of solidarity you are about to undertake, if necessary, to support our Teamster colleagues, many who you work with side-by-side.

In March 2012, BCTF members escalated our job action with a three-day strike under essential services. Teamster members did not cross picket lines. Due to an essential services order and a Labour Relations Board ruling, the BCTF/ADTA was only allowed to establish "sticker" lines—not traditional picket lines. Had they been official picket lines, Teamster members were ready and willing to walk those lines with teachers again, but they refrained from doing so at the BCTF's/ADTA's request.

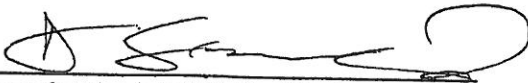
Provincially, we too are at the bargaining table and we too have taken a strike vote. We have many key items on the negotiation table, including salary, preparation time, and working conditions such as class size, class composition, and ratios for learning specialist teachers. Government, however, is seeking a longer-term deal, but has indicated little willingness to provide its negotiating team with the resources necessary to address the key issues teachers have identified. There may come a time in this round of negotiations where we will need Teamster's support so a fair deal for teachers can be reached.

The Teamsters' and the BCTF's/ADTA's interests are the same. It is important to continue to stand together to defend the interests of all our members, and the students we proudly support. On behalf of the 41,000 members across this province, we thank you for your strong support of our Teamster colleagues in Abbotsford.

In solidarity,



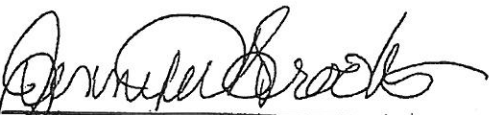
Jim Iker, BCTF President



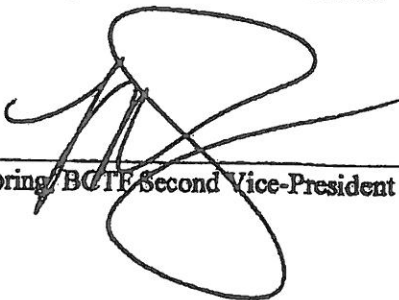
Doug Smuland, ADTA President



Glen Hansman, BCTF First Vice-President



Jennifer Brooks, ADTA First Vice-President



Teri Mooring, BCTF Second Vice-President