



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

October 26, 2020

Peace River Regional District Board
PO Box 810
Dawson Creek, BC
V1G 4H8



Re: SD59 Rural Swim Grant Allocation follow up and deferral request

Dear Board Members of the Regional Board;

This letter follows our previous letter dated September 8, 2020 that requested consideration for alternate use of the 2020 rural swim grant, allowing it to be used for rural students to participate in other recreational or cultural activities that meet the operational guidelines of the district while following the Stage 2 COVID-19 protocols. These activities may include but not be exclusive to bowling, skiing, skating, curling, visits and activities at the art gallery, historical society, public libraries, or tourism centres. We await the Regional District's decision on that request.

Subsequently, and in addition to the first request, the Board of Education of School District No.59 (PRS) passed a motion at our October 21, 2020 board meeting to request a deferral of the 2020 rural swim grant to the 2021 calendar year to allow the schools additional time to use the funds.

Two of our rural schools use the Chetwynd Leisure Pool and after further staff discussions with the District of Chetwynd it is believed that the schools that use that facility may be able to use it in the future under recently updated pandemic protocols.

However, protocols in place at this time at the Kenn Borek Aquatic Centre make use by the two rural schools near Dawson Creek impractical.

As we quickly approach the end of the calendar year, schools have very little time to plan trips under the existing swim grant criteria, or for alternate trips if our September 8, 2020 request is approved.

If this second request is approved, the district would encourage schools to use the 2020 grant funds by December 2021 and provide the Regional District with the same reporting as provided in the past. No grant request would be submitted for 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Panoulis, Secretary Treasurer, at 250-782-8571 or email mpanoulis@sd59.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Chad Anderson
SD59 Board Chair