



## Richmond Teachers' Association

210 - 7360 Westminster Hwy.

Richmond, BC

V6X 1A1

Tel: 604-278-2539

Fax: 604-278-4320

[www.richmondteachersassociation.ca](http://www.richmondteachersassociation.ca)

September 15, 2023

Board of Education  
School District No. 38 (Richmond)  
7811 Granville Avenue  
Richmond, BC V6Y 3E3

Dear Debbie,

### **Re: Richmond SOGI Statement of Support**

On behalf of the Richmond Teachers' Association, I am writing to request that the Board work together with District partner groups to issue a joint statement of support for SOGI once again. This request is in alignment with the motion passed at the September 21, 2022 Board meeting.

Since our last joint statement, incidences of hate and attacks against the 2SLGBTQI+ continue to rise. This includes vandalism of rainbow crosswalks and pride flags within the Richmond school community and across BC schools. On September 20, 2023, groups have planned a series of hate rallies under the name #1millionmarch4children (click [here](#)). This is an attack against the principles of equity and inclusion that are the essence of the Board's SOGI Policy.

In addition to a district partner group joint statement in support of SOGI, we also ask the Board to issue a statement condemning hate in our committees and encouraging other local political leaders and MLAs to condemn these actions of hate.

We thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Liz Baverstock', is written over a horizontal line.

Liz Baverstock  
President, RTA

cc: Steve Wenglowksi, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, RTA  
Frano Marsic, VP, RTA  
JW Cho, VP, RTA