

## Report – Meeting of the Learning Roundtable – February 26, 2007

### Attendance

<b>Government</b>	Minister of Education, Shirley Bond, Chair
<b>BCSTA</b>	Penny Tees, President Connie Densiuk, First Vice-President
<b>BCCPAC</b>	Kim Howland, President Lori Tedrick, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
<b>BCPVPA</b>	Les Dukowski, President Tom Hierck, Past President
<b>BCSSA</b>	Harry Janzen, President Sheila Rooney, Past President
<b>BCTF</b>	Jinny Sims, President Irene Lanzinger, First Vice President Susan Lambert, Second Vice President Jim Iker, Executive
<b>Ministry of Education</b>	Emery Dossdall, Deputy Minister Rick Davis, Superintendent, Liaison
<b>Staff</b>	Lisa Dominato, Ministerial Assistant Ken Novakowski, Executive Director, BCTF Lee Southern, Executive Director, BCSTA Ron Broda, First Vice President, BCCPAC

1. Minister Bond convenes the meeting and welcomes participants.
2. No changes to the agenda as circulated were requested.
3. No changes requested to the report of the meeting of September 22, 2006.
4. Minister Bond asks that Rick Davis provide a technical briefing of the highlights of the findings of this class size report for 2007/08 school year. Minister Bond notes that several improvements are evident in the data and result from the implementation of Bill 33 amending class size provisions of the *School Act*.

#### Minister Bond comments on several highlights:

- The average class size in cohort, K, grades 1 – 3, grades 4- 7 and grades 8 – 12, has been reduced.
- There has been a significant reduction in the number of classes exceeding 30. The number of classes over 30 have been reduced by 65% with the greatest improvements noted at the grade 4 – 7 levels.
- In all cases where classes have more than three students with special needs, consultation between the principal and the teacher has occurred with respect to serving the needs of all students in those classes.

- The number of teachers in non-enrolling positions like librarians, counsellors and special education teachers supporting classroom teachers and students has increased.
- Only 1% of all classes have more than 32 students and these are generally organized in that manner for educational program reasons.
- Most importantly, this year every school district is in full compliance with the requirements of the *School Act*. That not only means that classes fall within the limits and guidelines, but that all the processes and consultations required have occurred as intended.

Partners commented on the report provided.

5. Minister Bond reminded the members of the Learning Roundtable of the legislative requirement to review the impact and efficacy of the amendments introduced through Bill 33. She noted that a committee must be appointed within one year of enactment. Minister Bond suggested and Roundtable members agreed that the members sitting currently at the Roundtable should form that review body. Minister Bond will ask Ministry staff to begin putting information to inform that review together.
6. The members of the Roundtable undertook to review the issue of membership after a year of deliberation by current members. Minister Bond led a discussion of this issue seeking the views of members. All members indicated a desire to be inclusive of the views of other groups and organizations. Several have requested to become standing members of the Roundtable. It was decided that the membership would remain as it currently stands but that other organization would be invited to make their views known to the Roundtable through written submissions or delegations. This undertaking will be considered when the next agenda is developed.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30.