



August 21, 2020

Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister of Education
Room 124, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V1V 1X4

RE: Government accountability concerning the Ministry of Education's 2019 provincial exam errors

Dear Minister Fleming,

I am writing to you today to express my deep concern regarding the conduct of your ministry as outlined in the Ombudsperson's report released yesterday, which revealed your NDP government knowingly misled the public after more than 18,000 final Grade 12 provincial exam marks were incorrectly tabulated and reported. This potentially affected nearly 120,000 transcripts released to post-secondary institutions.

The gravity of the situation — as outlined in Ombudsperson Jay Chalke's opening comments from the report — cannot be overstated:

"From the failure to promptly prevent additional incorrect transcripts being issued, to overly broad assurances regarding the potential impact of the mistakes, to opaque and at times misleading communication with students, families and post-secondary institutions, our findings reveal a number of shortcomings in a system that young people were relying on to 'get it right' at one of the most important turning points of their lives."

With respect to your duty as Minister of Education, we are requesting your office to provide accurate and detailed responses to the following questions:

1. Were all student and post-secondary institutions contacted and notified about the exam errors and conduct of the ministry?
2. Why did your office direct staff and members of your ministry to mislead students and families following the initial revelation of exam errors, including the release of a public statement on July 31, 2019, which asserted that the issue had been resolved and that your ministry had contacted all relevant post-secondary institutions?



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3. When will students and families affected by your ministry's actions be financially compensated and how much will this cost taxpayers?

I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

Dan Davies
MLA, Peace River North
Official Opposition Critic for Education