



**Education and Early Childhood Development
Office of the Minister**

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May 18, 2022

Mr. Danny Muise, Warden
Municipality of Argyle
PO Box 10
Tusket, NS B0W 3M0

Dear Mr. Muise:

Thank you for your letter of February 28, 2022, to Premier Tim Houston regarding proposed legislation for the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP). As Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, I have been asked to respond to your inquiry.

Government recognizes the importance of the CSAP and acknowledges that it is the only elected school board in the province. As such, the CSAP is supported by legislation, the CSAP Act and the Education Act.

I was very pleased to have the recent opportunity to meet in person with Mr. Marcel Cottreau, Chair of the CSAP, for an open and direct discussion about the Loi sur Le Conseil scolaire acadien provincial. Minister LeBlanc of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie and I have committed to meeting again with the CSAP in late May to continue discussions about their unique cultural and linguistic needs.

Ongoing discussions with the CSAP allow us to continue to understand the needs of the Acadian and francophone community and to consider alignment with broader work being undertaken by the Department as part of our mandate to consult with a variety of groups across the province. This will assist us in determining a governance model for education that allows for more local voices in policy and decision-making.

We are committed to continuing to listen to the needs of the Acadian and francophone community and will continue to collaborate with key stakeholders when considering legislation or directives regarding French first language education in the province.

Thank you for sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Becky Druhan".

Becky Druhan
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development

c: Honourable Colton LeBlanc, MLA Argyle