

Ministry of Education

Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



March 1st, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

The *School Boards Collective Bargaining Act* (SBCBA) was the result of extensive education stakeholder consultations that resulted in a made-in-Ontario approach to bargaining with clearly defined roles for the province, trustees' associations, school boards, teachers' federations and education workers' unions. We have now successfully negotiated our first central collective agreements under the SBCBA.

When the SBCBA came into force, the Premier and I committed to a non-statutory review of the legislation after the completion of the first round of central collective bargaining. Following through on this commitment, we are embarking on a set of consultations that seek to identify opportunities to enhance our bargaining framework by improving and refining the bargaining process. We are pleased to share that Jim Breckenridge has agreed to lead these consultations.

Jim will be in contact with you shortly to discuss a mutually agreeable time to meet. As part of the process, Jim will be developing a consultation summary that will be provided for your review once all consultations are complete.

There is no question that this round of collective bargaining has been challenging. However, our work together – from creation of the SBCBA through to the conclusion of central bargaining – demonstrates that positive solutions are possible when partners are willing to work toward a common goal. Our focus for this new round of consultations will be on further improvements to the bargaining process to ensure future rounds of negotiations are effective, efficient and collaborative.

In addition to meeting with yourselves, Mr. Breckenridge will also be leading a consultation with parent and student groups, and I encourage you to attend this meeting to hear what they have to say.

I know we share the common goal of strengthening our publicly-funded education system and I look forward to continuing our important work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liz Sandals". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Liz" and last name "Sandals" clearly distinguishable.

Liz Sandals
Minister

c. George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

Andrew Davis
Assistant Deputy Minister (A)
Education Labour Relations Division