



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 47 (POWELL RIVER)
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
4351 Ontario Avenue, Powell River, BC V8A 1V3
Telephone: 604 414 2600 Fax: 604 485 6435

March 21, 2022

Dear Community Forest Board,

This letter is written in support of the City of Powell River's application for Community Forest Grant funding to construct a multi-use path linking Brooks High School and Townsite within the Recreation Complex and Westview neighbourhood.

Promoting active transportation for students is something School District 47 strongly believes in. We know that the link between physical activity and learning is very strong, and that children who are active daily are more likely to excel in their education and in the school environment.

Walking or biking to school is one of the best ways for students to achieve their recommended hour of daily activity. We have had great success with our local partnerships in active transportation thus far. Our cycling programming is ongoing, including the expansion of our District bike library, the completion of the youth bike rack project, after school bike programs, and bike to school week programming across the District.

Despite these successes, we know from surveys that children identify having a safe route to school as a major barrier to cycling in Powell River. The proposed path will dramatically improve safe access to Brooks, eliminating the existing gap in the bicycle network. It will also serve the broader community by linking Townsite with Westview via a safe and accessible pathway.

The School District will work with the City of Powell River to facilitate safe public access through the school property so that Townsite residents can access the path easily and comfortably and Westview residents can travel to the Townsite via active means.

We strongly support continued cycling infrastructure enhancements in Powell River, including the proposed pathway.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Yule".

Dr. Jay Yule
Superintendent
Board of Education
School District 47 (Powell River)

JY/ac