

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MESSAGE IN SUPPORT OF STUDENTS, STAFF AND SOGI 123  
January 16, 2018**

The Chilliwack Board of Education has always supported all students regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion or background. In 2016 the BC Human Rights Code was updated to include Gender Identity or Expression and our Policies were updated accordingly. In our schools everyone is welcomed, included and respected in a safe learning environment.

- The Board of Education is committed to ensuring that learning in classrooms includes a focus on valuing diversity, respecting differences and the topics of Human Rights and responses to discrimination.
- The Board of Education is committed to providing age-appropriate learning opportunities to ensure that students have and exhibit understanding and care as it relates to all members of the community.
- The Board of Education supports the professional staff to select learning resources that support the curriculum and are consistent with the educational goals of the province, the district and the school.
- The Board of Education acknowledges that when learning resources, such as SOGI 123, are used, utmost professional judgment will be exercised in assessing how learning resources are utilized. The Chilliwack School District is one of 51 out of 60 school districts in the province that are in the provincial SOGI network.
- The Board of Education believes parents/guardians are partners in learning, and their involvement and consultation are integral with their child's teachers and staff in the school.

The Board of Education will:

- Provide ongoing information on the district website regarding answers to frequently asked questions related to SOGI 123,
- Support information sessions at schools, and
- Revise Policy 601: Selection of Learning Resources.