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To Whom it May Concern,

RE: Support for Child Care Needs in Elkford

At the May 11, 2021, School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay public Board meeting, the Board carried the following motion.

That the Board write a general letter in support of the need for childcare in Elkford.

Elkford is a community within the boundaries of School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay. According to the 2016 StatsCan Census, Elkford is home to 255 children aged 0-9 years old. 60 of these households are identified as being single parent, with a median average of 2.4 occupants, or 1.4 children. Despite the obvious need for licensed childcare in Elkford, at present there are zero licensed facilities in operation.

Frank Lento (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Krista Damstrom • Chris Johns • Kathryn Kitt • Doug McPhee • Wendy Turner • Patricia Whalen

Our Board is in full support of any qualifying applicant in Elkford to receive a Community Care Facility License which would enable them to provide childcare as soon as the application can practicably be processed.

Sincerely,

Frank Lento, Board Chair

Cc*: John Horgan, Premier, BC New Democratic Party Shirley Bond, Interim Leader, BC Liberal Party Sonia Furstenau, Leader, BC Green Party Tom Shypitka, MLA Kootenay East BC Jackie Tegart, Education Critic BC Liberal Party Stephanie Higginson, President, BCSTA BCSTA for distribution to member Boards of Education Teri Mooring, President BC Teachers' Federation Andrea Sinclair, President, BCCPAC District of Elkford Shelley Balfour & Chris Kielpinski, CFTA Co-Chairs Tara McKee, DPAC Chair Aaron Thorn, President, SD5 Administrators' Association 107.5 Today FM Radio Drive 102.9/B104 Radio Cranbrook Daily Townsman Elk Valley Herald e-know Online News Fernie Free Press

^{*}This correspondence is public and transparent. Please feel free to share and/or respond with comment.