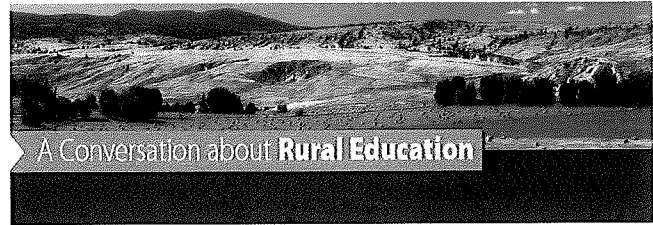


**Subject:** Community Open House Session on Rural Education - February 6, 2017 - Come & Share Your Thoughts

Greetings Everyone,

In the summer of 2016, Premier Christy Clark tasked Parliamentary Secretary Linda Larson to work with the education sector, the public and community stakeholder groups, as well as Donna Barnett, the Minister of State for Rural Economic Development, to create a Rural Education Strategy by the summer of 2017. The purpose of this engagement is to explore rural school funding and educational practices, as well as the role educational programs and schools play in rural communities across the province.



The Parliamentary Secretary is seeking feedback from British Columbians and interested stakeholders to provide a range of different perspectives on the challenges and opportunities facing rural school districts and communities for her consideration. ***Regional Community Open House sessions are scheduled in 9 locations throughout the province, including Terrace on February 6, 2017 hosted by Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82, with the aim to gather feedback from families and community members through an open dialogue.***

***Everyone is welcome to attend the Community Open House session!*** The first 30-45 minutes will be an Open House format, where light refreshments and snacks will be served. The remaining portion of the meeting will be a more formal question and answer session with Ministry of Education staff. You are invited to share your thoughts on the following discussion questions at the Community Open House session:

*Discussion 1: What is your definition of a rural school?*

*Discussion 2: What are the positive impacts in the community?*

*Discussion 3: How are schools being used?*

*Discussion 4: Share your rural education story.*

***SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AT THE TERRACE COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE ... EVERYONE IS WELCOME!***

**DATE & TIME:** Monday, February 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Northwest Trades & Employment Training Centre, 3120 Highway 16 East, Terrace  
(formerly Thornhill Junior Secondary School – <https://goo.gl/maps/Mq3pZa8WxeR2>)

***Pre-registration or RSVP's are not required for the community session.***

***Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.***

All online comments, emails, technical surveys, stakeholder submissions and comments from Community Open House sessions will be reviewed and a final report, with recommendations for the future, will be released near the end of the 2016/2017 school year.

**For more information, please visit the Rural Education website at <http://engage.gov.bc.ca/ruraleducation/>.**

For your convenience, please find a link to the poster detailing the above-mentioned Ministry of Education/CMSD82 Community Open House session on Rural Education:

**[MOE-CMSD82 Community Open House – Rural Education – Feb. 6, 2017](#)**

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With many thanks,

*Carole Gagnon*

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & Secretary Treasurer  
Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82  
3211 Kenney Street, Terrace, B.C. V8G 3E9  
Tel: (250) 638-4401 / Email: [carole.gagnon@cmsd.bc.ca](mailto:carole.gagnon@cmsd.bc.ca)