



First Nations Education  
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**November 20, 2012**

**To: All First Nations in BC**

**From: FNESC and FNOSA Executive Committee**

**Re: Request for support: Template letter to AANDC**

To all First Nations and First Nations Schools in BC:

As we have communicated numerous times throughout the past several weeks, the BC First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the First Nations Schools Association (FNOSA) have been engaged in a dispute with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) regarding the 2012/2013 nominal roll for students attending First Nations schools.

FNESC and the FNOSA have consistently maintained that changes made by AANDC to the nominal roll for this school year are inconsistent with previous agreements reached regarding First Nations schools' reporting, and specifically are inconsistent with the commitments included within the Tripartite Education Framework Agreement.

With the nominal roll deadline approaching, and no clear resolution to the disputed matters, ***we are now requesting your support in signing and submitting the attached template letter to the Minister of AANDC.*** While FNESC and the FNOSA of course fully respect the decision of each individual First Nation regarding an appropriate response to the challenging situation that exists, we hope that the template letter will provide a convenient mechanism for those First Nations that do want to share the outlined concerns with the Minister.

We would be more than pleased to answer any questions related to the attached template correspondence, and we sincerely appreciate your support in this matter – whatever position your community might feel is suitable.

We will be distributing further information by the end of the week regarding our recommendations for completing the nominal roll for students attending First Nations schools. We are committed to sharing adequate information in a timely manner to ensure that all First Nations are able to submit the nominal roll by the AANDC deadline.