



Honourable Carolyn Bennett  
Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs  
Government of Canada  
Terrasses de la Chaudière  
10 Wellington, North Tower  
Gatineau, Québec  
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Email: minister@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

**SUBJECT: Inquiry Letter - Supreme Court of Canada in Daniels v. Canada**

April 19, 2017

Dear Honourable Bennett,

On behalf of the Canadian School Boards' Association, I am writing to inquire about the plans of the federal government and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada in response to the Daniels decision of the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Canadian School Boards' Association (CSBA) is the national body of provincial school board associations representing over 250 school boards and more than three million elementary and secondary students across Canada. The Canadian School Boards' Association has been a long-standing advocate for the advancement of quality public education opportunities for all Indigenous Peoples, including the Metis.

We believe that improving educational opportunities for Indigenous youth is critical to improving their mental and physical well-being, and to addressing the ongoing challenges they face. This improvement needs to occur in a number of ways:

- Equity of funding
- Creation of Respectful and Welcoming Learning Environments
- Development and Implementation of Respectful and Inclusive Curriculum and Classroom Programs
- Delivery of Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
- Valuing First Nation, Métis and Inuit expertise
- Using Culturally Responsive Assessment



- Revitalizing languages
- Increasing Numbers of Indigenous Teachers, Support Staff, and Leadership
- Fostering commitment of Non-Indigenous learners to FNMI education
- Research

We are living in a new and promising era. From coast to coast to coast, federal, provincial and territorial governments have increased their efforts to renew relationships and achieve reconciliation with Canada's Indigenous Peoples. As such, we would be interested in hearing your plans for responding to the decision, and for improving the educational outcomes for Metis students.

**Floyd Martens**

**President**

**Canadian School Boards Association**