



**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

P.O. Box 4100, 1550 Chapman Street, Merritt, B.C., V1K 1B8, Phone: (250) 378-5161, Fax: (250) 378-6263

November 15, 2023

Dear Students, Family, and Staff,

On the two-year anniversary of the flooding events that deeply impacted our communities on November 15, 2021, we want to take a moment to reflect on the journey you and your families have travelled since then. This day holds significant meaning for many of us, marking a period of challenges and resilience that has shaped our collective experience.

We are grateful for the progress we have made in the recovery process, and we acknowledge the strength and perseverance that each member of our communities have demonstrated. While we celebrate the return of normalcy for some, we are mindful that the journey towards healing is unique for each individual and family. The challenges persist, and the emotional toll may linger.

Today, we want to extend our support to everyone in our communities. If you find yourself facing difficulties, whether it's ensuring that your children have access to nutritious meals at school or seeking mental health support, please reach out. Your school team is here for you in whatever capacity feels most comfortable for you. You are not alone, and your well-being is our priority.

As we navigate through this day, let us honour the diverse range of experiences and feelings that exist within our communities. Moving forward means different things for different people, and we want to recognize and respect the unique paths each of you has taken.

We are humbled by the collective strength and resilience displayed by all of you. Together, we stand as a community that supports and uplifts one another.

With gratitude and solidarity,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. McNiven', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Stephen McNiven  
Superintendent of Schools