



Okanagan Indian Band

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June 13, 2022

Ms. Gen Acton
Chair, Board of Trustees
School District 22
Vernon, BC.

Way' Ms. Acton,

Chief and Council for the Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB) requests that School District 22 confer with the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) and then speak directly with the Ministry of Education, Children and Families to change the school district boundaries between SD 22 and SD 83 so that all OKIB Indian Reserve #1 falls within the SD 22 boundary.

Currently, the Northeastern end of IR #1 (Round Lake/Salmon River Road) falls within the jurisdiction of SD 83 and in the past some of these students were bussed to Falkland, separating them from their peers who live at Head of the Lake and further down Westside Road. The boundaries of local school districts should first and foremost account for boundaries of local Indian Reserve lands. Having Indian Reserve lands split between school districts only creates confusion for school bus transportation and increases the risk for the loss of local Indigenous children learning their language and practicing their culture between family and other community members living on other areas of these reserve lands.

Therefore, in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, SD 22 shall confer with RDNO to request that the Ministry of Education, Children and Families change the current school district boundaries to include all OKIB IR #1 within SD 22 authority.

Lim ləmt | Thank you

Chief Byron Louis