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November 2, 2022

Jeanie McLean, Minister  
Education

Nils Clarke, Minister  
Highways and Public Works

Yukon Legislative Assembly  
Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 2C6

Dear Ministers McLean and Clarke,

When I heard about the government's plans to move Whitehorse Elementary out of downtown to be replaced by a school in Takhini I felt terrible. I would like to live in the kind of city that has a major school downtown. Not only for the students, staff and families of downtown but because that is the kind of city in which I want to live.

The heart of any community is its children and it makes me glad to see so many kids and parents walking to and from that school when I am downtown. All schools are vibrant community centres and to let go of Whitehorse Elementary will leave a tremendous gap. What kind of downtown are we imagining when such a major source of positive energy is gone?

Plus, it doesn't make sense to me to expect the residents of the Takhini neighbourhood to absorb any more density. I hope that more serious attention could be given to this matter.

I think that the question of the future of a downtown school goes way beyond operational plans of public schools and government infrastructure and I expect a more thorough discussion that takes into account all the issues and ramifications.

Sincerely,

Laurel Parry  
(867) 332-5260

Cc: Ms. Emily Tredger, Third Party House Leader