



April 14, 2014

Re: Francophone School – 220 Scenic Acres Drive NW

Dear Residents of Scenic Acres,

On February, 2014, Premier Alison Redford and Alberta Minister of Infrastructure, Ric McIver, announced that a francophone school would be built at 220 Scenic Acres Drive NW. I was as surprised as residents to learn that a new school was proposed in Scenic Acres.

In 2011, the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and the Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD) declared 12 surplus school districts. The francophone board was offered one school site per quadrant and they ultimately picked the Scenic Acres location. The site allocated for a school is governed under the Municipal Government Act (MGA). As allocated under the MGA, the land is the joint use of The City of Calgary and the CBE. However, The City of Calgary lacks the authority to deny schools from construction.

The Joint Use Committee consists of the CBE, the CCSD, the francophone board and The City of Calgary representatives. The City of Calgary's role in the committee is limited to addressing traffic concerns and representing the concerns of Scenic Acres residents.

I am disappointed of the lack of community consultation prior to the decision regarding the location of the new francophone school. I will continue to encourage the board to properly engage the community in consultation. As well, I have written a letter to the francophone board, expressing the concerns of Scenic Acres residents, particularly regarding the selection of the site.

If you would like to discuss this matter further with the francophone board, please email claire.rivest@csud.ca or call (403) 771-6677. Although the Province maintains they respect the autonomy of school boards, you may contact the Minister of Education, Jeff Johnson (780) 427-5010, or local MLA Sandra Jansen (403) 297-7104 to relay your concerns.

Sincerely,



Councillor Ward Sutherland