Month XX, 2023

Cut and paste MLA/Minister name

Cut and paste MLA email address

*Delivered by email*

**Re: Construction funding for high school in Okotoks**

Dear Honourable MLA insert MLA/Minister Name,

My name is <insert name here> and as a resident of <insert Town/Municipality here>, I am writing to you today advocating for *construction* funding for a new High School in Okotoks.

A new high school has been the first priority in Foothills School Division’s (FSD) capital plan for several years and was once again reiterated in their most recent [2023-2025 Capital Plan](https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca/page/96/capital-plan). Although I am pleased to see that FSD has received funding to plan a new high school in Okotoks, I believe we are well past the point of planning. The current community high school, École Secondarie Foothills Composite High School/Alberta High School of Fine Arts, has exceeded its capacity for several years and is now **over 130% capacity**.

With recent changes to the Town of Okotoks’ infrastructure, the announcement of a partially Government of Alberta [funded water pipeline](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/okotoks-foothills-county-water-pipeline-grant-1.6526212), the community’s population is slated to significantly increase, compounding pressure to an already extremely full school. The Town is anticipating growth of 5% to 15% per year with current developments, a growth that is already being felt in several schools that feed into the currently above-capacity high school.

The Town of Okotoks and FSD have been collaborating closely on a shared school and community site, to best serve the growing community. This, along with the understanding high schools take time to plan and construct, all strongly support the need and advocacy for an immediate construction funding approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to advocate for a much-needed school that would benefit students, staff, and community.

Respectfully,

Insert name