Insert Date

Cut and paste MLA/Minister name

Cut and paste MLA email address

*Delivered by email*

Dear MLA insert MLA/Minister Name,

Re: Insurance Concerns – The Foothills School Division

I am writing in support of the Foothills School Division and the concern that the Board of Trustees, as well as parents and community members, have expressed regarding the exceptional increase in insurance costs. The Board has been very quick to recognize the work that you have done to help alleviate the problem; from assisting the new insurance reciprocal ARMIC (Alberta Risk Managed Insurance Consortium) to providing direct funding for divisions like Foothills, which suffered catastrophic losses such as the 2013 flood that devastated our communities.

I understand that in the 2021/22 school year the Division has experienced close to a **400% increase** in its insurance costs since the 2018/19 school year. While Foothills has been able to alleviate the issue by self-advocating, and accessing reserves, coupled with what help you have been able to provide, those dollars are now used up. Numbers show almost $1,130,000 more spent on insurance than four years ago – reductions that come principally from operating budgets and staff reductions—taking away valuable resources from our students. I am adding my voice to the Board of Trustees and demand that the Government do all it can to help the Division. Whether through more funding to cover these costs or additional efforts to assist in reducing them, this $1.1M needs to return to classrooms as soon as possible.

Please support this request that Alberta Education continues to work with Treasury & Infrastructure to alleviate these onerous cost pressures. The preference continues to be a solution that manages insurance at the provincial level. If that is not possible, please continue to provide targeted funding to help Foothills School Division costs stay more in line with what other divisions are experiencing.

Thank you for your assistance in helping to level the playing field and assistance in alleviating this financial burden that is ultimately affecting our youth.

Respectfully,

Insert Name