

# Trustee Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for putting your name forward to do the important work of School Board Trustee. The members of the Nelson and District Teachers Association appreciate you taking the time to complete the following questionnaire.

## **Your Name**

Murray Shunter

## **Area you are seeking election**

City of Nelson

## **What motivates you to become a school board member?**

The opportunity to make changes in our district toward healthy and thriving schools

## **What is your view of the purpose of public education?**

We are here to guide our children to become empowered, knowledgeable, and aware citizens.

## **How can you and the Board support the recommendations and calls to action of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission?**

Follow CTA 63, 63, & 64 around providing professional development to staff to better understand indigenous culture and history

## **What are the critical issues facing our local schools right now?**

Too much bureaucracy at the district level. we need lower class sizes and more resources at the classroom and school level. redirecting district administration funding can help.

## **What role do you see trustees playing in speaking up for public education in BC?**

Of all of the resources in our Province our students are the most important. Government funding must reflect this and I will work with our board to lobby for adequate funding.

## **Describe an action, initiated by you, that resulted in a positive change for your community.**

As a member of the BCTF H & S Provincial Advisory Committee, I initiated Radon testing and mitigation for the schools in our district and the Province.

## **What specific action(s) have you taken in the past to show your support for Kootenay teachers?**

NDTA Indigenous Rep, NDTA H & S Rep, JSAC Chair, Local and Provincial H & S workshop Facilitator,

**The NDTA and KLTF would like to have more regular communication with trustees. How would you improve the connection between trustees and the NDTA? Will you commit to meeting with the NDTA, in order to discuss issues of importance and share information?**

I would be grateful to meet with the NDTA. I would also promote scheduled informal gatherings with trustees and staff so employees can speak to trustees directly.

**Explain the importance of class size and composition from your perspective.**

Lower class size and manageable composition are the most important factors to allow students to learn and thrive. Better teacher moral also positively effects our students.

**How do you plan to ensure that you remain current with what is happening in schools and in classrooms?**

Promote scheduled informal gatherings of staff and trustees and visit schools when invited.

**If elected, what are your top three priorities?**

Reduce district bureaucracy and redirect those resources to the classroom and school level. - Promote the development of Climate Restoration Curriculum in our local schools and the Province. Promote collaborative and inclusive decision making in our district.

**Anything else you would like to share with the members of the NDTA?**

Thank you for your dedicated hard work in less than ideal conditions.