



Peace River School Division

January 22, 2026

Reeve Robert Willing
MD of Peace 135

Via email: rwilling@mdpeace.com

Dear Reeve Willing,

On behalf of the Peace River School Division, I am writing to share an exciting vision for the future of our students and the economic landscape of our region. The PRSD is currently preparing an application to establish additional collegiate programming focused on Skilled Trades—a forward-thinking initiative designed to bridge the gap between secondary education and the workforce.

Our goal is to create seamless pathways for students to transition from high school into post-secondary programs or high-demand careers. By focusing on foundational skills in areas such as Class 1 Driving, Welding, Carpentry, and Mechanics, we aim to align our curriculum directly with Alberta's labor market needs and the goals of Alberta's *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act*.

To make this vision a reality, we must demonstrate to the province that our community is united in its support of this initiative. Your documented support signifies that you also recognize that by training students locally, and early, we provide a direct benefit to the economic vitality of the Peace River area.

We would be greatly appreciative of your support of this endeavour. To assist you, we have attached a sample template that outlines the key benefits of this collegiate programming. We invite you to use this draft as a guide to provide a formal letter of support on your organization's letterhead by Thursday, January 29. Your voice is a critical component of our application; together, we can unlock the potential of our students and contribute to the ongoing success of Alberta's workforce.

Thank you for your continued dedication to education and career readiness in our community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Thompson, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

cc: CAO Brian Allen

F.5.

Attach.

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Rhonda Freeman





Peace River School Division

January 22, 2026

Mayor Shelly Shannon
Town of Peace River

Via email: sshannon@peaceriver.ca

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Dear Mayor Shannon,

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Thank you for your continued dedication to education and career readiness in our community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Thompson, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

cc: CAO Barbara Miller

Attach.



[Company Name/Letterhead]

[Date]

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Letter of Support for Peace River School Division's Collegiate Programming

On behalf of [Company Name], I am pleased to offer our full support for the Peace River School Division's application to establish collegiate programming in skilled trades. This innovative approach to integrating trades education into the high school experience represents an invaluable and forward-thinking initiative that aligns with the strengths and needs of our community. We recognize the immense value of early exposure to trades education and the importance of creating seamless pathways for students to transition from secondary school into post-secondary programs or directly into the workforce.

The proposed skilled trades programming will create essential connections between students and local industries, offering young people the opportunity to gain hands-on experience and develop skills that will transition seamlessly into the workforce. By focusing on foundational skills in areas such as Class 1 Driving, Welding, Carpentry, and Mechanics, this initiative aligns perfectly with Alberta's labor market needs and the broader goals of the province's *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act*. This dual focus on academic and technical achievement provides students with the tools they need to succeed in their chosen fields while simultaneously strengthening Alberta's skilled labor pipeline.

These partnerships will not only empower students with meaningful career prospects but also provide a direct benefit to the economic vitality of the Peace River area as these skilled graduates contribute to our growing local industries. [Company Name] is proud to support the Peace River School Division in this endeavor and is confident in the positive impact collegiate programming will have on the students, families, and industry partners in our community. We are excited to see how this initiative will unlock potential for students, support our local economy, and contribute to the ongoing success of Alberta's workforce.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name] [Title] [Company Name]