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August 14, 2020

Honourable Adriana LaGrange Minister of Education 228 Legislature Building 10800-97 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6 Honourable Rajan Sawhney Minister of Community and Social Services 224 Legislature Building 10800-97 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Ministers LaGrange and Sawhney,

Letter of support for Rosecrest program

Our Board has learned that the government is exploring alternative service delivery for the Rosecrest Home. The Rosecrest program provides individualized programming to children who have severe to profound physical and medical developmental disabilities. Children are eligible to live at Rosecrest Homes from birth until 18 years of age and the education program, provided through an agreement with Alberta Education and Edmonton Public Schools, serves children from age 6 to 18 years of age or until the child no longer resides at Rosecrest.

These children are some of the most vulnerable in our society, and they and their families deserve all the support we can provide them. Our teacher and educational assistants at Rosecrest do a tremendous job supporting these students' learning. These students are in the best position to learn when they consistently receive the medical and personal care they need from caring, trusted, qualified individuals. We are concerned about the impact a shift of care providers may have on Rosecrest residents. Our Division regularly engages with families and partners to seek their input and feedback. We will continue to do so to ensure our programming meets the needs of our community.

The Rosecrest instructional staff and the students also currently benefit from their close association with Scott Robertson School. If, as part of a shift in service delivery, it was decided to transport students to a different facility, we feel this would negatively impact the learning and well-being of the students.

The current service delivery model at Rosecrest supports these medically fragile individuals and their families, and allows for quality instruction and learning. We support the continuation of this service model.

Sincerely,

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Trisha Estabrooks Board Chair

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