



## SCHOOL DISTRICT No.69 (QUALICUM)

October 15, 2018

Dear School District 69 Staff and Families:

**RE: School District 69 Reducing Natural Gas Usage as Province Experiences Shortage**

As you may know, a natural gas pipeline fire occurred on the evening of October 5, approximately 20 km northeast of Prince George, BC. No injuries were sustained and Fortis BC took precautionary measures by shutting down nearby operations. Fortis has since successfully restored flows in one of their two pipelines, and is now operating at 40% capacity to most of the communities of British Columbia. The second pipeline will be out of service for an unknown period, and as a result, the flow of gas will be below normal rates. Central governments has been in close contact with Fortis and is working with them to coordinate priority supply to families and communities.

To help mitigate the impact of the reduced natural gas supply, it is important for the public sector to do its part by reducing demand in a safe and prudent manner. With that in mind, thermostats of government buildings that are heated with natural gas will be turned down.

For this reason, the Qualicum School District would like to contribute and participate in the conservation efforts by reducing natural gas consumption until the supply lines are repaired. Temperatures in all of our schools and facilities will be reduced by two degrees Celsius effective October 17, 2018.

Much of BC will be impacted by the reduction in gas supply and the students and staff of the School District can assist those who may be in more direct need by dressing more warmly rather than relying on ambient heat. The District would like to encourage everyone to conserve natural gas for those in more northerly areas to access the gas flow.

By wearing another layer indoors, like a sweater or a hoodie, the students and staff of the School District can do something simple that can greatly benefit others. District Leadership would like to thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation as temporary small sacrifices add up to positive change for the citizens of British Columbia.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school principal or email the District at <https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Contact/Pages/default.aspx>

Sincerely,

Rollie Koop  
Superintendent of Schools  
School District 69 (Qualicum)

/hc

PO Box 430, 100 Jensen Ave. East, Parksville, B.C. V9P 2G5  
Phone (250) 248-4241 Fax (250) 248-5767 [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca)