



February 11, 2026

Dear Families,

Yesterday's tragic and deeply traumatic events in Tumbler Ridge have shaken communities across British Columbia and beyond. Our thoughts are with the Tumbler Ridge community, especially the students, staff, and families directly affected by this heartbreaking loss.

Tragic events such as these can be deeply unsettling for people of all ages. As adults, we may find ourselves processing our own reactions while also trying to support and reassure the children and youth in our care. Young people can respond in various ways to what they hear or see, and they often look to the trusted adults around them for cues about safety, stability, and understanding during times of uncertainty.

We recognize that some students may require additional emotional or mental health support in the coming days and weeks. Schools across our district will continue to prioritize student well-being, and counselling and support services are available. Families who have concerns about their child are encouraged to contact their school principal.

Families can find community and provincial support resources here and on our website:

- [Mental Health Resource List](#)
- [Canadian Mental Health Association](#)
- [ERASE](#)
- [Healthlinkbc: Helping Children with Grief](#)
- [Kelty Mental Health](#)
- [Learning through Loss](#)
- [Foundry Virtual BC - Foundry BC App](#)

Within Nechako Lakes, information has been provided to staff and families to help children and youth cope with the effects of this tragedy. The safety and well-being of students and staff remain our top priority, and we are consistently taking steps to ensure our schools are safe, welcoming, and supportive environments. As part of our ongoing commitment, the district will continue to review and enhance its emergency preparedness practices.

With support from the Ministry of Education and Childcare, a Critical Incident Table, bringing together several government and community organizations, has been established in School District No. 59 (Peace River South) to coordinate a strategic and effective response. Many school districts, including Nechako Lakes, have offered additional resources through this table. This collective support will continue over the coming months to assist students, staff, and families as they work through the impacts of this tragedy.

At times like this, when our communities are navigating deep sadness and uncertainty, the strength of our collective care and compassion becomes especially important. By remaining connected, attentive, and supportive of one another, we can help foster a sense of safety and hope for our children and for those around us. Thank you for your continued partnership and care as we support our students, staff, and communities.

With care and respect,

David Christie,
Board Chair