

news release

CBE Board of Trustees clarify agreement

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Calgary—The Board of Trustees of the Calgary Board of Education wishes to clarify suggestions in the public news media last week that CBE “administration,” through its general counsel, Greg Francis, “intimidated” trustees into signing a “gag order.”

This is incorrect. Trustees created among themselves an agreement on Oct. 25, 2013, which they instructed general counsel to reduce to writing. Francis did as instructed.

The text of the agreement is as follows:

“Trustees agree and each commits that no trustee will speak to the media except as authorized by the Board’s communications policy. More specifically, each trustee commits not to speak to the media about anything that might be construed as business of the Board unless the trustee gives notice to the other members of the Board that they no longer will be bound by this commitment.

Trustees are committed to ensuring that individual trustees are provided the opportunity to share their diverse perspectives and to influence the creation of the Board’s public meeting agenda.”

Neither general counsel nor “administration” intimidated any trustee into signing this agreement. As noted in the text of the agreement, each trustee was free to rescind the agreement immediately and at any time on giving notice to fellow trustees.

To see the Board of Trustees communication policy, see GC-4 Officers’ Roles at [governance policies](#).

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