

Dr. Math.
Dr. Conway
Dr. Davis

Copy to member, East side
Chairman, School board
Dr. Sharp.

Dear Dr. Sharp:

Since last July, 1970, the problem of East Indian children's education has become ~~an~~ ^{an increasingly} important concern ~~to us~~ ^{to us}. ~~It~~ ^{It} was brought to ~~their~~ ^{our} attention by school officials that a significant number of ~~these~~ ^{these} children are underachieving. According to ~~Mr. Art Messing~~ ^{Mr. Art Messinger}, Special Counsellor, about one ~~third~~ ^{third} of the East Indian children do quite poorly. This is ~~apparently~~ based on difficulties with the English language and ~~the~~ cultural factors.

In our meetings with school officials, groups which work with the children, and the community ~~members~~ ^{members} it became ~~apparent~~ ^{obvious} that a systematic approach would be required to meet ~~this problem~~ the educational needs of these children.

^{was} ^{will} ^{change} At our last meeting of Tuesday, January 19, 1971, attended by Dr. Stewart Martin and Mrs. Volland and many others, it was decided ~~felt~~ that the proposal ~~prepared~~ ^{prepared} by Mr. Gyan Nath ~~should~~ ^{should} be given serious consideration. The Khalsa Dewan Society ~~is~~ ^{should be} accepted. Our Society has ~~also~~ approved the proposal and ~~it~~ ^{is} of the opinion that the implementation of this proposal would ~~have~~ ^{have} a far reaching effect on the educational needs of ~~not only~~ the East Indian children but ~~also~~ ^{also} children of other cultural backgrounds.

- Dr R.F. Sharp,
Dist. Supt of Schools
Vancouver School Board
1595 West 10th Ave
Vancouver, B.C.

② cc to:
Mrs Olive Johnson
School Trustee
2605 W. 37th Ave
Vancouver, B.C.

① Mr Fritz K. Bowers
Chairman,
Vancouver School Bd
4047 W. 38th Ave
Vancouver B.C.

- Mr Frederick N.A. Rowell,
Chairman,
Education & Student Services Committee
2935 W. 35th Ave
Vancouver B.C.

- Dr Stewart Martin
Director of
Elementary School School Instruction
Van School Bd

- Mr C. Vallands,
Special Education Coordinator
V. S. Bd.

- Mr Art Messenger
Special Counsellor

- Miss Marjorie^{M.} Smith

In conjunction with the Department of Continuing Education of the University of B.C., the Society is going to conducting a four-session seminar ~~on~~ East Indian Culture ~~in~~ in March.

~~In or~~

~~Also~~ At our meetings it was also felt that the decided that

We ~~also~~ further decided that there should be an opportunity for educators and other people who work with our children to know something about East Indian culture. To this end the Department of C. E. of the U.B.C. working with the East Indian community is presenting four seminar sessions in March 1971. ~~The sessions~~ will be held at the Sikh Temple on March 3, 10, 17 and ~~we~~ ^{we} would like 24th respectively.

We appreciate that the School Board is aware of the educational problems of immigrants. ~~is~~ ^{This is} exemplified by special education programmes and particularly by the new Canadian classes ~~that~~ ^{which} are available in the city of Vancouver. To gain acquaintance with ~~the~~ such programmes it will be helpful if Mr. Gyan Koth, Point Grey Secondary School, is given opportunity to visit these classes and discuss the valuable work that is being presently done.

In order to discuss our proposal to meet the ~~re~~ educational needs of East Indian children ~~we~~ we would be grateful for an opportunity to meet with ~~the~~ ~~representatives~~

~~School Board of School Trustees. and at~~
~~their convenience.~~

← you and the Board of School Trustees
at your convenience.

~~Herewith are enclosed~~ Two copies
of ~~the~~ our proposal ~~are enclosed.~~

Yours very truly,

M. S. Gill,
Chairman, ~~the~~ ~~Indra~~ Education Committee
Khalsa Diwan Society
8000 Ross St.
Vancouver

✓ We would like to extend our thanks
to the school officials who have worked with
us at our meetings.