



**GRANDVIEW/ʔUUQINAK'UUH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

2055 Woodland Drive

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Tuesday 2004 July 06

Mr. Calvin Hellin
6520 Salish Drive
Vancouver, B. C. V6N 2C7

Dear Mr. Hellin: *Calvin*

I am writing on behalf of Grandview/ʔUuqinak'uuuh students, staff and parents to thank you and Sensei Nomada for sponsoring the East Vancouver Karate Club during the 2003-2004 school year. Your weekly program has been a real asset to our school and to the neighbourhood.

As you now know, Grandview/ʔUuqinak'uuuh is a Kindergarten to Grade 7 inner city school. In the immediate area around our school, there are no community centres, community sports leagues, or organized family support services. Approximately fifty percent of our students are of First Nations ancestry. Others are recent immigrants who do not speak English, and some are refugees from war torn countries. The majority of our students live in very impoverished conditions.

Although we cannot change the living conditions of the families in this community, we do pride ourselves on being able to provide quality programs for our students. In addition to the Karate Club, we also offer the *Visions Athletic After-School Program*, which provides academic, athletic and recreational services to our upper intermediate at-risk students for three hours every day after regular school hours. Since the beginning of the *Visions Program* in September 2000, we have been successful in keeping hundreds of students in a safe and caring environment during the crucial after-school hours when they are the most at risk for recruitment into the drug and sex trades.

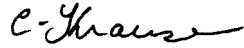
Another important benefit of the program is the amazing academic success that our students are now experiencing. We have moved from being one of the lowest functioning schools in the Vancouver School District to being one of the best inner city schools. On the fall 2003 Fraser Institute Report Card of B. C. schools, Grandview was ranked number 7 in the province and number 1 in Vancouver, based on the current academic success of our Aboriginal students. One hundred percent of our intermediate Aboriginal students attend the *Visions Program*, which has been financed by the Royal Bank of Canada for the past four years.

Grandview/?Uuqinak'uuh....

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We are deeply grateful to you and to Sensei Nomada for helping us continue to make a difference in the lives of Vancouver's most vulnerable children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. Krause".

Caroline Krause
Principal