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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Date:	January 27, 2003
To:	Janice Aubry, Chair
Co.	Chinese Language Education Consortium
Fax #:	1-780-425-6405
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From:	Dave van Tamelen, Superintendent

MESSAGE:

The attached questionnaire is Peace River School Division #10's reply.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

Staffing International Language Programs in Basic Education

1. What is the nature of the shortage of international language teachers in your jurisdiction?

It seems impossible to find Spanish or Mandarin teachers that have Alberta teacher certification. (in some cases no teacher training at all).

2. In which languages is there a shortage?

Spanish & Mandarin.

3. At what level (elementary, junior high, senior high) is there a shortage?

All

4. How many new international language teachers are needed each year for the next five years in your school jurisdiction?

possibly 1 per year in each area.

5. How is your school jurisdiction currently addressing this shortage?

We have lobbied different groups (e.g. U of C, Athabasca Univ; Alberta Learning) to request training for those who have knowledge to teach but need to pursue specific teacher training course.

6. What have been issues in obtaining teacher certification for your international language teachers?

Lack of flexibility. Would recommend that Alberta authorities look at the U.K. model whereby would-be teachers can take part-time courses in evening^s or weekends & during holidays whilst being able to teach during ^{the day}.

7. What are possible solutions to any shortage of international language teachers in your school jurisdiction?

No solution at present - we have teachers who can teach and are working on their obtaining certification.

8. What types of policies would effectively address the shortage?

• Courses need to be established in post-secondary institutions to address this shortage.
(Perhaps courses should not be offered if there are no teachers to teach them?)

9. How can we best prepare international language teachers for the future?

By providing specific training in language teaching.
Just because a person can speak a certain language, it does not necessarily mean they can teach it.