I am writing to express my concern with some of the information presented in a CBC radio interview that I heard on the morning of May 7th, 2025. As a parent of an elementary aged child, I have some deep concern over how the initial complaints were investigated and dealt with. It is my understanding that after two separate instances of touching a child, Mr. Craswell was permitted to continue as a substitute teacher for the Public Schools Branch. I can understand that with the board lacking a central reporting system, these incidents may not have been initially connected. However, I can not understand why Mr. Craswell was permitted to teach after either of these incidents occurred, even if they occured in a vacuum.

It seems the question of why Mr. Craswell was restricted to teaching at the high school level is being skirted around. Why was this change made? If it truly does have to do with training, why was he permitted to teach at the elementary level up until the second incident?

This simply doesn't add up. The reasons given do not make sense.

To what legitimate, non-sexual reason would a teacher be touching a student on the leg or stomach in such a manner? We're talking about a touch that made the child uncomfortable enough to report it to a trusted adult, which prompted an investigation.

People with a duty to report failed, and they are being protected. No amount of skirting around the subject, or public relations jargon will change that. As a parent, I find these incidents and the way they were dealt with simply unacceptable. I expect much better of the system I entrust with my child every day. How many other similar incidents have been unreported over the years? At what schools and grade levels has Mr. Craswell taught?

I have the following questions:

1. Will the Public Schools Branch take responsibility for this lapse?
2. Will you as Director take responsibility for this lapse?
3. Will the Public Schools Branch stop deflecting and protecting those responsible for the lapse?

There are a lot of question marks in this letter, and it's time for the public to have real answers, not contrived ones. Trust has been broken, and the way public and media concern is being deflected is incredibly disturbing.

This issue should prompt resignations, as those deflecting these concerns are not worthy of our trust as parents.

Sincerely,

Section 15(1)