

14 Nov. 1889. ~~Elizabeth~~  
Morse, Grande Metis. Lac.  
Wapiti

Sir J. W. Dawson.

My dear Sir,

I take leave to send you a few lines to report progress as to our new school, about which I consulted you in the summer. The people are erecting a small school house which will be ready in a few days. They bought an empty dwelling house and used the material. As it has been mainly left to the few who have children ready to go to it, I think what they have done is most praiseworthy.

I have two applications for the situation of teacher. We <sup>would</sup> have had a much better chance had I been in a position to advertise at the right time, but could not induce them to have the building ready sooner.

Still we have the prospect of getting  
~~of getting~~ a Scotch young lady,  
who from all we hear regarding her  
promises to be suitable. We hope  
to open the school at the beginning  
of December, and to continue it  
six months.

I have been obliged to assume  
a considerable personal responsi-  
bility in the matter. We offer \$120  
salary, that is \$20 per month.

We have \$50 from Lady Stephen, and  
the school fees may be reckoned  
at I suppose \$5<sup>00</sup>. We can get  
nothing from the local assessments  
of the people, for they had paid  
them in the spring to the local school  
commissiners, and these will give  
us no help nor sympathy in the  
meantime. We hope to secure  
a re-adjustment of the school dis-  
tricts so as to allow the

people to retain their assess-  
ments next year. I have in hand  
\$14 given me last summer for  
the school by friends at Thetis, and  
several others promised to assist.  
I need still to make up about \$50  
for the teacher's salary for the winter,  
and am quite hopeful that it will  
come when needed.

You will remember advising me  
to apply for help to the "Poor  
Municipalities' Fund." We did so  
but without effect. We made out  
two forms of application, and  
sent one to Mr. Kexford, and the  
other to our local school commis-  
sioners for transmission. The latter  
took no notice of our application.  
I wrote to our French School In-  
spector asking for his certificate.  
He replied that he could not  
regard Thetis as a poor municipi-

quality, and that our application  
ought to come thro' our local school  
board.'

You will see that I have some  
little difficulties in regard to this  
school, and the opponents, if such they  
may be called, are a few of my own  
congregation. Still I must follow con-  
science and duty, let the consequences  
be what they may. And I am happy to say  
that the great majority of the people see  
the perfect reasonableness of what we  
are doing, and wish us well. The only  
objection to our school is <sup>on their part</sup> the ~~feeling~~ <sup>needless</sup> fear  
of weakening the other school, and the wish  
to appropriate the assessments of the  
people on the Beach, without these being  
able to benefit by them.

But, apologising for thus trespas-  
sing on your time, knowing well your interest  
in theis, Believe me,  
Dear Sir William,  
Sincerely & Respectfully Yours  
John M. Carter.