

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2000-12-13

A Regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board was held in the Library of Rosemere High School, 530 Northcote, Rosemere, QC on Wednesday, 2000-12-13 at 19:30 hours, at which were present:

Steve Bletas, Chairman; William Pollock, Vice-Chairman; Natalie Auclair, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines; Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Nancy Rupnik, Mary Svtelis, and Edward Turchyniak, Commissioners; Linda Iaconetti, Parent Commissioner; and Dominic Martini, Director General.

Also present were: Robert Vallerand, Deputy Director General; Lorraine Archambault, Director of Financial Resources; Laiq Hanafi, Director of Educational Services; Jean-Guy Messier, Director of Information Services; Agostino Santini, Senior Advisor to Management; Michael Stirrup, Director of Human Resources; Raymond Thivierge, Director of Material Resources; and Diana Giustini, Recording Secretary. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Grace Nesi and Morten Schrier, Commissioners; and Ghislaine Tanner, Parent Commissioner.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 19:45 hours.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The following additions and changes to the agenda were proposed:

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS:

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| 6.2 | <i>Policy on Sexual Abuse</i> | INFO |
| 6.3 | <i>Estates General on the French Language</i> | INFO |

001213-CA-0083

Pierre Garofano MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted as amended in document #2000/12/13-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was noted that under the "Also present" section on page 0459 of the minutes of the special meeting held on 2000-11-22 the names of Robert Vallerand and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness should remain while all other names are removed.

001213-CA-0084

James McDougall MOVED THAT the minutes of the SPECIAL meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2000-11-22, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as corrected.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Nick Milas, Mary Svtelis

In a verbal request received from Walter Fogel, resolution #001122-CA-0082 should be modified to read "Walter Fogel MOVED THAT an additional question period of ten minutes be approved."

001213-CA-0085

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2000-11-22, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as corrected.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Mary Svteliss

3.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman advised the Council that the Ministre de l'Éducation has approved the following capital projects for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board: the enlargement of the new elementary school in Blainville to 450 student places and the renovation of the former Laurentian School Board offices into a Vocational Education Centre.

He went on to note that a press conference had been held by the Ministre de l'Éducation on 2000-12-11 at Genesis Elementary School, where he announced authorizations for the following additional projects: the purchase of Centre Concorde (Maison Alpha) from the Commission scolaire de Laval to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board accompanied by a 2 300 000\$ grant to renovate the Centre Concorde and a grant to add two permanent classrooms at Terry Fox Elementary School.

He continued by expressing his disappointment in the lack of media coverage by the English press on an occasion where the English community receives such generous grants from the Québec Government.

The Chairman commented on his visits to Laurentian Regional High School and Western Laval High School with the President of the Laurier Teachers Union noting that he received positive feedback from the teachers on the partnership with the school board.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director General advised that the Committee on the Use of Schools and Other Facilities will be studying the impact of the rezoning on Our Lady of Peace, Terry Fox and Twin Oaks Elementary Schools.

Edward Turchyniak extended appreciation to the Chairman on his work with the Ministère de l'Éducation in having projects for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board realised.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director General advised that the additional classrooms granted for the new elementary school in Blainville had been built into the original plans and that the land for the school will accommodate the addition.

4.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question from David Modlin, a parent, the Chairman asked that he put his concerns in writing to the board and that a response would be sent.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING

The Chairman MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners go into committee.

TIME: 20:05 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 20:24 hours

5.1 Ethics Review:

Peter MacLaurin, member of the Ethics Review Committee, presented the report of the committee and its recommendations.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to a question from Carolyn Curiale, the Director General indicated that the resolutions proposed by the Ethics Review Committee had been submitted to legal counsel.

The Chairman asked Mr. Fogel if he wished to comment on the proposed resolutions. Mr. Fogel declined comment.

Walter Fogel requested that the record show that he is formally requesting copies of the legal opinion under the *Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information* and that he expects to receive a copy forthwith.

The Director General advised the Council that according to the board's legal counsel Mr. Fogel is not entitled to have a copy.

001213-CA-0086

WHEREAS Sections 175.1 and 176 of the Education Act provide the framework for the ethical and professional conduct of a commissioner;

WHEREAS Section 177.1 of the Education Act establishes the duties of commissioners;

WHEREAS Section 322 of the Quebec Civil Code gives the school commissioner the duty to act with honesty and loyalty in the best interest of the school board;

WHEREAS Commissioner Fogel is a co-petitioner in a motion to annul certain resolutions adopted by the school board;

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee has reviewed the legal opinion filed with the Director General by Lavery de Billy, legal counsel, on the matter of a commissioner acting as a co-petitioner in a legal action against the school board;

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee, on the basis of the advice received from the legal counsel, considers that Commissioner Fogel is in violation of the duty of care that a commissioner must observe to the benefit and interest of the school board of which he is a member;

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Ethics Review Committee, the Council of Commissioners request that Commissioner Walter Fogel withdraw from his participation in a legal action against the school board of which he is a member.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Mary Sotelis, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec

001213-CA-0087

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee has reviewed the conduct, past and present, of Commissioner Walter Fogel;

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee recognizes unequivocally that Commissioner Fogel has the right as a member of the Council of Commissioners to express his dissent and to vote on resolutions in accordance with his conscience and what he considers to be in the best interest of the school board;

WHEREAS Commissioner Fogel has regularly expressed his disagreement with decisions of the school board by his comments at meetings of the Council, by his voting record, and by comments reported in the media;

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee considers that Commissioner Fogel by his actions and words has on a regular basis denigrated and disparaged the work of his fellow Commissioners;

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee considers that the actions of Commissioner Fogel serve to undermine public confidence in the operation of the school board;

WHEREAS the Ethics review Committee considers that Commissioner Fogel does not represent the great majority of the Council of Commissioners and lacks the confidence of the Council;

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Ethics Review Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board refrain from naming Walter Fogel to any group, association, or committee as a representative or delegate of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board due to a lack of confidence in his ability to faithfully and loyally represent the school board. AND THAT resolutions #980916-CA-0100 and #000322-CA-0183 be rescinded.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Mary Sotelis, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas

WHEREAS Sections 175.1 and 176 of the Education Act provide the framework for the ethical and professional conduct of a commissioner;

WHEREAS Section 177.1 of the Education Act establishes the duties of commissioners;

WHEREAS Section 322 of the Quebec Civil Code gives the school commissioner the duty to act with honesty and loyalty in the best interest of the school board;

WHEREAS Commissioner Fogel is a co-petitioner in a motion to annul certain resolutions adopted by the school board;

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee has reviewed the legal opinion filed with the Director General by Lavery de Billy, legal counsel, on the matter of a commissioner acting as a co-petitioner in a legal action against the school board;

WHEREAS the Ethics Review Committee, on the basis of the advice received from the legal counsel, considers that Commissioner Fogel is in violation of the duty of care that a commissioner must observe to the benefit and interest of the school board of which he is a member;

WHEREAS Commissioner Fogel has refused the request of the Council of Commissioners to withdraw from his participation as a co-petitioner in the legal action against the school board;

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Ethics Review Committee, the Council of Commissioners request that Commissioner Walter Fogel resign as a member of the Council of Commissioners.

The Chairman asked Walter Fogel if he wished to comment on the proposed resolution. Mr. Fogel declined to comment.

001213-CA-0088

Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT the proposed resolution requesting the resignation of Walter Fogel be tabled to the 2001-01-24 meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: **Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Mary Svotelis, Edward Turchyniak**

ABST: **Walter Fogel**

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS

6.1 *Territory Map of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board:*

The Deputy Director General distributed a draft version of the map of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board on which its schools and centres are indicated, noting that copies of the map will be available starting 2001-02-19.

6.2 *Policy on Sexual Abuse:*

In response to concerns expressed by Steve Kmec, the Chairman advised that if a Commissioner is aware of a situation of this type to please talk to the Director General privately so that discretion can be assured.

The Council entered into discussion.

6.3 *Estates General on the French Language:*

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director General advised that the board had not presented a brief.

7.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES

The Director General noted that invitational and public tenders are being called for the services of architects and consulting engineers in order to begin the process of realizing the newly granted capital projects.

7.1 *Call to Tender – Architects:*

001213-MR-0089

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has authorized the renovation of the former offices of the Laurentian School Board to accommodate the Lachute Vocational Education Centre;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requires the services of an architect for the renovation project;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation regulations require that the architect be selected by a call for invitational tenders to be studied by a selection committee;

WHEREAS the Directorate recommends that invitational tenders be called for the services of an architect;

William Pollock MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board call for invitational tenders for the services of an architect for the renovation of the former offices of the Laurentian School Board to accommodate the Lachute Vocational Education Centre.

Carried unanimously

001213-MR-0090

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has authorized the renovation of Centre Concorde to accommodate a new elementary school in Duvernay Laval;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requires the services of an architect for the renovation project;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation regulations require that the architect be selected by a call for public tenders;

WHEREAS the Directorate recommends that public tenders be called for the services of an architect;

Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board call for public tenders for the services of an architect for the renovation of Centre Concorde to accommodate a new elementary school in Duvernay, Laval.

Carried unanimously

001213-MR-0091

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has authorized the addition of two classrooms at Terry Fox Elementary School;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requires the services of an architect for the renovation project;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation regulations require that the architect be selected by a call for invitational tenders to be studied by a selection committee;

WHEREAS the Directorate recommends that invitational tenders be called for the services of an architect;

Natalie Auclair MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board call for invitational tenders for the services of an architect for the addition of two classrooms at Terry Fox Elementary School.

Carried unanimously

7.2 Call to Tender – Consulting Engineers:**001213-MR-0092**

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has authorized the renovation of the former offices of the Laurentian School Board to accommodate the Lachute Vocational Education Centre;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requires the services of a consulting engineer for the renovation project;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation regulations require that the consulting engineer be selected by a call for invitational tenders to be studied by a selection committee;

WHEREAS the Directorate recommends that invitational tenders be called for the services of a consulting engineer;

Peter Haldimand MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board call for invitational tenders for the services of a consulting engineer for the renovation of the former offices of the Laurentian School Board to accommodate the Lachute Vocational Education Centre.

Carried unanimously

001213-MR-0093

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has authorized the renovation of Centre Concorde to accommodate a new elementary school in Duvernay Laval;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requires the services of a consulting engineer for the renovation project;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation regulations require that the consulting engineer be selected by a call for public tenders;

WHEREAS the Directorate recommends that public tenders be called for the services of a consulting engineer;

Glen Haines MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board call for public tenders for the services of a consulting engineer for the renovation of Centre Concorde to accommodate a new elementary school in Duvernay, Laval.

Carried unanimously

001213-MR-0094

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has authorized the addition of two classrooms at Terry Fox Elementary School;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requires the services of a consulting engineer for the renovation project;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation regulations require that the consulting engineer be selected by a call for invitational tenders to be studied by a selection committee;

WHEREAS the Directorate recommends that invitational tenders be called for the services of a consulting engineering;

Nick Milas MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board call for invitational tenders for the services of a consulting engineer for the addition of two classrooms at Terry Fox Elementary School.

Carried unanimously

8.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

There was no report.

9.0 QESBA

William Pollock presented the Council with a document on a new government initiative, Les fonds jeunesse du Québec.

The Director General advised the Council that Educational Services had assigned Anne Brohan, Co-operative Education & Pedagogical Evaluation, to work with the high schools to access funds from this new government agency.

Mr. Pollock also noted that a labour agreement had been reached with the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) support staff.

10.0 PARENT COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Linda Iaconetti extended thanks to the Chairman and the Deputy Director General for their help in clarifying certain issues for the Parents' Committee on the current attendance zone consultation and the long range rezoning plan requested by parents.

She went on to advise the Council that the Parents' Committee had approved the enrollment criteria for 2001-2002 as presented.

In response to a request from Mrs. Iaconetti, the Director General agreed that the consultation period on proposed policy #2000-ED-06: Services to Students with Special Needs be extended for an additional 30 days, noting that others had made a similar request.

11.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

11.1 *Modifications to the Adult Education Organizational Chart:*

The Director General informed the Council that the Adult Education and Technical Vocational department has grown considerably in the last three years and that some changes were required.

He went on to advise that Ron Silverstone, retired Director of Adult Education for the English Montreal School Board, had been engaged to study the organizational structure of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's Adult Education and Technical Vocation sector and that he had recommended that staffing within the department be increased to reflect the increase in services provided.

001213-HR-0095

Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee; the Council of Commissioners approve the modifications to the Adult Education organizational chart.

Carried unanimously

11.2 *Creation of Positions – Adult Education:*

001213-HR-0096

WHEREAS the Adult Education and Technical Vocational Centres have, over the last number of years, experienced a marked increase in the services that are offered;

WHEREAS the study conducted by an outside party has been reviewed by the Directorate;

WHEREAS both the Educational Services and Human Resources Committees have reviewed the report and its recommendations.

Mary Svoltelis MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Educational Services Committee, Human Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve that a first phase of the recommendations be implemented, effective 2001-01-01 by creating the following positions in the Adult Education and Technical Vocational Sector:

Support Staff – Data Processing Technician - 100%
 Non-teaching professional – Academic Counsellor – 80%
 - Administration Officer – 100%

Carried unanimously

11.3 Extension of Local Teachers Arrangements:

The Director General explained the resolution to prolong the current local teachers arrangements until 2001-06-30.

001213-HR-0097

WHEREAS the Local Arrangements between the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the Laurier Teachers Union require negotiations as a result of the new Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers Collective Agreement;

WHEREAS recent discussions with the Laurier Teachers Union and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board have led to an agreement to extend the current local arrangements until 2001-06-30 or a mutually agreed upon earlier date;

WHEREAS both the Directorate and the Human Resources Committee supports this understanding.

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate and the Human Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve the extension of the Local Arrangements between the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the Laurier Teachers Union to 2001-06-30 or a mutually agreed upon earlier date.

Carried unanimously

12.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

12.1 Revised Budget:

The Director General reviewed the revised budget noting that the board remained on target to eliminate its deficit by 2002-06-30.

He went on to advise that a similar effort in expense reduction would be required for the 2001-2002 school year as experienced this current school year.

001213-FR-0098

Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Financial Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the **revised budget for 2000-2001**.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Mary Svotelis, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

13.0 USE OF SCHOOLS / TRANSPORTATION:**13.1 Attendance of Secondary II Students at Rawdon 2001-2002:**

The Director General provided background on the transfer of students to the Rawdon Elementary & Middle School.

001213-TS-0099

WHEREAS the Rawdon Elementary & Middle School was built to accommodate students from Kindergarten to Secondary II;

WHEREAS the school began to accommodate secondary I students as of the 2000-2001 school year;

WHEREAS the progressive enrollment of secondary I and II students should be completed for the 2001-2002 school year;

Linda Iaconetti MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Committee on the Use of Schools and Other Facilities, the Council of Commissioners of Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve in principle the existing school boundary of Rawdon Elementary & Middle School serving Kindergarten to Secondary II students. AND THAT the school boundary for Joliette High School be modified to exclude students entering Secondary II from Chertsey, Entrelacs, Notre-Dame-de-la-Merci, Rawdon, Saint-Alphonse, Sainte-Julienne, Sainte-Marceline, Village of Saint-Calixte.

Carried unanimously

13.2 Amendments to Transportation Policy:

The Director General reviewed the results of the consultation on the proposed amendments to the Transportation Policy.

001213-TS-0100

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT section 3.6.11 b) of the amendments to policy #99-TS-01: Transportation Policy and Procedures Manual be again amended to read "This form must be completed and signed by a student of majority age and/or the parent(s)/guardian(s).

Carried unanimously

001213-TS-0101

Linda Gagnon MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Transportation Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the amendments to policy #99-TS-01: Transportation Policy and Procedures Manual, effective 2000-12-14.

Carried unanimously

14.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

There was no report.

15.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question from David Modlin, a parent, the Chairman advised that all the reasons for questioning the conduct of a Commissioner were detailed in the body of the resolutions presented.

16.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

17.0 VARIA

18.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The Chairman extended best wishes to everyone for a happy holiday.

James McDougall MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 22:25 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇔ REGULAR ⇔ 2001-01-24

Robert Vallerand, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chairman