

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2003-02-26

A Regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board was held in the boardroom of the Administration Centre, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemere, QC on Wednesday, 2003-02-26 at 19:30 hours, at which were present:

Steve Bletas, Chairman; William Pollock, Vice-Chairman; Mary Austin, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines; Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, and Edward Turchyniak, Commissioners; Linda Iaconetti and Mike Possian, Parent Commissioners; and Giordano Rosa-del-Vecchio, Director General.

Also present were: Robert Vallerand, Deputy Director General; François Badin, Director of Human Resources; Effie Maniatis, Director of Educational Services; Jean-Guy Messier, Director of Information Services; Livia Nassivera, Director of Financial Resources; Raymond Thivierge, Director of Material Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administration Officer. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Natalie Auclair and Peter Haldimand, Commissioners

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 19:33 hours.

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

The following additions and changes to the agenda were proposed:

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS:

6.5 Presentations at Council MeetingsINFO

7.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES:

7.1 Call to Tender – Cafeteria ServicesRES

7.2 New School in MascoucheINFO

7.3 Letter to the Ministre de l'ÉducationINFO

13.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

13.2 MEQ Funding for Fibre Optic NetworkRES

030226-CA-0088

Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted as amended in document #2003/02/26-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

In a verbal notice, Walter Fogel advised that on page 0801 of the minutes of the meeting held on 2003-01-22, in resolution #030122-CA-0076 the following words should be added in the first line after MOVED THAT *“in accordance with”*. In the second line after the word Committee the following words should be added *“the powers”*.

He also noted that in the second paragraph the words *“provisions of sections 1.2”* are to be replaced with *“said powers”*.

030226-CA-0089

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2003-01-22, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as corrected.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier

ABST: Grace Nesi, Edward Turchyniak

030226-CA-0090

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the minutes of the ADJOURNED meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2003-01-29, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier

ABST: Glen Haines, Edward Turchyniak

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

4.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman advised the Council that the office of the Ministre de l'Éducation has announced that school boards that had invested in Fibre Optic Networks prior to the establishment of the "Villages branchés du Québec" project would not be compensated.

He went on to note that those boards that had invested will be petitioning the Ministère de l'Éducation to reconsider its decision as both the former Ministre, François Legault, and the current Ministre; Sylvain Simard had promised that any school board that invested in Fibre Optics Networks would be compensated for its investment. A resolution to this effect will be presented later in the meeting for the Council's consideration.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director General indicated that when the board made the commitment to participate in a Fibre Optic Network with the Commissions scolaires de Laval and Seigneurie-des-Mille-îles the Ministère de l'Éducation made no indication that it would be establishing the "Villages branchés du Québec" project.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING**5.1 Strategic Planning:**

The Director General advised the Council that the basis of the Strategic Plan consultation would be the goals. He also noted that a mock-up of a Strategic Plan would be sent with the consultation in order to provide the community with an overview of what a strategic plan entails.

He went on to advise that the Ministère de l'Éducation has moved the deadline for submission of the Strategic Plan back to the fall of 2003. He indicated that even with the extension of the deadline it would be in the best interest of the board to have the goals for the plan formulated by June 2003.

The Council of Commissioners entered into discussion.

030226-CA-0091

WHEREAS section 209.1 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) requires school boards to submit a strategic plan to the Ministère de l'Éducation;

WHEREAS an information and awareness campaign was carried out during the fall of 2002;

WHEREAS commissioners and administrators held a workshop on November 2 & 3, 2002 at which time goals and objectives for a strategic plan were developed;

WHEREAS a focus session with representatives of the constituent groups, students, parents, teachers, commissioners, administrators, professionals, and support and maintenance staff met on 2003-01-13 and developed a series of goals for the strategic plan;

Nick Milas MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve in principle the "Strategic Plan Consultation Questionnaire", as contained in document #SWLSB-2003/02/26-CA-002.

AND THAT a consultation be carried out on the "Strategic Plan Consultation Questionnaire" over a sixty-day period with all constituent groups and Governing Boards.

FUTHER THAT the results of this consultation be used to formulate the "Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Strategic Plan".

Carried unanimously

5.2 Amendment to QESBA Constitution:

The Chairman advised that in discussions with other school boards on amending item 6 (1) of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Constitution to include the Chairperson as one of the voting delegates, it has become apparent that a consensus cannot be reached.

Discussion ensued.

030226-CA-0092

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the resolution concerning the amendment to item 6 (1) of the Constitution of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) be lifted from the table.

Carried unanimously

5.3 By-Law #BL2002-CA-09: Delegation of Powers to the Director General:

Walter Fogel explained his proposed amendments for by-law #BL2002-CA-09: Delegation of Powers to the Director General.

030226-CA-0093

Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board table by-law #BL2002-CA-09: Delegation of Powers to the Director General to the 2003-03-26 meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

Carried unanimously

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS**6.1 2004 QESBA/AAESQ Spring Conference:**

The Deputy Director General provided an update on the activities of the various sub-committees for the 2004 QESBA / AAESQ Spring Conference.

Walter Fogel left the meeting.

TIME: 20:12 hours

The Publicity Committee has met with a graphic artist to develop a logo for the conference so that a "tickler" for the 2004 conference can be distributed at the May 2003 conference.

Walter Fogel returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:14 hours

6.2 Amendment to #BL2000-CA-01: Delegation of Functions & Powers to the Executive:

The Deputy Director General recommended that the proposed amendment to by-law #BL2000-CA-01: Delegation of Functions and Powers to the Executive Committee, be tabled until the adoption of by-law #BL2002-CA-09: Delegation of Powers to the Director General.

030226-CA-0094

Glen Haines MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board table the notice of motion to amend sub-section 2.2 of by-law #BL2000-CA-01: Delegation of Functions and Powers to the Executive Committee to the meeting of the Council of Commissioners to be held on 2003-03-26.

Carried unanimously

6.3 Modification to Resolution Re: Adult Education Committee:

The Deputy Director General reviewed the proposed changes to the Adult & Vocational Education Committee.

030226-CA-0095

Linda Iaconetti MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board modify resolution #021127-CA-0044, establishment of an Adult & Technical Vocational Education Committee, by removing the names of Carolyn Curiale and Peter Haldimand.

AND THAT William Pollock be named to replace one of the above on the Adult & Technical Vocational Education Committee.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Walter Fogel

6.4 MEQ Delegation on Life Long Learning:

The Director General reviewed the request received to nominate school board representatives to a delegation to Europe being organized by the Ministère de l'Éducation to study "Life Long Learning".

He went on to advise that the trip to Europe would be financed entirely by the Ministère de l'Éducation and would take place during the month of May.

Walter Fogel left the meeting.

TIME: 20:18 hours

Discussion ensued.

Walter Fogel returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:20 hours

030226-CA-0096

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the proposed resolution concerning the delegation on "*Life Long Learning*" be amended by adding at the end of the resolution"; AND PROVIDED THAT the Ministère de l'Éducation pays the entire cost of the trip to Europe.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| YEA: | Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec |
| NAY: | Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak |
| ABST: | Morten Schrier |

030226-CA-0097

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation is organizing a delegation to Europe to explore "*Life Long Learning*";

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has requested school boards to delegate a Commissioner, an Administrator and Teachers to this delegation;

WHEREAS the Adult & Technical Vocational Education Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is recommending that the name of a commissioner be submitted for consideration;

Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Adult & Technical Vocational Education Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board submit the name of **Linda Gagnon** to the Ministère de l'Éducation for consideration as a participant in the delegation on "*Life Long Learning*".

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| YEA: | Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak |
| NAY: | Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec |
| ABST: | Morten Schrier |

6.5 *Presentations at Council of Commissioners Meetings:*

Peter MacLaurin commented on a news report he had seen from Vancouver, B.C. where the City Council puts aside 15 minutes at each meeting for local children to come in and make presentations to the Council. He noted that he was very impressed with the idea and suggested that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board consider developing a program of this nature and that the schools be encouraged to participate.

The Council entered into discussion and the Deputy Director General was asked to coordinate this project.

7.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES**7.1 Call to Tender – Cafeteria Services:**

The Deputy Director General reviewed the call to tender for cafeteria services at various elementary and secondary schools of the board.

The Council entered into discussion.

Nazario Facchino left the meeting.

TIME: 20:30 hours

030226-CA-0098

William Pollock MOVED THAT the resolution for a call to tender for cafeteria services be tabled to the 2003-03-26 meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

Carried unanimously

7.2 New School In Mascouche:

The Chairman advised the Council that he has been told verbally that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board would not be receiving authorization for a new school in lower Lanaudière in 2003 as the Conseil du trésor has requested that the Ministère de l'Éducation reduce its number of requests for financing.

7.3 Letter to the Ministre de l'Éducation:

The Chairman read the following letter and asked that it be incorporated into the minutes:

Nazario Facchino returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:35 hours

2003-02-26

*Monsieur Sylvain Simard, ministre de l'Éducation
Ministère de l'Éducation
1035, De La Chevrotière
Québec (Québec)
G1R 5A5*

Re: Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Request for a New School in the Mascouche/Terrebonne/Repentigny Area of Lanaudière

Dear Mr. Simard,

Over the past several years, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has repeatedly requested the Ministry's authorization to proceed with the construction of a new school in the Lanaudière region. The increase in student population at both Lewis King and Holy Rosary Elementary Schools has forced the school board to rent additional classroom space in an annex building a short distance from the Holy Rosary school. In addition, portable classrooms had to be added to the permanent facilities at Lewis King and Holy Rosary Schools. During the summer of 2002, the school board was obliged to completely overhaul the four portables at Holy Rosary due to a mould problem. Similarly, the sewage system at Lewis King had to be redone because of increased use due to an influx of elementary students. The school board has since received formal notice from the Ville de Mascouche demanding the removal of the portables at both schools by the end of the current school year as they are in violation of municipal regulations. The Ville de Mascouche has tolerated these temporary facilities for a number of years.

The rented facilities, known as the "Holy Rosary Annex", were recently sold to le Groupe Uniatox. This acquisition was made possible through the allocation of public monies, and this group is most anxious to occupy its offices in order to provide assistance in the field of toxicomanie in the Lanaudière region.

In order to support and justify the very real need for a new school in Mascouche, the members of the general directorate of Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board as well as my fellow commissioners and I met with the

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MNA of Masson, Monsieur Gilles Labbé, and the MNA from l'Assomption, Monsieur Jean-Claude St-André. As well, the school board has received written confirmation from the towns of Mascouche and Repentigny that in the event of your authorization to build, they are prepared to cede the required land in order to proceed with the construction of a new school as quickly as possible. The director general and deputy director general of Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board met in your offices in early December with your political attaché, Mr. Eric de la Sablonnière, as well as the Director of Equipment Services, Monsieur Gilles Marchand, to underscore the urgent need for additional school facilities in that area. Mr. Gilles Labbé, Député de Masson, was kind enough to attend that meeting and followed up with a personal letter addressed to you emphasizing the urgent need for additional classroom facilities.

I was shocked and extremely dismayed to learn through informal channels this week that our request had not been retained by the Treasury Board as a priority for school construction.

On behalf of the Council of Commissioners and the entire population of the Mascouche, Terrebonne and Repentigny areas, may I say that I find this decision to be unacceptable. I am hereby requesting a meeting between you, as Minister of Education, myself as Chairman of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, as well as the Director General and Deputy Director General of the board as soon as possible. I cannot stress enough the urgency of our need to meet and pursue our request for additional school facilities.

I would request that you confirm to Monsieur Robert Vallerand, Deputy Director General, the time and place of this critical meeting. He can be reached by telephone at 450-621-5600, extension 1318, on his cellular at 514-895-5087, by fax at 450-621-7929, or by e-mail: rvallerand@swlauriersb.qc.ca.

I await your prompt reply.

Yours truly,

*Steve Bletas,
Chairman of the Board.*

cc: Gilles Labbé, Député de Masson

Carolyn Curiale left the meeting.

TIME: 20:36 hours

The Chairman indicated that he has spoken with Gilles Labbé, député de Masson, and that Mr. Labbé has also heard that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board will not be receiving authorization for a new school in the lower Lanaudière area. Mr. Labbé will be seeking further feedback later in the week at a meeting with government officials.

Carolyn Curiale returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:40 hours

The Council entered into discussion on the recent events concerning the need for a new school in the Lanaudière region.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Deputy Director General advised that alternate locations for the Holy Rosary Annex are being reviewed as there is no guarantee that Uniatox will be able to lease the current annex to the board for an additional year.

8.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

8.1 Update on Financial Turnaround Plan:

The Director of Financial Resources distributed and reviewed the interim report on the financial turnaround plan.

The Chairman turned the chair over to the Vice-Chairman and left the meeting.

TIME: 20:50 hours

The Council entered into discussion.

The Chairman returned to the meeting and assumed the chair.

TIME: 20:55 hours

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9.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

9.1 Abolition of Position:

The Director of Human Resources explained the following resolutions.

The Director General left the meeting.

TIME: 21:00 hours

Nancy Rupnik left the meeting.

TIME: 21:02 hours

030226-HR-0099

Grace Nesi MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board abolish the following position, effective 2003-03-10:

| POSITION | HRS/WK | LOCATION |
|--------------------------|--------|--|
| Administrative Assistant | 35 | Administration Centre – School Organization & Transportation |

Carried unanimously

9.2 Creation of Positions

The Director General returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:03 hours

Nancy Rupnik returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:05 hours

030226-HR-0100

Mike Possian MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board rescind resolution #021211-HR-0067 which created the position of Secretary at Adult Education – Lachute Centre.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Nancy Rupnik

Pierre Garofano MOVED THAT the Council go in to committee.

TIME: 21:11 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 21:31 hours

030226-HR-0101

WHEREAS the Support Staff local union has been consulted on the effects of the modified requirements of its schools and offices;

Linda Gagnon MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board create the following position, effective 2002-12-11:

| POSITION | HRS/WK | LOCATION |
|----------|--------|----------|
|----------|--------|----------|

| | | |
|-----------|----|-----------------------------------|
| Secretary | 35 | Adult Education – Chomedey Centre |
|-----------|----|-----------------------------------|

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THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

030226-HR-0102

WHEREAS the Support Staff local union has been consulted on the effects of the modified requirements of its schools and offices;

Pierre Garofano MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board create the following position, effective 2003-03-10:

| POSITION | HRS/WK | LOCATION |
|---------------------------|--------|--|
| Administrative Technician | 35 | Administration Centre – School Organization & Transportation |

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

Nick Milas left the meeting.

TIME: 21:34 hours

10.0 TRANSPORTATION

There was no business to be concluded.

11.0 PARENT COMMISSIONERS REPORT

11.1 Parents' Committee Report:

Linda Iaconetti advised the Council that the Parents Committee has sent a letter to the Director General with the committee's suggestions on how the enrollment criteria should be written so as to provide a clearer understanding to parents.

Nick Milas returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:36 hours

She went on to note that the committee adopted resolutions on a Mission and Values Statement and one on the cost of the upcoming school board elections in support of a resolution adopted by the Council of Commissioners.

12.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

There was no business to be concluded.

13.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

13.1 Fibre Optic Partnership:

The Deputy Director General provided background information on the Fibre Optic partnership with the Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord.

The Council entered into discussion.

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In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Deputy Director General advised that it is more economic in the long run to build a Fibre Optic Network as leasing service from Bell Canada or other providers will prove to be too costly.

Mike Possian noted that the schools in the north should be able to have the equitable services to those available in other schools of the board.

030226-IT-0103

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has authorized a partnership with the Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord within the program "Villages branchés du Québec" for the addition of fibre links to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Fibre Network (resolution 021023-IT-025);

WHEREAS the preliminary analysis report has been deposited and presented by the Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord on January 22, 2003;

WHEREAS this preliminary analysis report respects the requirements of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to service Grenville Elementary School, Laurentia Elementary School, Laurentian Elementary School, Laurentian Regional High School, Mountainview High School, and the Lachute Vocational Education Centre;

WHEREAS the total project value for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is estimated at 440 000 \$ (taxes excluded) based upon a first scenario involving no financial participation of a telecommunication company partner nor any allocation from the program "Villages branchés du Québec";

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is entitled to an allocation representing 66 2/3 % of the total cost under the program "Villages branchés du Québec", reducing the cost assumed by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to 146 700 \$ upon this scenario;

James McDougall MOVED, on the recommendation of the Information Technology Committee and the Executive Committee, that the Council of Commissioners accept the preliminary analysis report presented by the Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord involving a financial participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier not exceeding 146 700 \$ (taxes excluded), and to authorize the "directeur du Service de l'informatique de la Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord" to prepare a tender for the construction of the described telecommunication network including six (6) sites of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Walter Fogel

ABST: Steve Kmec, Morten Schrier

13.2 MEQ Funding for Fibre Optics Network:

This was discussed under item 4.0.

030226-IT-0104

WHEREAS the Gouvernement du Québec has made new technology in schools a major priority;

WHEREAS the installation of Fibre Optic Networks is essential to the accessibility and effectiveness of the Internet as a part of the upgrading of new technology;

WHEREAS the Gouvernement du Québec has recognized this need and has announced a program to fund the installation of Fibre Optic network connections for all regions of Québec;

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WHEREAS the many school boards proceeded with the installation of Fibre Optic Network connections prior to the announcement of the special funding program;

WHEREAS the former Ministre de l'Éducation, François Legault, and the current Ministre, Sylvain Simard recognized that it would be unfair and unjustifiable to deny those school boards funding for Fibre Optic Network installation and both had promised on several occasions to compensate school boards for this investment;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is one of the school boards which made the commitment to a Fibre Optic Network prior to the funding announcement;

WHEREAS the Sous-ministre de l'Éducation at a meeting held on 2003-02-14 informed the l'Association des directeurs généraux des commissions scolaires du Québec that such funding would not be forthcoming;

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Information Technology Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board demand that the Ministre de l'Éducation provide, as promised, funding for Fibre Optic Network installations to the school boards that have made such a commitment prior to the announcement of a special program for these networks;

AND THAT the funding for these school boards be included as a "Special Funding Program" in the 2003-2004 Budgetary Rules for School Boards.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ministre de l'Éducation, the Premier Ministre du Québec, the President of the Conseil du trésor, the leaders of both opposition parties in Québec, all Members of the Assemblée Nationale on the territory of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA), the Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec (FCSQ), the l'Association des directeurs généraux des commissions scolaires du Québec, and all school boards on the territory of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Carried unanimously

14.0 USE OF SCHOOLS

14.1 Elementary & High School Update:

The Director General advised the Council that a meeting had been held with the Chairman, Chairpersons, Glen Haines and himself on 2003-02-22 to discuss the lack of space in the Joliette schools.

He went on to advise that the registration period has appeared to have gone well and that a further report would be made when the results of the process have been tabulated.

15.0 QESBA

15.1 QESBA Voting Delegates – 2003 Annual General Meeting:

The Chairman called for nominations for voting delegates to the 2003 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) annual general meeting.

Nick Milas nominated Carolyn Curiale. Mrs. Curiale accepted the nomination.

Pierre Garofano nominated Steve Bletas. Mr. Bletas accepted the nomination.

William Pollock nominated Pierre Garofano. Mr. Garofano declined the nomination.

The Chairman closed nominations.

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030226-CA-0105

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) has assigned twelve votes to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for its Annual General Meeting being held on 2003-05-10;

Morten Schrier MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board name the following as voting delegates for the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Annual General Meeting to be held on 2003-05-10; AND THAT the twelve votes be divided among them:

Steve Bletas (6 votes)
Carolyn Curiale (6 votes)

AND THAT Pierre Garofano be named as an alternate voting delegate for each of the named Commissioners at the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Annual General Meeting to be held on 2003-05-10.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Walter Fogel

15.2 Nomination to QESBA Board of Directors for 2003-2004:

The Chairman called for nomination to the QESBA Board of Director for 2003-2004.

Linda Gagnon nominated Carolyn Curiale and Steve Bletas. Both Mrs. Curiale and Mr. Bletas accepted the nomination.

Nominations were closed.

030226-CA-0106

WHEREAS the Chair of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Nominations Committee has requested member boards to advise the Association of their delegates to the Board of Directors of the QESBA;

Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board name **Steve Bletas** and **Carolyn Curiale** to the Board of Directors of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) for 2003-2004.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Mary Austin, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Nazario Facchino, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Walter Fogel

16.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

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17.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman drew attention to a letter received from the Governing Board of Souvenir Elementary School concerning its budget allocation.

18.0 VARIA

William Pollock advised the Council that a former student of Ste-Agathe Academy, Jasey-Jay Anderson, has won the World Snowboarding Championship. He noted that Mr. Anderson has previously held this title.

The Chairman asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to Mr. Anderson on behalf of the board.

19.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Nazario Facchino MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 22:06 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇒ REGULAR ⇒ 2003-03-26

Robert Vallerand, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chairman