

PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
Ville de Rosemère

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, Rosemère, Québec, on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, and via videoconference at 19:30 hours, at which were:

Present: Paolo Galati, Chairperson; Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon, Vice-Chairperson; Commissioner Melissa Wall, Alternate Vice-Chairperson; Commissioners Donna Anber, Vincent Cammisano, James Di Sano, Bob Pellerin, and Parent Commissioners Tara Anderson and Stéphane Henley; and Gaëlle Absolonne, Director General.

Also present: Anna Sollazzo, Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Resources; Chao Ling Pan, Director of Financial Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administration Officer.

Also present via videoconference: Commissioner Olivia Landry; Frédéric Greschner, Assistant Director General; Florence Delorme, Director of School Affairs and School Organization; Michel Dufour, Director of Material Resources and Transportation; Geoffrey Hipps, Director of Pedagogical Services; Stephanie Krenn, Director of Human Resources; and Maxeen Jolin, Coordinator of Communications.

Absent: Commissioner Karla Abraham Di Francesco.

Guests: Jade Lalonde Touchette, Student at CDC Lachute; Charlene O’Hanley, Teacher at CDC Lachute; and Sergio Gentile, Returning Officer.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order welcoming everyone who is viewing the meeting online and verified quorum with the Secretary General.

TIME: 19:30 hours

0.0 Opening of Meeting

0.1 Acknowledgement of the Land

“We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Kanien’keha:ka or Mohawk nation. The Mohawk Nation is also known as the “Eastern Door Keepers” and is a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, which also includes the Seneca, Cayuga, Tuscarora, Onondaga and Oneida Peoples.

All those who gather here are counted as esteemed stakeholders in our community and most importantly friends.”

1.0 Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

CC-220330-CA-0065

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented in document no. CC-SWLSB-2022/03/30-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 Recognition – Imagine a Canada – Reconciliation Project

The Chairperson advised those present that this evening the Council would be honouring one of its students, Jade Touchette, for her *Imagine a Canada* project. *Imagine a Canada* is a program sponsored by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation of the University of Manitoba. This program encourages students from kindergarten to CEGEP across the country to imagine a Canada reconciled. The students were asked to submit their vision of a reconciled Canada through art, writing or other mediums. There were twelve projects retained from all that were submitted.

Also recognized is Ms. Touchette's teacher, Charlene O'Hanley, for supporting her submission.

Ms. Touchette's art piece is entitled *Mother Nature* and will depict one of the tragic outcomes of the residential schools and, when completed, will be on display at the entrance of her centre.

Ms. O'Hanley explained that Ms. Touchette is a member of the Ojibway tribe and that there are residential school survivors in her family. Ms. Touchette also believes in healing.

Ms. Touchette thanked the Council for this honour and said that she is very excited to complete her art piece. She hopes that this art piece will give back to all the children who lost their lives because of the residential schools.

The Chairperson noted that the Council would love to see her art piece when completed and to be able to share it on social media.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.1 February 23, 2022

Approval of Minutes
February 23, 2022

CC-220330-CA-0066

Commissioner Vincent Cammisano MOVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on February 23, 2022, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written and exempt from public reading by the Secretary General.

Carried unanimously

3.2 March 23, 2022

Approval of Minutes
March 23, 2022

CC-220330-CA-0067

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson MOVED THAT the minutes of the special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on March 23, 2022, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written and exempt from public reading by the Secretary General.

Carried unanimously

4.0 Question Period

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department explained the parameters of the two question periods and drew attention to where people online can type in their questions for the second question period.

She further confirmed that there were no questions received for the first question period and that the second question period is for questions related to agenda items only.

5.0 Report from the Chairperson

The Chairperson requested a minute of silence for a student who left this world far too soon.

After the moment of silence, the Chairperson began by welcoming everyone to the first in-person meeting in quite some time. He noted that he hoped that everyone took advantage of the spring break to relax and recharge for the final stretch of the 2021-2022 school year. The final stretch will not be without its challenges, as it was announced earlier today the province has just entered into its sixth COVID-19 wave, but the school board is up to the challenge and will keep its students and staff safe. He thanked all stakeholders for their support of the entire school community and gave a shout-out to the students, teachers, maintenance personnel, support personnel and management staff for keeping things running smoothly.

He went on to note the following in his report:

- March 9 and 10, 2022 – Commissioners Donna Anber, Vincent Cammisano, James Di Sano, Olivia Landry, Emilio Migliozi, Melissa Wall and Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon, the Director General and himself joined school board parents at an anti-bullying conference given by Alain Pelletier. Mr. Pelletier provided an experience of what it is like to be a victim of bullying every day. He expressed the Council's appreciation to the organizers of this conference, Nathalie Rollin, Principal of Laval Senior Academy, her team and Dominic Di Stefano, Spiritual Animator. He encouraged anyone who has not seen Mr. Pelletier to do so. The schools all have an Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence Plan that is adopted annually.
- School Climate Team – A school climate is the learning environment and relationships found within a school and its school community. The school climate provides a sense of belonging, feeling safe physically, emotionally and socially through positive communications. Congratulations to Pedagogical Services on the development of the School Climate Team, as it provides a positive school climate through best practices.
- The Laurier Gala and Star Fest will return on May 26, 2022. Students interested in auditioning for the Star Fest can send their videos to the school board. To date, forty videos have been received and more are expected by the deadline. Once all submissions are received, a jury will review them and select between twelve and sixteen acts.

Community Comments

- Commissioner Donna Anber gave a special shout-out to Melanie Bujold, CLC Coordinator at Laurentian Regional High School, who was recently recognized by the Lachute Chamber of Commerce for her involvement in projects that benefit the area's youth.

The Chairperson noted that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board schools are community hubs and the CLCs help to bring the community together.

6.0 Report from the Director General

The Director General presented her monthly report noting the following in relation to the Commitment-to-Success Plan (CTPS):

Orientation 3: Develop a learning and working environment that promotes health, safety and well-being

- CDC Pont-Viau has developed a Zen space for use between classes. During the month of March, this space has offered yoga and salsa dancing.

- Laval Senior Academy held an anti-bullying conference for parents and the presenter was Alain Pelletier who gave one of the strongest messages she has witnessed to date on being vigilant on how you treat the people around you and how to create a safe environment.

Orientation 2: Offer students a variety of choices through 21st century programs and curriculums – The school board will be offering Kindergarten 4 and 5 in all its schools in 2022-2023. An information booklet will be sent to all families who have enrolled their child in either Kindergarten 4 or 5 and made available on the corporate website. This information booklet will help guide parents on this new adventure for their child and assure them that there are dedicated and trained employees waiting to welcome their child to school.

Proud Moments

- Mykael Crispin, a student at Ste-Agathe Academy, noticed, when at his part-time job, that there were many seniors in the area that needed to have their snow shovelled. He advised the teacher of his Entrepreneurship class of this and students in this class have been shovelling walkways, etc., for the seniors this winter. The CBC learned of this initiative and interviewed Mr. Crispin and his teacher, Tom Simon, on its show *Breakaway*. Congratulations to everyone who took part in this initiative.
- Communications, Human Resources and Pedagogical Services joined forces to answer a need expressed by students and employees concerning the war in Ukraine. There are resources available to the schools so that the war can be discussed in the classroom and students can express themselves on this crisis. Some students at Rosemere High School have expressed how they feel through art. The goal is to raise \$25,000 and, as of today, more than half the amount has been raised.

Upcoming Events

- April is Autism Awareness Month and April 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day. This day provides the opportunity to remind everyone to respect diversity and to be inclusive.
- On May 26, 2022, the Laurier Gala and Star Fest returns and those students who have been nominated for the gala received their invitations on March 29, 2022.
- The Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation's Lobster Fest will take place on June 9, 2022.

The Chairperson advised the Zoom audience that registration for Kindergarten 4 and 5 is not closed and anyone interested can register at any time. Any parent who wishes to visit a school can call the principal for an appointment.

The initiative for Ukraine is to be applauded.

7.0 Business Arising

There were no items.

8.0 Decision Items

8.1 Legal, Corporate and Communications

8.1.1 Nomination of a Returning Officer

The Chairperson turned the chair over to the Vice-Chairperson and recused himself from the meeting for the discussion and decision concerning the Returning Officer, due to a conflict of interest.

Commissioners Vincent Cammisano and James Di Sano also recused themselves for the same reason.

TIME: 20:04 hours

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department advised that, due to the resignation of the Commissioner of Electoral Division 6, a by-election would need to be held as there are more than twelve months remaining in the current Council mandate.

Nomination of a Returning Officer

WHEREAS the Commissioner for Electoral Division 6 has submitted his resignation, effective March 11, 2022;

CC-220330-CA-0068

WHEREAS section 200 of *the Act respecting school elections* (the Act) states that if more than 12 months remain before the polling day of the next general election and there is a vacancy on the council of commissioners, the returning officer of the school board shall hold an election to fill the office;

WHEREAS section 22 of the Act appoints the Director General of the school board as the returning officer *ex officio*;

WHEREAS the Director General has the right to refuse to act as such with the authorization of the Council of Commissioners;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners can appoint another person to replace the Director General as returning officer;

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board appoint Sergio Gentile as its returning officer for the by-election to be held in June 2022, effective immediately.

Carried unanimously

The Chairperson and Commissioners Cammisano and Di Sano returned to the meeting. The Chairperson resumed the chair.

TIME: 20:06 hours

8.1.2 Nomination of the RARC

Nomination of the RARC

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution no. CC-200429-FR-0091, naming the Assistant Director of Corporate Affairs and General Secretariat as its Contract Rules Compliance Monitor (RARC);

CC-220330-CA-0069

WHEREAS the Assistant Director of Legal, Corporate and Communications will be on a leave of absence and the school board has been advised that a physical person needs to be named to the position of RARC in the interim;

Commissioner James Di Sano MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee - Administration, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board name Éloïse Robichaud, Interim Assistant Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department, as its Contract Rules Compliance Monitor (RARC), effective immediately;

AND THAT the mandate of this position be in accordance with the law;

FURTHER THAT this resolution replace resolution no. CC-200429-FR-0091.

Carried unanimously

8.2 Material Resources and Transportation

8.2.1 Engagement of Contractor – Arundel ES – Roof Replacement Project

The Chairperson explained to those present that prior to the resolutions being presented to Council for a decision, they are presented at Advisory Committee meetings and discussed thoroughly.

The Director of Material Resources and Transportation provided background information on the process the tender bids are subject to after being opened to ensure that they are conformable.

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS the roof at Arundel Elementary School needs to be replaced;

Arundel ES WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-151-01 was published for the replacement of the roof at Arundel Elementary School and the bids were opened on March 16, 2022;

Roof Replacement Project WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

CC-220330-MR-0070

Commissioner Donna Anber MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the replacement of the roof at Arundel Elementary School to Les Couvreur Duro-Toit Inc., for a total cost of \$178,220.00, before taxes, or \$190,493.57, net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.2 Engagement of Contractor – Mountainview ES – Roof Replacement Project

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS the roof at Mountainview Elementary School needs to be replaced;

Mountainview ES WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-163-01 was published for the replacement of the roof at Mountainview Elementary School and the bids were opened on February 21, 2022;

Roof Replacement Project WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

CC-220330-MR-0071

Commissioner Melissa Wall MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the replacement of the roof at Mountainview Elementary School to Poulin & Bureau Inc., for a total cost of \$371,970.00 before taxes, or \$397,586.64 net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.3 Engagement of Contractor – RHS – Roof Replacement Project

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS the roof at Rosemere High School needs to be replaced;

RHS WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-187-01 was published for the replacement of the roof at Rosemere High School and the bids were opened on March 2, 2022;

Roof Replacement Project WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

CC-220330-MR-0072

Commissioners Olivia Landry MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the replacement of the roof at Rosemere High School to Couverture Montréal-Nord Ltée, for a total cost of \$1,544,975.00 before taxes, or \$1,652,373.57 net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.4 Engagement of Contractor – Pierre Elliott Trudeau ES – Installation of Portables

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS due to the limited capacity for students at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School temporary classrooms are required;

Pierre Elliott Trudeau ES WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-177-01 was published for the rental and installation of four modular classrooms at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School and the bids were opened on March 8, 2022;

Installation of Portables

CC-220330-MR-0073

WHEREAS only one contractor submitted a compliant tender;

Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the rental and installation of four modular classrooms at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School to AMB Modulaire (AMB Tresec Inc.), for a total cost of \$2,683,000.00, before taxes, or \$2,867,771.50, net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.5 Engagement of Contractor – Phoenix – Washroom Renovation Project

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS the washrooms at Phoenix Alternative High School require renovations;

Phoenix WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-186-01 was published for the renovation of the washrooms at Phoenix Alternative High School and the bids were opened on March 16, 2022;

Washroom Renovation Project WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

CC-220330-MR-0074

Commissioner Vincent Cammisano MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the renovation of the washrooms at Phoenix Alternative High School to Constructions Larco Inc., for a total cost of \$673,000.00, before taxes, or \$719,347.83, net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.6 Engagement of Contractor – RHS – Washroom Renovation Project – Phase I

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS the washrooms at Rosemere High School require renovations;

RHS WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-187-01 was published for the renovation of the washrooms at Rosemere High School and the bids were opened on March 2, 2022;

Washroom Renovation Project – Phase I WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

CC-220330-MR-0075 Commissioner Olivia Landry MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the renovation of the washrooms at Rosemere High School to Constructions Larco Inc., for a total cost of \$1,295,000.00 before taxes, or \$1,384,183.41, net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.7 Engagement of Contractor – Pinewood ES (Annex A) – Renovation of Drop-Off Zone

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS the parental drop-off zone and the parking lot at Pinewood Elementary School (Annex A) require renovations;

Pinewood ES (Annex A) WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-155-01 was published for the renovation of the parental drop-off zone and parking lot at Pinewood Elementary School (Annex A) and the bids were opened on March 8, 2022;

Renovation of Drop-Off Zone

CC-220330-MR-0076 WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

Commissioner Bob Pellerin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the renovation of the parental drop-off zone and parking lot at Pinewood Elementary School (Annex A) to 9267-7368 Québec Inc. for a total cost of \$643,346.00, before taxes, or \$687,651.63, net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.8 Engagement of Contractor – St-Jude ES – Interior Building Renovation

Engagement of Contractor St-Jude ES WHEREAS various essential elements of the building interior of St-Jude Elementary School require renovations (the hallway floors on the main level, the floors in four classrooms and replacement of lockers, for example);

Interior Building Renovation WHEREAS public call for tenders no. 21-168-02 was published for interior building renovations at St-Jude Elementary School and the bids were opened on February 21, 2022;

CC-220330-MR-0077

WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for interior building renovations at St-Jude Elementary School to Construction S. Fiset Inc., for a total cost of \$701,600.00 before taxes, or \$749,917.44, net taxes;

AND THAT the engagement above be conditional to the receipt of all contractual documents;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project.

Carried unanimously

8.2.9 Request to the MEQ – PQI (2022-2032)

In response to a question from the Chairperson, the Director of Material Resources and Transportation advised that the school board has a favourable chance of receiving one authorization for a new school as requested in the 2022-2032 PQI.

The Chairperson thanked the Material Resources and Transportation team for all of its hard work.

Request to MEQ

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution CC-211027-MR-0023 approving the projects it has requested to be included in the Plan québécois des infrastructures (PQI) 2022-2032;

PQI (2022-2032)

CC-220330-MR-0078

WHEREAS the requested projects included the construction of three new schools in the Laurentian region to alleviate overcrowding at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School, McCaig Elementary School, Laurentia Elementary School, Mountainview Elementary School and St-Jude Elementary School, and the construction of one new school in the Laval region to address the specialized needs of the students at Crestview Elementary School;

WHEREAS the governing boards of the above-mentioned schools have adopted their respective resolutions concerning these projects with regards to the PQI 2022-2032;

Commissioner Donna Anber MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board ask that the school board's request to the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec concerning its projects for the Plan québécois des infrastructures (PQI) 2022-2032 be updated by including the resolutions received from the governing boards of Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School, McCaig Elementary School, Laurentia Elementary School, Mountainview Elementary School, St-Jude Elementary School and Crestview Elementary School, as contained in document no. CC-SWLSB-2022/03/30-MR-001;

AND THAT this revised request be transmitted to the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec.

Carried unanimously

8.3 Information Resources

8.3.1 Participation in CAG Tender – Acquisition of Photocopiers

The Director of Information Resources noted that a resolution is required to participate in the CAG tender in order to benefit from being able to purchase from any supplier whose price does not exceed the lowest bidder by 10 percent. The school board is looking to replace 30 to 40 photocopiers as they are more than 10 years old.

Participation in a CAG Tender

WHEREAS the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales (CAG) will be conducting public call for tenders no. 2022-8065-50 to select suppliers for the acquisition of photocopiers by the participating public organizations;

Acquisition of Photocopiers

WHEREAS the specifications of the CAG call for tenders will permit participating organizations to purchase photocopiers from any supplier whose price does not exceed the lowest bidder by more than 10%;

CC-220330-IT-0079

WHEREAS the *Regulation respecting certain supply contracts of public bodies* requires authorization from the Council of Commissioners before the public body can participate in this type of call for tenders;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to participate in this call for tenders in order to benefit from the thirty-six (36) month contracts to be awarded by the CAG;

WHEREAS the estimated cost of photocopier needs is \$200,000.00, before taxes, for the term of the contract;

Commissioner Bob Pellerin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director of Information Resources, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board in public call for tenders no. 2022-8065-50 conducted by the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales;

AND THAT the Director of Information Resources be authorized to sign documentation concerning the participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board in this public call for tenders;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Information Resources be authorized to sign all purchase orders up to an amount not exceeding \$200,000.00 before taxes.

Carried unanimously

9.0 Information Items

9.1 SWL Foundation Report

There was no report

9.2 Parent Commissioners' Reports

9.2.1 Parents' Committee Report

The report can be found in the meeting package.

9.2.2 SEAC Report

The report can be found in the meeting package.

9.3 Report of QESBA

There was no report.

9.4 Central Students' Committee Report

There was no report.

10.0 Question Period

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department noted that there were no questions but that someone commented it was nice to hear the good news in the Chairperson's report.

11.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

12.0 Varia

12.1.1 Dawson College Enlargement Project

The Chairperson noted that it is irresponsible of the Québec Government to postpone a project that has been worked on for many years. It must remember that the province is experiencing a significant shortage of workers in the health care sector and this new building at Dawson College would have provided the ideal environment for the education of new health care workers. It is hoped that the upcoming resolution will encourage the Government to reconsider its decision.

Commissioner Bob Pellerin drew attention to the fact that society is always encouraging its youth and its adults to broaden their horizons no matter the language. Dawson College is there to educate future citizens and the Government should not stand in the way of anyone who wants to learn.

Dawson College
Enlargement Project

CC-220330-CA-0080

WHEREAS Dawson College is an English institution of higher learning that is part of the public college network of Québec;

WHEREAS, by virtue of its mission, Dawson College offers English education and training to Quebecers who have been admitted;

WHEREAS it has been established that Dawson College suffers from a space deficit and has worked with the Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur over several years on an enlargement project;

WHEREAS this enlargement project was identified as a priority project in the *Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects*, adopted by the Québec National Assembly in December 2020;

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2022, the Premier of Québec made public the Government's decision to postpone this enlargement project;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board received a copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Dawson College on February 9, 2022, concerning the Québec Government's decision to postpone this enlargement project, as contained in document no. CC-SWLSB-2022/03/30-CA-002;

WHEREAS Dawson College has stated that postponing the enlargement project will have a negative impact on the maintenance and development of English services offered to students who are currently attending and will be attending the college in the near future;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to support Dawson College in its request to the Québec Government to maintain this enlargement project as planned in the next Plan québécois des infrastructures;

WHEREAS it is crucial that all CEGEPs in Québec and their students be treated equally, whether the services offered to these students are in French or in English;

Commissioner Melissa Wall MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board inform the Premier of Québec, François Legault, that it fully supports the approved enlargement project for Dawson College;

AND THAT the Council hereby request the Premier of Québec to reconsider his decision to postpone the Dawson College enlargement project.

Carried unanimously

12.1.2 Ukrainian Refugees

The Chairperson reiterated that the case of the Ukrainian refugees is a humanitarian one, not a political one. The school board hopes that this upcoming resolution will convince the Québec Government to seriously consider allowing the refugee children to attend school in the English sector due to the fact that the French sector is already experiencing serious overcrowding.

Ukrainian Refugees

CC-220330-CA-0081

WHEREAS the current war in Ukraine has made it necessary for many citizens to flee the country and seek asylum elsewhere;

WHEREAS the Government of Québec has announced that the province will welcome Ukrainian refugees with open arms;

WHEREAS a number of school service centres have already announced that they are willing to receive refugees from Ukraine;

WHEREAS some Ukrainian refugees may have knowledge of English as a second language;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is equipped to take in additional students and teach in both French and English;

WHEREAS the *Charter of the French Language* contains a humanitarian clause that allows for admission to the English school system under exceptional circumstances;

WHEREAS the Ukrainian refugee crisis is a humanitarian issue;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is willing and able to assist in the education of Ukrainian refugees;

Commissioner James Di Sano MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners hereby confirm that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is willing to accept Ukrainian refugees into its schools and centres, effective immediately, on humanitarian grounds;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Québec, François Legault, and the Minister of Education, Jean-François Roberge.

Carried unanimously

13.0 Adjournment

The Chairperson thanked everyone who attended this evening's meeting via Zoom noting that this is a great way for stakeholders to observe how the Council operates.

He noted that it was announced today the Québec has entered its sixth COVID-19 wave and reminded everyone to be safe and to follow the protocols in place.

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson MOVED the adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 20:39 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇒ REGULAR ⇒ April 27, 2022

Anna Sollazzo, Secretary General

Paolo Galati, Chairperson