

PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
Ville de Rosemère

A special 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, July 8, 2026, and via videoconference at 18:30, at which were:

Present: James Di Sano, Chairperson; Commissioner Noémia Onofre de Lima; Parent Commissioners Chloée Alary and Elena Ferrato; and Selena Mell, Interim Director General;

Present via Zoom: Donna Anber, Vice-Chairperson; Barbara Barrasso, Alternate Vice-Chairperson; Commissioners Heather Appleby, Benny Catania, Lorenzo Lagatta, Bob Pellerin, and Désirée Ramacieri; Parent Commissioner Tanya Minchella;

Also present: Anne-Marie Lavoie, Interim Assistant Director General and Director of Human Resources; Anna Sollazzo, Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Resources; Florence Delorme, Director of School Affairs and School Organization; Heather Halman, Director of Adult Education and Vocational Training; Daniel Harvey, Director of Financial Resources; Maxeen Jolin, Assistant Director of Communications of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant;

Also present via Zoom: Lynda da Silveira, Director of Pedagogical Services; and Michel Dufour, Director of Material Resources and Transportation;

Absent: Commissioner Melissa Wall.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and asked the Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department if all procedures to call this special meeting were followed. The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department confirmed quorum and advised that all legal requirements for this meeting were followed.

TIME: 18:33

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department conducted a roll call and confirmed that quorum was achieved.

1.0 Opening of Meeting

1.1 Acknowledgement of the Land

The Chairperson welcomed everyone present and online to the meeting and asked the Vice-Chairperson to read the acknowledgement of the land.

I would like to honour the existence of the First Peoples by acknowledging that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is on the traditional land 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.

In the spirit of truth, reconciliation, and collaboration, we honour our relationship with the Indigenous Community and respect the history, culture, and language of Canada's original peoples.

2.0 Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda
CC-260708-CA-0001

Parent Commissioner Elena Ferrato MOVED THAT the July 8, 2026, agenda of the special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be approved as presented in document no. CC-SWLSB-2026/07/08-CA-001.

Seconded by Commissioner Benny Catania.

Carried unanimously

3.0 Appointment of a Director General

The Chairperson made the following statement

Before proceeding with the resolution, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the significance of what is before us.

The appointment of a Director General is among the most important responsibilities entrusted to a Council of Commissioners. The individual we appoint this evening will help shape the direction of our organization, support our employees, and ultimately influence the educational experience of the thousands of students and families we serve.

This appointment has not been made lightly. From the very beginning, Council was committed to ensuring that this process was thorough, transparent, and guided by best practices.

To support us in this important responsibility, we retained an independent executive firm to guide the recruitment process and provide professional expertise throughout every stage.

As per our policy, Council consulted with unions and associations on the selection criteria for the position. We also took the time to meet with unions and associations to better understand what they believed was important in the next Director General. We listened carefully to their perspectives and sought their input on the qualities, leadership style, and attributes they believed were essential in our next Director General. Their voices helped inform our work and reinforced our shared commitment to finding the right Director General for our organization.

A comprehensive recruitment process followed. The executive firm completed the initial screening and first round of interviews before making recommendations to the Selection Committee.

Qualified candidates were interviewed, references were considered, and Council undertook its responsibilities with diligence, professionalism, and integrity.

Throughout the process, we also remained committed to transparency by providing regular updates to our stakeholders during our public Council meetings.

Before we look ahead, however, it is important that we acknowledge those who stepped up during this transition.

On behalf of the Council of Commissioners, I wish to thank Ms. Selena Mell and Ms. Anne-Marie Lavoie for their dedicated service as Interim Director General and Interim Assistant Director General, respectively.

Periods of transition are never easy, yet they have led with professionalism, steadiness, and an unwavering commitment to our students, employees, and school communities. Their leadership has provided continuity and stability when it was needed most. We thank them both for their outstanding service to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

As Chairperson, it is customary for me to remain neutral, to preside over our deliberations, and to allow others to place motions before Council. This evening, however, I have chosen to depart from that convention.

I am moving this resolution personally because I believe deeply in the recommendation before us. After a comprehensive and rigorous selection process, I am placing my full trust and confidence in the individual being recommended for appointment.

More so, this Council is placing its confidence in our next Director General. Throughout this process, Commissioners have approached their responsibilities with diligence, integrity, and a shared commitment to selecting the candidate best equipped to work alongside and in partnership with the Council of Commissioners as we lead the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board into its next chapter.

Our next Director General will inherit an organization with a proud history, dedicated employees, remarkable students, and ambitious goals. They will also have the support and confidence of this Council as we continue working together in the best interests of public education.

On a lighter note, I suspect I've kept everyone in suspense long enough. I'll stop talking now, because I know you're all much more interested in finding out who it is.

The Chairperson ceded the chair to the Vice-Chairperson.

Appointment of a Director
General

CC-260708-CA-0002

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution no. CC-260225-CA-0056 commencing the recruitment and hiring process for a Director General, in accordance with section 4.1.1 of policy no. 2012-CA-21 – *Policy for the Recruitment and Hiring of a Director General and an Assistant Director General* (the "Policy");

WHEREAS the Council adopted resolution no. CC-260225-CA-0058 naming a Selection Committee for the hiring of a Director General in accordance with section 4.2.1 of the Policy;

WHEREAS the Selection Committee, as per section 4.2.5.5 of the Policy, must provide a recommendation to the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

WHEREAS, notwithstanding section 4.12 of by-Law no. BL2023-CA-01: *Delegation of Functions & Powers of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board*, the Council exceptionally recalls the powers delegated to the Executive Committee during the summer period for the exclusive purpose of the appointment of a Director General;

James Di Sano, Chairperson of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners hereby exceptionally recalls the powers delegated to the Executive Committee during the summer period for the sole purpose of appointing a Director General;

AND THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, Florence Delorme be appointed as Director General of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, effective July 9, 2026;

FURTHER THAT the Chairperson of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be authorized to sign all documentation relating to the Contract of Employment of the Director General.

Seconded by Commissioner Barbara Barrasso.

Carried unanimously

The Chairperson resumed the chair.

Florence Delorme, newly appointed Director General of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, made the following statement

I would like to begin by sincerely thanking the Council of Commissioners for the trust and confidence they have placed in me through this appointment as Director General of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

I am truly honoured and humbled by this opportunity. I recognize the responsibility that comes with this role, and I accept it with great enthusiasm, commitment, and a strong belief in the important work we do every day to support our students and our communities.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of working with dedicated individuals who share a passion for education and a commitment to helping students succeed. I look forward to continuing this work alongside the Council of Commissioners, our staff, our families, our partners, and all members of our school communities.

Je suis très heureuse de pouvoir entreprendre cette nouvelle étape avec vous. La richesse de notre commission scolaire repose sur notre réalité bilingue, sur la diversité de nos communautés et sur l'engagement de toutes les personnes qui contribuent chaque jour à la réussite de nos élèves. Je m'engage à continuer de valoriser cette richesse et à travailler avec vous afin d'offrir à nos élèves les meilleures possibilités de réussite, d'apprentissage et d'épanouissement.

Together, we will continue to focus on what matters most: the success, well-being, and learning of our students, while recognizing and supporting the important role of our staff. I am committed to building on the strengths of this organization, embracing opportunities for growth and improvement, and ensuring that our students remain at the centre of every decision we make.

I truly believe that when we work together, with trust, collaboration, and a shared vision, we can accomplish great things. I am excited about the journey ahead and about what we will achieve together for our students, our staff and our communities.

Thank you again for your confidence and for this incredible opportunity.

The Chairperson congratulated Ms. Delorme.

4.0 Question Period

There were no questions

5.0 Adjournment of the meeting

Adjournment of Meeting

Commissioner Donna Anber MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CC-260708-CA-0003

Seconded by Commissioner Noémia Onofre de Lima

Carried unanimously

TIME: 18:45

NEXT MEETING → REGULAR → September 30, 2026