

Minutes



Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

Date: November 14, 2023
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Stan Petersen, Chair
Rupi Kanda-Rajwan
Korky Neufeld
Preet Rai
Mike Rauch
Jared White

REGRETS: Shirley Wilson

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Sean Nosek, Superintendent
Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
Monica Schulte, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Tracy Orobko, Executive Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Petersen called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

We acknowledge the Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Stó:lō people, the Semá:th First Nation and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.

3.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The committee addressed one community letter relating to the Old South Poplar Schoolhouse.

The committee adopted the agenda as presented.

The Secretary-Treasurer referred to a letter received from a community member with concerns regarding the whereabouts and safekeeping of old school registers for the South Poplar School. He further provided a brief historical account of the renovations accomplished under the purview of Heritage Abbotsford society. The society would like to further engage in a structured license agreement in excess of 5 years in order to apply for a grant for further funding.

The Secretary-Treasurer will work with the member of the community to address concerns in the letter.

4.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting held June 6, 2023

The Minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting held June 6, 2023, were approved and will be presented at the December 5, 2023, Public Board Meeting.

5.0 DELEGATIONS

6.0 FACILITIES UPDATE

6.1 Winter Preparedness Plan

The Secretary-Treasurer presented a report updating the committee on preparedness to date and the early morning processes staff undergo on inclement weather days.

7.0 FINANCE UPDATE

7.1 Operating Grant Update

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer provided a summary of changes moving from the preliminary to amended budgets and 1701 process staff undertake for calculations.

In March 2023, the Ministry of Education and Child Care announced the 2023/24 operating grants based on preliminary enrolment projections. Actual enrolment has been finalized and MECC will announce the final 2023/24 operating grant in December.

The committee discussed levels of supports for students and questions regarding staffing were clarified.

The next enrolment recount occurs in February.

7.2 Microsoft Grants Update

The Secretary-Treasurer reported on a successful claim against Microsoft resulting in \$2.6M in grants. The grants were distributed through a Class-Action claim to which the district make a substantive claim. The Director of I.T., Karman O'Brien, and District Principal, Digital Learning, Tracy Krys, diligently wrote proposals and submitted detailed applications crafted for each school. Abbotsford received the highest grant of any school district in BC. The grants will further support the enhancement and maintenance of our technology infrastructure.

Discussion ensued on adding this item to the next public agenda.

8.0 MINISTRY INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

9.0 BUDGET INFORMATION

10.0 FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

12.0 REPORTS

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:44 pm.