

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC****MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2012-11-28**

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, 2012-11-28.

Present: Commissioners Nick Milas, Chairman; Nazario Facchino, Vice-Chairman; Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik and Edward Turchyniak; Parent Commissioners Roberto Bomba and Angelo Grasso and Robert Vallerand, Director General.

Also present were: Clifford Buckland, Interim Assistant Director General; Marie-Claude Drouin, Secretary General; Gaëlle Absolonne, Director of School Organization; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Technology; Johanne Brabant, Strategic Plan Advisor; Linda Di Domenico, Director of Human Resources; Frédéric Greschner, Director of Complementary Services; Heather Halman, Director of Adult Education & Vocational Training; Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources; Tina Korb, Director of Educational Services; Livia Nassivera, Director of Financial Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Commissioner Robert Dixon.

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

**A. PRESENTATIONS**

The Director General provided background information on PREL (Partenaires pour la réussite éducatif dans les Laurentides) and welcomed Annie Grand-Mourcel, Director General of the PREL to the meeting. He also advised the Council that Johanne Brabant, Strategic Plan Advisor, is the current President of PREL.

Ms. Grand-Mourcel provided an overview of what the PREL provides to the Laurentides region noting that the basis of its mission is to keep students in school while they are working and to get the employers on board by being flexible with the students so that they can complete their studies. She also noted the "Hooked on School Days" project and that Ste-Agathe Academy will be the first school in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to participate in the project.

The Strategic Plan Advisor noted the annual "Marche synchronisée pour la persévérance scolaire" will take place on 2013-02-11 to raise awareness of the PREL.

The Director General thanked Ms. Grand-Mourcel and the Strategic Plan Advisor for their informative presentation

He went on to advise that the CDC Laurier St-Eustache recently held a graduation ceremony for its first cohort of the Carpentry Program and, like most first time events, there was an omission, whereby a diploma was not available. That being said he welcomed Winston Omar Murillo Arizola to the meeting and extended congratulations. Mr. Arizola is a good example of what PREL does in that he was able to continue working while attending school as well as welcoming a new family member.

Mr. Arizola was presented with his diploma and photos were taken.

**0.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico expressed concerns over item 4.2.1, Laval High Schools, as to whether or not it will be treated like any other item for discussion. The Chairman assured him that this item will be given the time necessary for discussion. He also noted that he would be calling a caucus to examine and discuss the document on the reorganization of the Laval high schools next week.

**CC-121128-CA-0056**

Commissioner Guy Gagnon MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented in document #SWLSB-2012/11/28-CA-001.

**Carried unanimously**

**1.0 APPOINTMENT:**

**1.1 Appointment of Commissioner – Electoral Division #19:**

Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT the Council go “in camera”.

**TIME: 19:48 hours**

The meeting resumed.

**TIME: 19:55 hours**

**CC-121128-CA-0057**

WHEREAS the Commissioner seat for electoral division #19 (Laval – Chomedey) became vacant on the passing of Commissioner Walter Fogel;

WHEREAS the vacancy must be filled within 30 days in accordance with the *Act to defer the November 2011 general school election* and section 199 of *An Act respecting school elections*;

WHEREAS this was not a delay of forfeiture so it was in the best interest of the school board to extend this delay to fill this position;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners approved resolution #CC-121024-CA-0046 to invite potential candidates to submit their interest by 2012-11-10;

WHEREAS two applications were received for the position of Commissioner for electoral division #19 (Laval – Chomedey);

WHEREAS the Parents Committee has been consulted and feedback was received and shared with the Council of Commissioners;

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT **Elio Lattanzio** be appointed as Commissioner for electoral division #19 (Laval – Chomedey).

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Albina Pace

Mr. Lattanzio took a seat at the table and the Secretary General conferred upon him his oath of office.

The Secretary General also conferred an oath of office upon Roberto Bomba and Angelo Grasso.

The Chairman advised the audience that Parent Commissioners are elected and sworn in annually.

## 2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### CC-121128-CA-0058

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT the minutes of the SPECIAL meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2012-10-15 having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	Georges Benoit, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Steve Kmec, Tom Mouhteros, Albina Pace

### CC-121128-CA-0059

Commissioner George Benoit MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2012-10-24 having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	Mario Di Domenic, Elio Lattanzio, Tom Mouhteros

### CC-121128-CA-0060

Commissioner George Benoit MOVED THAT the minutes of the SPECIAL meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2012-11-07 having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Edward Turchyniak
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Nancy Rupnik

## 3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to several questions from a parent from Terry Fox Elementary School, the Director General, with the assistance of the Chairman, the Directors of School Organization, Educational Services and Material Resources, noted the following:

- The consultation process was undertaken at the request of the Terry Fox Elementary School (TFES) Governing Board in order to address the overcrowding problem at the school.
- The collection of proof of address was also undertaken at the request of the TFES Governing Board in order to determine who may live outside the school zone. If the proof of address is not received the student's 2013-2014 registration could be deemed incomplete.
- The proof of address provide by a family was examined by School Organization and entered into a mapping software to ensure that the address is within the school zone.
- In accordance with Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) norms the school board must use the student places available within a 20 km area before it will authorize an enlargement or new school project, so that is why the proposal to transfer students to St-Paul Elementary School has been brought forth as it could be 2016-2017, according to the MELS projections, before a school could be enlarged or constructed.

The Chairman thanked the parent for his detailed questions. He asked that questions emanating from this discussion be sent to him and he will respond.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Peter MacLaurin noted that there are others that may wish to ask questions during this question period. The Chairman accepted this point and question period continued.

In response to questions from another parent, the Chairman advised that the school board must make the best use of its available space in order to conform to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) norms.

He also noted that as the consultation on the use of St-Paul and Terry Fox Elementary Schools continues all alternatives proposed will be taken into consideration. It is always the intention of the Council to ensure that the best education is offered to its students.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Peter MacLaurin noted that this is a question period, not a debate, and that all questions should be addressed to the Chairman.

The Director General thanked everyone for their questions and advised that, as the issue is currently in consultation, those points raised this evening that could not be answered at this time be vetted through the consultation process so that more consideration can be given to them. He invited those with unanswered questions or additional questions to put them in writing.

#### **4.0 REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**

##### **4.1 *Chairman's Report:***

The Chairman officially welcomed Elio Lattanzio to the table.

He drew attention to resolutions received from Laval Liberty and Laurier Senior High Schools concerning school start times and service provided by the Société de transport de Laval (STL). Given that, negotiations are currently underway with the STL so these resolutions will be given to the Director of School Organization.

On October 26 & 27, 2012, the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) held its Fall Professional Development Session & Annual General Meeting. Several candidates for the Liberal Leadership were present which provided English school boards a chance to express their global and respective concerns. Carolyn Curiale was also honoured for her service to education with the 2012 QESBA Award of Merit. The 2013 QESBA Spring Conference will be in St-Sauveur.

He reminded the Commissioners that tomorrow, 2012-11-29, is the official inauguration of the new Joliette Elementary School.

In response to a question from Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso, the Chairman indicated that the proposal for the Laval high schools will be approved in principle at the 2012-12-12 meeting of Council and then it will be sent out for consultation.

#### 4.2 *Director General's Report:*

The Director General advised the Council of a bus accident in the St-Jérôme area late this afternoon involving a Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board bus and it is suspected that the road conditions may have been a contributing factor as the bus was rear ended. Eight students were sent to hospital as a precaution. He does not have any more details at this time and he will follow-up in the morning to ensure that all those involved are okay.

He went on to advise that he has been called to a meeting tomorrow with the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) along with the Commission scolaire de la Seigneurie-des-Mille-Îles to discuss the Multi Service Centre. He will report back on the results of the meeting at the 2012-12-12 Council.

He also noted that at the last meeting of ADIGECS (Association des Directeur Généraux des Commissions Scolaires du Québec) representatives of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) were in attendance and presented five (5) priorities of the Minister:

- school success;
- support to teachers for earlier diagnosis of special needs;
- teaching of history from the 16<sup>th</sup> century until today, for implementation in 2013-2014;
- A new policy being developed that will target physical education at all levels; and
- Governance and school elections – to try to have less bureaucracy in the management of school boards and to increase accountability.

The Director General continued by advising the Council of what the new Québec Government's budget means for education noting the phasing out of equalization grants for school boards. The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board receives approximately 8 000 000\$ in equalization grants and 7 000 000\$ will be phased out. Given that, the Québec Government is looking at cutting 50% of these equalization grants for 2013-2014 which would be 3 500 000\$. These cuts will affect administrative salaries, maintenance and, perhaps, as much as the school board has tried over the years not to do this, services to students. One must keep in mind that besides this news the school board also has a recovery plan plus the other projected cutbacks from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) for 2013-2014. Any new information on the budget and how it will affect education will be reported.

He went on to note that several of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board students took part in WE Day, as part of a school board partnership with Free the Children, and a student from Laurentian Regional High School won a trip to India.

The Council entered into discussion on the new Québec budget.

In response to concern expressed by Commissioner Steve Bletas, the Director General agreed that the phasing out of the equalization grants is serious especially seeing that the plan is to phase them out entirely within three (3) years.

Discussion turned to the differences in tax rates and the Director General noted that, while some of the French school boards can increase their tax rate; this school board cannot as it is at the maximum amount allowed by law. The question was also asked about the possibility of raising the ceiling on the tax rate and the answer was negative.

Further discussion focused on:

- The involvement of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA);
- The Directors of Financial Resources will be having a conference call on 2012-12-04;

- An explanation on the school board tax rate and the fact that the reduction rates are calculated by the French school boards, as per the budgetary rules;
- The need for universal tax collection; and
- That, overall, more detailed information needs to be obtained.

In response to a question from Commissioner Peter MacLaurin, the Director of Financial Resources indicated the overall loss for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board with the phasing out of the equalization grants, potential claw back of the remaining portion of the equalization grant, the recovery plan, and budget reductions will be in the neighbourhood of 9 500 000\$.

The Chairman turned the chair over to the Vice-Chairman in order to participate in the discussion.

Discussion continued and it was agreed that:

- the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) needs to take a position on the inequality between school boards, regardless of language;
- all school boards receive a portion of the neutral tax for the area it covers; and
- all taxes should be collected by the municipalities in order to save on administration costs.

The Chairman resumed the chair.

Commissioner Steve Mitchell called for “orders of the day”. The Chairman accepted this and the meeting continued.

#### **4.2.1 Report on the Laval High Schools:**

The Director General provided background information on his mandate concerning the Laval high schools.

On a “point of order”, Commissioner Steve Mitchell noted that this document was received this evening and the Council cannot be expected to discuss it without having read it.

The Director General continued noting that the document provides historical information, building capacities short and long term, student projections, short and long term options for the use of the high schools in Laval, administrative organization, legal implications and future directions.

The Council entered into discussion on the document and raised questions about timeline.

The Director General noted that once the Council has read the document, the timelines will be clear for each scenario presented.

The Chairman noted that he would be calling a caucus meeting early next week so that the document can be discussed at length.

In response to a question from Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso, the Director General advised that the information gathered by a previous group looking into the Laval high schools was taken into consideration when drafting this document.

Discussion continued.

On a “point of privilege” Commissioner Peter MacLaurin indicated that, although he does not live in Laval, the process must begin somewhere and that this document seems to be a good starting point.

**5.0 BUSINESS ARISING:**

**5.1 Amendment to Communications Sub-Committee:**

The Secretary General advised that this item was tabled at a previous meeting and is being brought back this evening for a decision.

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros left the meeting.

**TIME: 21:36 hours**

She provided options for disposing of this item.

**CC-121128-CA-0061**

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT the following resolution be lifted from the table:

*WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution #CC-120611-CA-0166, establishing a Communications Sub-Committee;*

*WHEREAS the Communications Sub-Committee believes that the Director General should also be a member;*

*MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board amend resolution #CC-120611-CA-0166 by adding the Director General to the composition of the Communications Sub-Committee.*

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Steve Kmec

**CC-121128-CA-0062**

Commissioner George Benoit MOVED THAT the item lifted from the table in resolution #CC-121128-CA-0061, be postponed indefinitely.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Steve Kmec

Commissioner Steve Mitchell recommended that the resolution be amended by adding a notation stating that the mandate has been concluded. Commissioner Edward Turchyniak accepted the amendment.

**CC-121128-CA-0063**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution #CC-120611-CA-0166, establishing a Communications Sub-Committee;

WHEREAS the mandate of the Communications Sub-Committee to bring recommendations for the modification of by-law # BL2009-CA-17: Code of Ethics & Professional Conduct for Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is not yet completed;

WHEREAS the Communications Sub-Committee was to report to the Council of Commissioners at its 2012-09-24 meeting;

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board receive the report of the Communications Sub-Committee Facilitator.

AND THAT the mandate of this Communications Sub-Committee be deemed concluded.

**Carried unanimously**

**5.2 Engagement of Contractor – Roofing Project 2323, boul. Daniel-Johnson:**

The Director of Material Resources provided background information on this tender noting that it was tabled from the 2012-10-24 meeting as a legal opinion was required. The result is that the lowest bid is conformable and he has sent a letter of intent to the contractor to advise of such. The contractor has 48 hours to respond to the letter as to whether or not they will retain the job. The following resolutions will engage the lowest conformable bidder and provide alternatives should the bidder decline the job.

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 21:44 hours**

**CC-121128-MR-0065**

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT resolution #CC-121128-0064 be lifted from the table.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	Tom Mouhteros

**CC-121128-MR-0064**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-120627-MR-0188, as modified by resolution #CC-120924-MR-0026, approving the 2012-2013 Capital Priorities for its schools and centres which included the replacement of the block B roof at 2323 Daniel-Johnson;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has adopted Measure 50710 to assist school boards with the renovation of its buildings;

WHEREAS public tenders were called and subsequently opened on 2012-10-24;

WHEREAS the conformability of all bidders has been verified;

WHEREAS the Material Resources Committee recommends that the contract be awarded to the lowest conformable bidder;

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director of Material Resources, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the replacement of the block B roof at 2323 Daniel-Johnson to **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité**, for a total cost of 237 295\$, before taxes, (272 829,93\$, all taxes included).



AND THAT the Chairman, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Vice-Chairman, as well as the Director General, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Assistant Director General, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project

**Carried unanimously**

The Secretary General explained the legal aspects of this tender noting that the lowest conformable bidder may decide to decline the job.

**CC-121128-MR-0066**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-121128-MR-0064, awarding the contract for the replacement of the block B roof at 2323 Daniel-Johnson to **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité**, for a total cost of 237 295\$, before taxes, (272 829,93\$, all taxes included);

WHEREAS **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité** was advised by letter of intent on October 30, 2012 that it was the lowest conformable bidder and was required to provide additional documents;

WHEREAS following this letter of intent, **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité** refused or omitted to provide the additional documents requested by the school board in conformity with the call to tenders and the bid;

WHEREAS the surety was informed of such on November 15 and 26;

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso MOVED THAT, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Secretary General and the Director of Material Resources to take the necessary steps for the signature of the contract by **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité**, in accordance with the call to tenders and the bid.

AND THAT failure from **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité** to sign the contract or abide by its bid as opened on 2012-10-24, all necessary measure be taken to obtain payment of the performance guarantee.

**Carried unanimously**

The Council entered into discussion on the potential legal costs if this were to go to litigation and it was noted that if this does go that route the school board will advise the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS), as there are measures to assist with the financial costs for such situations. It was noted that the process should be allowed to unfold and that action be taken if and when necessary.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Peter MacLaurin called for the vote.

**CC-121128-MR-0067**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-121128-MR-0064, awarding the contract for the replacement of the block B roof at 2323 Daniel-Johnson to **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité**, for a total cost of 237 295\$, before taxes, (272 829,93\$, all taxes included);

WHEREAS as of 2012-11-28, **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité** refused or omitted to provide the additional documents requested by the school board in conformity with the call to tenders and the bid;

Commissioner Steve Bletas MOVED THAT, failure from **9112-3364 Québec Inc. / Toitures Lacharité** to sign the contract or abide by its bid as opened on 2012-10-24 prior to December 5, 2012, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the replacement of the block B roof at 2323 Daniel-Johnson to the second lowest conformable bidder, Les Entreprises Cloutier & Gagnon (1988) Ltée for a total cost of 358 258\$, before taxes, (411 907,13\$, all taxes included).

AND THAT the Chairman, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Vice-Chairman, as well as the Director General, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Assistant Director General, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project

**Carried unanimously**

**5.3 Transition Period – Recruitment & Hiring of a Director General:**

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak, a member of the Selection Committee for the hiring of a Director General, advised the Council that a transition period has not yet been determined and that the Selection Committee met on 2012-11-28 to review seven (7) applications. The applications reviewed contained no names. Formal interviews will begin on 2012-12-05.

**5.4 Balance of 2012-2013 QESBA Membership Fees:**

The Secretary General advised the Council that the resolution below is to approve the payment of the balance of the 2012-2013 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fees.

**CC-121128-CA-0068**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-120627-CA-0200 authorizing the payment of the preliminary Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee;

WHEREAS the QESBA has submitted an invoice for the balance of the 2012-2013 membership fees;

Commissioner Grace Nesi MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the payment of the balance of the 2012-2013 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee in the amount of 28 005.95\$.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	<b>Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak</b>
<b>Commissioners voting NAY:</b>	<b>Georges Benoit, Guy Gagnon, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola</b>

**5.5 Ethics Commissioner – Renewal of Mandate:**

The Secretary General provided background information noting that the mandate of the current Ethics Commissioner has been extended to 2012-11-30 but that when the extension was approved there was no process established to bring forward a recommendation for a replacement. The Governance & Ethics Committee is recommending that a Selection Committee be established and that the mandate of the current Ethics Commissioner be extended again until 2012-12-31. The position has been posted, applications received and, once a Selection Committee is established and interviews conducted, a recommendation will be brought to the 2012-12-12 meeting of the Council of Commissioners with the start date being 2013-01-01.

In response to a question from Commissioner Steve Bletas, the Secretary General reminded the Council that a legal opinion was sought on whether or not the Ethics Commissioner can exceed the 30 day timeline to render a decision and the opinion stated that the 30 days can be exceeded.

Commissioner Grace Nesi left the meeting.

**TIME: 22:02 hours**

In response to several questions, the Secretary General noted that:

- if any ethics complaints are brought forward between now and 2012-12-31 they would be treated and completed by the current Ethics Commissioner, even if it carries into the New Year;

- updates on legal costs are contained in her monthly report found in the Executive Committee package; and
- the legal opinion was on the delay for the rendering of a decision and nothing else.

Commissioner Grace Nesi returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 22:04 hours**

**Selection Committee**

**CC-121128-CA-0069**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution #CC-120611-CA-0165, extending the mandate of the current Ethics Commissioner to 2012-11-30 and approving the posting for both the Ethics Commissioner and Alternate Ethics Commissioner in August 2012;

WHEREAS the posting was done and applications received;

WHEREAS the Governance & Ethics Committee met on 2012-11-20 to review the process and the list of candidates;

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Governance & Ethics Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board name Commissioner Nick Milas, Commissioner Nancy Rupnik, the Secretary General and the Director of Human Resources to the Selection Committee for the positions of Ethics Commissioner and Alternate Ethics Commissioner.

AND THAT this Selection Committee be mandated to select the candidates to be interviewed, proceed with the interviews and recommend a candidate to the position of Ethics Commissioner and a candidate to the position of Alternate Ethics Commissioner.

FURTHER THAT these recommendations be brought to the 2012-12-12 meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	<b>Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak</b>
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	<b>Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi</b>

**Extension of Mandate:**

Commissioner Steve Mitchell moved away from the table for the vote.

**CC-121128-CA-0070**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution #CC-120611-CA-0165, extending the mandate of the current Ethics Commissioner to 2012-11-30 and approving the posting for both the Ethics Commissioner and Alternate Ethics Commissioner in August 2012;

WHEREAS the new contracts for the Ethics Commissioner and the Alternate Ethics Commissioner would have a starting date of 2013-01-01;

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Governance & Ethics Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve that the contract of the current Ethics Commissioner, **Julie Brunelle, Lawyer**, be extended to 2012-12-31.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	Tom Mouhteros

## 6.0 DECISION ITEMS:

### 6.1 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

#### 6.1.1 *Statement of Outstanding Taxes:*

The Director of Financial Resources noted that this annual statement was prepared after the deadline for the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment of the 2012-2013 school taxes.

#### CC-121128-FR-0071

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director General, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve, in accordance with sections 339 and 340 of the Education Act, the statement prepared by Financial Resources of school taxes outstanding as of 2012-11-06 in the amount of 4 916 320\$.

**Carried unanimously**

### 6.2 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

#### 6.2.1 *CRÉ de Laval:*

The Director General explained that the CRÉ de Laval has a Commission régionale en Loisir et en sport (CRLS) that acts in an advisory capacity and that as a member of CRÉ the school board has been invited to name a representative to this group. He advised that a teacher at Jules Verne Elementary School has expressed an interest in representing the school board.

#### CC-121128-CA-0072

WHEREAS CRÉ de Laval was designated by the Provincial Government to be responsible for the sports and leisure for the Laval region;

WHEREAS a Commission régionale en Loisir et en sport (CRLS) was established as an advisory committee for the CRÉ de Laval;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, as a member of the CRÉ de Laval, has a seat on the Commission régionale en Loisir et en sport (CRLS);

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board name Robert Richard, Physical Education Teacher at Jules Verne Elementary School, to represent the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board on the Commission régionale en Loisir et en sport (CRLS).

**Carried unanimously**

## 6.3 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS

### 6.3.1 *Persévérance scolaire:*

The Director General informed the Council that the school board has been approached by the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Laval to participate in its "Engagé dans la persévérance scolaire" program in order to become a certified employer. This would be a good venue for the school board as it goes with the Strategic Plan in supporting at risk students and supports the Chambre in promoting a balance between work and school.

#### CC-121128-CA-0073

WHEREAS the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Laval believes that it must play an important role within the Laval business community to raise awareness amongst employers on the school dropout problem;

WHEREAS the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Laval is promoting the "Engagé dans la persévérance scolaire" program to its employer members who recognize that students need to work but that their future depends on their success in school and that this program certifies that employers comply with the certification criteria;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid-Laurier School Board is equally concerned with the problem of students that leave school without a diploma or qualification;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid-Laurier School Board supports student success through its Strategic Plan, Partnership Agreement and Management & Educational Success Agreements (MESA);

Commissioner Albina Pace MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize the participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board in the "Engagé dans la persévérance scolaire" program of the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Laval in order to become a certified employer.

**Carried unanimously**

### 6.3.2 *Commemorative Plaque for Joliette E.S.*

The Director General reminded the Council that the inauguration of the new Joliette Elementary School is tomorrow afternoon. A plaque is to be installed at the new Joliette Elementary School to commemorate its construction.

#### CC-121128-CA-0074

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board undertook the construction of a new Joliette Elementary School;

WHEREAS, historically, a commemorative plaque is installed in all new buildings of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve that the commemorative plaque to be installed at Joliette Elementary School be established in accordance with the drawing contained in document #SWLSB-2012/11/28-CA-002.

**Carried unanimously**

## 7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

### 7.1 *Reports of Committee Chairs:*

#### 7.1.1 *Educational Services*

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin advised that the last meeting of the Education Committee was a joint one with Information Technology.

### **7.1.2 Material Resources**

Commissioner Steve Kmec, Chairman of the Material Resources Committee, noted that at the last meeting discussion took place on the roofing project at 2323, boul. Daniel-Johnson, ongoing projects and budgets.

#### **7.2 SWL Foundation:**

Christian Fréchette, Chairman of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation, provided an update on its activities noting that the group adopted a resolution inviting the Chairman of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to sit on the Foundation as a non-voting member. He also noted planning for the 2013-01-17 Gala, the deadline for the schools to submit applications for project funding and the need to find a new location to hold the Laurier Gala & Star Fest as the Théâtre Olympia is reverting back to an arena and will no longer be open for these types of events.

#### **7.3 Parent Commissioners Report**

The report of the Parent Commissioners commented on the Parents Committee meeting held on 2012-11-01 highlighting a presentation by the Secretary General on Law 19: An Act to prevent and stop bullying and violence in schools, nominations to the English Parents Committee Association (EPCA), a presentation by the Director of School Organization on the upcoming negotiations for the renewal of the contract with the Société de transport de Laval (STL), nominations to the Special Education Advisory

Committee (SEAC), consultation on the 2013-2014 Enrollment Criteria, the consultation on the use of St-Paul and Terry Fox Elementary Schools and various reports.

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso provided an update on the EPCA noting that the English Montreal School Board Parents Committee may return to the table.

In response to a concern expressed by Commissioner Edward Turchyniak, the Secretary General noted that the soccer incident at Rosemere High School was reported upon in the legal section of her monthly report in the months of September and October. She will provide an additional update in her December report.

#### **7.4 Report of the QESBA:**

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Monday Messages contained in the package. He also noted that the concerns brought forth this evening concerning the effect of the Québec budget on school boards would be brought to the attention of the QESBA.

### **8.0 QUESTION PERIOD:**

In response to a request from the Chairman of the Mother Teresa Junior High School Governing Board; the Chairman of the Council noted that the proposal deposited this evening on the use of Laval high schools will be discussed at a caucus and then brought to the 2012-12-12 Council meeting for approval in principle for consultation purposes.

In response to a question from a parent, the Chairman indicated that the document deposited this evening on the Laval high schools will contain many of the answers to the parents' questions.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Steve Mitchell noted that the document on the use of the Laval high schools is a working document and it is difficult at this time to provide solid answers as the Commissioners have yet to read it.

**9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the correspondence in the meeting package.

**10.0 VARIA:**

There was no varia.

**11.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:**

Commissioner Albina Pace MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

**Carried unanimously**

**TIME: 22:26 hours**

**NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2012-12-12**

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**Marie-Claude Drouin, Secretary General**

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**Nick Milas, Chairman**