



Minutes of proceedings of a special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the New Frontiers School Board

held in the Council Chambers at Howick Elementary School, 5 Lambton, Howick, Quebec, on **Tuesday, January 24, 2023**, at 19:00 hours and at which the following commissioners were present, representing quorum of the Council of Commissioners:

- John Ryan, Chair
- Raymond Ledoux, Vice-Chair, Electoral Division #1
- Brenda Bourdeau, Commissioner representing the Special Needs Advisory Committee
- Lina Chouinard, Electoral Division #3
- Dianne Eastwood, Electoral Division #7
- Barbara Ednie, Electoral Division #9
- Lorne Ferguson, Commissioner representing Parents, Elementary Level
- Jennifer Largan, Commissioner representing Parents at Large
- Abdul Pirani, Electoral Division #6, arrived at 19:06 hours
- Peter Stuckey, Electoral Division #8
- Debra Wright, Electoral Division #10
- Karin Van Droffelaar, Electoral Division #2, in attendance via TEAMS

Absent with regrets:

- Kenneth Crockett, Electoral Division #4
- Caleigh Saucier, Commissioner representing Parents, Secondary Level
- Joy Thomas, Electoral Division #5

Also in attendance:

- Rob Buttars, Director General
- Mike Helm, Assistant Director General & Secretary General
- Eric Colbert, Director of Material Resources
- Chantal Martin, Director of Continuing Education
- Cuthbert McIntyre, Director of Human Resources
- Terence Savoie, Director of Financial Services
- James Walker, Director of Educational & Technology Services
- Luisa Benvenuti, Manager, Administrative Services

Call to Order & Opening Remarks

The Chair opened the meeting at 19:03 hours and welcomed members indicating that the purpose of tonight's special meeting is to make decisions regarding Policy FCB "Major School Change".

Recognition Statement

Commissioner L. Chouinard acknowledged that the land on which we gather is the traditional and unceded territory of the Mohawk; a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Nations.

Declaration of Conflict

There were no declarations made relative to the agenda items.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was approved on a motion by Commissioner J. Largan.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Public Question Period

There were no members of the public present.

Chair's Report

The Chair outlined the process and timeline related to Major School Change which brought commissioners to tonight's decision-making meeting. He also referred to some QESBA meetings and activities, along with their exchanges with the Ministry of Education.

Director General's Report

The Director General provided a brief update on a recent shuffling of dossiers at the Bureau du Sous-Ministre. Mr Buttars also noted that Mrs Brigitte Barrette, Principal at Gault Institute, has been approved for a one-year leave of absence from March 2023 to March 2024, after which she will retire.

Major School Change

Resolution #CC23-01-24-001 -Gault Institute

Whereas Policy FCB "Major School Change" was enacted on January 11, 2022; and whereas meetings of the Council of the Whole have taken place over the course of the past year; and whereas these meetings have provided commissioners an opportunity to explore different scenarios, have important discussions, and launch two public consultations; and whereas the public has provided important feedback which has been taken into consideration; Therefore, it was moved by Commissioner A. Pirani that the New Frontiers School Board authorize the Director General to request of the Ministry of Education authorization and funding to expand at Gault Institute.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Resolution #CC23-01-24-002 -Chateauguay Valley Career Education Centre

Whereas Policy FCB "Major School Change" was enacted on January 11, 2022; and whereas meetings of the Council of the Whole have taken place over the course of the past year; and whereas these meetings have provided commissioners an opportunity to explore different scenarios, have important discussions, and launch two public consultations; and whereas the public has provided important feedback which has been taken into consideration; Therefore, it was moved by Commissioner L. Chouinard, seconded by Commissioner B. Ednie, that the New Frontiers School Board authorize the Director General to request of the Ministry of Education authorization and funding to expand at Chateauguay Valley Career Education Centre.

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Resolution #CC23-01-24-003 - Chateauguay Elementary Schools

Whereas Policy FCB "Major School Change" was enacted on January 11, 2022; and whereas meetings of the Council of the Whole have taken place over the course of the past year; and whereas these meetings have provided commissioners an opportunity to explore different scenarios, have important discussions, and launch two public consultations; and whereas the public has provided important feedback which has been taken into consideration; Therefore, it was moved by Commissioner P. Stuckey, seconded by Commissioner L. Chouinard, that the New Frontiers School Board authorize the Director General to request of the Ministry of Education authorization and funding to build a new elementary school to alleviate the overcrowding situation in the Chateauguay elementary schools.

MOTION CARRIED by majority vote, with 6 voting in favour, and 5 voting against.

Policy FCB "Major School or Centre Change"

There was no motion to close Policy FCB; therefore it will remain open.

Second Public Question Period

There were no members of the public present.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20:36 hours on a motion by Commissioner L. Chouinard

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

John Ryan
Chair

Mike Helm
Secretary General