

# Minutes

## Provincial Executive Meeting

Monday, November 2, 2009

***UNOFFICIAL until approved by the Provincial Executive.***

November 2, 2009

### ***Leadership, advocacy and service for Manitoba's public school boards***

191 Provencher Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
9:00 A.M.

**PRESENT:** Hugh Coburn      President  
Robert Rivard      Vice-President  
Jacquie Field      Vice-President  
Yolande Dupuis      Past President  
Floyd Martens      Director Region #1  
Hugh Greaves      Director Region #2  
Cheryl Zelenitsky      Director Region #3  
Marion Pearson      Director Region #4  
Tom Parker      Director Region #5  
Bruce Alexander      Director Region #5  
\*Cindy Gilroy-Price      Director Region #6

Carolyn Duhamel      Executive Director  
Heather Demetriooff      Associate Director  
George Coupland      Director, Labour Relations  
Barb Unrau      Executive Assistant

\*arrived late

#### **1.1      ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Parker/Rivard:**

**THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.**

**Carried**

#### **1.2      ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**Alexander/Dupuis:**

**THAT the minutes of the Provincial Executive meeting held  
October 5, 2009 be approved as circulated.**

**Carried**

At this point the Executive moved forward in the agenda to receive the auditor's report.

## **2.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **1. Education Funding and Teacher Bargaining Structure**

The Executive Director reported that she had recently attended a meeting of superintendents from across the country. She shared with Executive members the status of education funding and taxation in other provinces. Manitoba is currently the only province with taxing authority.

The Executive Director was requested to prepare an information report on the status of education funding and taxation in other provinces for circulation to member boards.

Region 6 Director Cindy Gilroy-Price joined the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Concern was raised that the Winnipeg and Manitoba Realtors Associations were resurrecting their anti-tax campaign. There is data that shows education taxes have actually dropped in recent years. Executive members felt strongly that it is time to take a more active and visible role in the debate around education taxation.

It was agreed that a working group consisting of three (3) Executive members and two (2) trustees at large, along with a senior staff representative and the communications assistant be struck to develop a strategy for the Association in addressing the issues of education financing and property taxation in the public arena.

Vice-President Robert Rivard, Region #5 Director Bruce Alexander, and Region #1 Director Floyd Martens volunteered to participate in a working group. The President and Executive Director will recruit two trustees at large and convene a meeting of the group to begin its work.

## **3.0 DELEGATIONS**

## **4.0 FOR ACTION/DECISION**

### **1. Terms of Reference, Aboriginal Education Committee**

The Executive reviewed the draft terms of reference for the Manitoba School Boards Association Aboriginal Education Committee and suggested some minor amendments.

The Executive Director will re-draft the mandate and contact trustees at large to determine their interest in serving on this committee. Once the committee has been confirmed she will convene a meeting of the committee to begin its work.

**Alexander/Pearson:**

**THAT the Terms of Reference for the Aboriginal Education Committee be approved with revisions as discussed.**

**Carried**

**Dupuis/Rivard:**

**THAT Region 4 Director Marion Pearson and Region 6 Director Cindy Gilroy-Price be appointed as the Executive representatives on the Aboriginal Education Committee.**

**Carried**

2. Audited Financial Statements (*Timed item - 9:00 A.M. - hard copies of e-mailed documents will be handed out at the meeting*)

The Executive Director introduced Shawna Lounsbury and Sandra Alleyne from KPMG to the meeting. Sandra reviewed the 2008-2009 audit

- statement of financial position
- statement of operations
- statement of changes in net assets
- statement of cash flow
- notes to financial statements
- seminars and special events
- expenses

They offered to answer any questions regarding these aspects of the audit.

- The Executive Director noted that Safe Schools Manitoba and the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba are monies in and out; the association only holds funds for these programs
- CNCM has picked up major grants from Manitoba Health, the federal First Nations and Inuit Health Branch which will in due course flow into schools.

Shawna then reviewed the Audit findings report.

- audit status
- audit process
- audit response to identified financial reporting risks
- summary of uncorrected audit differences
- summary of corrected audit differences
- summary of omissions and other errors in presentation and disclosure

Staff was excused from the meeting at 9:30 a.m. so that the Executive could ask questions of the auditors.

The President thanked Sandra and Shawna for their presentation. Staff re-joined the meeting.

The Executive Director explained the circumstances around the Association's obligation to contribute pension funds to TRAF on behalf of three former employees. She indicated that the Executive had three options to consider

- to pay out the total amount immediately
- to pay out the amount over a period of time, or
- to withhold payment pending a valuation of the Plan in 2012.

**Alexander/Dupuis:**

**THAT no further action be taken in the matter of contributions to the TRAF Pension Plan for retired Manitoba School Boards Association employees and that this issue be reviewed at the next valuation of the Plan in 2012.**

**Carried**

The Executive Director will advise TRAF and KPMG of the Executive's decision in this regard. The TRAF Pension Plan will be added to a future Executive agenda for discussion.

**Rivard/Pearson:**

**THAT the audited financial statements be approved.**

**Carried**

3. Budget discussions
  - (a) year to date financials
  - (b) TRAF pension liability
  - (c) budget 2009-2010; proposed 2010-2011

The Executive Director referred Executive members to the year to date financials prepared by Jack Dalgliesh. She commented on

- net assets at the end of 2009
- member services and administration
- circumstances around the increase in legal fees
- circumstances around budget over-expenditure in the current year
  - installation of a new server
  - additional computer equipment and training
  - building renovations/infrastructure costs

The Executive Director noted that if the Executive wished to raise the profile of public school boards during Education Week 2010 as well as the trustee elections in the fall, funding will need to be allocated in these areas.

She responded to Executive questions around the budget.

4. Expenditures/reimbursement of CSBA Director

The Executive Director and Past President provided Executive members with a history of reimbursement for the Manitoba CSBA Director. In the past, the Director has often been an Executive Officer of the Association and as such, received an annual stipend. Therefore no per diem was paid. The current Manitoba CSBA Director was an Executive Officer until April of 2009.

**Field/Gilroy-Price:**

**THAT the Manitoba CSBA Director be entitled to claim a committee per diem rate for attendance at scheduled Board of Directors business meetings.**

**Carried**

At this point the Executive moved forward in the agenda to item 7.0.

**5.0 FOR DISCUSSION**

1. Regional meeting follow-up

Executive Officers and Directors were invited to comment on the recent round of regional meetings.

- positive response to inter-divisional discussion around student learning and achievement
- desire for MSBA to bring Mary Delagardelle back to do her presentation in rural Manitoba
- continued concerns expressed around health costs funded with education dollars
- bus safety concerns
- inequity in equalization funding

2. Report on meeting with the SSAAM.

Executive Officers and senior staff met with representatives of the Student Services Administrators Association of Manitoba on October 9th. From the discussions it was clear that we shared many of the same concerns and challenges regarding student services and special needs education in our province as do our other educational partners. It was agreed that SSAAM and MSBA would invite representatives from MASS, MTS, MASBO and MAPC to participate in an inter-organizational meeting to discuss our common concerns. Once we have heard from our partners a meeting will be convened and future joint actions determined according to consensus among the partners.

**6.0 EMERGENT ISSUES**

1. October 27, 2009 copy of River East Transcona letter to the Minister, re Copyright.

The Executive received a copy of a letter sent by River East Transcona School Division to the Minister expressing concerns related to the increase in copyright tariffs and the retro-activity of these tariffs. They have suggested government access the unexpended Tax Incentive Grant to help defray these costs to school boards.

The Executive Director was asked to pursue this matter with the Deputy Minister pending the announced of the new Premier's Cabinet.

## **7.0 EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT**

### 1. Lighthouse Project DVD

The Executive viewed the five minute DVD on the Lighthouse Project. It was agreed that the DVD projects a very powerful message and administration was requested to investigate to the cost of “Canadianizing” the resource.

Region #1 Director Floyd Martens excused himself from the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The Executive moved back in the agenda to item 5.0.

## **8.0 EXECUTIVE/STAFF REPORTS & MATTERS ARISING**

### 1. President

The President commented on his written report. He highlighted his attendance at

- the Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards banquet and
- the Parliamentary Procedure workshop

### 2. Vice-President(s) - written reports

### 3. Past President - written report

### 4. Directors

#### (a) Region 5 - Bruce Alexander

- Bruce commented on the FRAME Committee report.

#### (b) Region 5 - Tom Parker

- Tom commented on concerns raised around equalization by trustees during the board visitation in Seven Oaks S.D.
  - MSBA will draft a letter to government in support of the concerns raised by Seven Oaks S.D.
  - MSBA will also put this item on the agenda for discussion with the new Premier and Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth

#### (c) Region 4 - Marion Pearson

- Marion reported that the Region 4 conference call meeting will be held on Monday, January 11 at 4:30 P.M.

### 5. Executive Director

In addition to her written report the Executive Director commented on

- her discussion with MTS General Secretary Ken Pearce
- upcoming CSBA conference call meeting, and
- Healthy Child Manitoba

## 6. Associate Director

As indicated in her written report, the Associate Director circulated two attachments:

- (a) Report of the Dean's Advisory Committee
  - Bachelor of Education Review
  - Potential impact of the Pan-Canadian Labour Mobility Agreement
- (b) Advertising costs for Education Week

The Executive shared their concerns and suggestions in these areas. The Associate Director will update the list of advertising options for Education Week for consideration during the budget discussions at the December Executive meeting.

**8.1 INFORMATION REPORTS**

## (a) Correspondence

Sent via e-mail October 16, 2009

1. September 25, 2009 copy of MECY letter to Superintendents, re Anaphylaxis policies.

Sent via e-mail October 22, 2009

1. September 25, 2009, letter of congratulations from Ron Schuler, MLA, re School Boards Work website
2. October 9, 2009, Louis Riel S.D. letter of appreciation, re Association name change.

## (b) Committee Minutes

Sent via e-mail October 16, 2009

1. Social Planning Council Campaign 2000 Continues Steering committee, June 9, 2009
2. Inter-organizational Curriculum Advisory Committee, September 29, 2009

## (c) Publications

1. Manitoba Human Rights Commission, *MHR Connections*, September 2009
2. Manitoba Association of Parent Councils *MAPC Newsletter*, Fall 2009
3. Behavioural Health Foundation *Out Front*, October 2009
4. Purich Publishing Ltd. *The Duty to Consult - New Relationships with Aboriginal Peoples*
5. The Manitoba Securities Commission - An Instructor's Guide Youth Money Management, *Make it Count*

**9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2009.

**Parker:**

**THAT the meeting be adjourned.**

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

/bu