

# Minutes

## Provincial Executive Meeting

### Monday, February 8, 2021

**UNOFFICIAL until approved by the Provincial Executive**

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

Via Zoom Video-Conference  
9:00 a.m.

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Alan Campbell	President
	Sandy Nemeth	Vice-President
	Floyd Martens	Vice-President
	Sherilyn Bambridge	Director Region #1
	Leah Klassen	Director Region #2
	Lena Kublick	Director Region #3
	Vaughn Wadelius	Director Region #4
	Sandra Lethbridge	Director Region #5
	Julie Fisher	Director Region #5
	Josh Watt	Executive Director
	Janis Arnold	Interim Director, Education and Communication Services
	Morgan Whiteway	Acting Director, Labour Relations and Human Resource Services
	Robyn Winters	Chief Financial Officer
	Andrea Kehler	Executive Assistant
	Jennifer Esau	Administrative Assistant

**REGRETS:** Chris Broughton Director Region #6

Alan Campbell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### **1.1 LAND AND TREATY ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Before we begin today's meetings, I would like to acknowledge that the lands on which we are gathering are the lands of the St. Peter's or Selkirk Treaty and of Numbered Treaties 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, territories of the Anishinaabe Cree, Dene, Dakota and Oji-Cree peoples, and Traditional homeland of the Métis nation. We acknowledge the wrongs of the past and stand committed to building positive relationships rooted in a spirit of genuine reconciliation.

#### **1.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Add: 5.6 Bill 64 and advocacy  
5.7 Funding Announcement

**Lethbridge/Bambridge**

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

**Carried**

### **1.3 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**Fisher/Wadelius**

**THAT the minutes of the Provincial Executive meeting January 11, 2021 be approved as circulated.**

**Carried**

### **2.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### 1. Code of Conduct ad-hoc committee update

Sandy Lethbridge, Chair of the Code of Conduct policy ad-hoc committee, provided an overview of the document presented. Executive were asked to provide Sandy Lethbridge and Janis Arnold with their feedback. The committee will meet once more to finalize the policy, with the final Code of Conduct policy being presented to the Executive for approval at its meeting next month.

#### 2. Executive and Executive Director Evaluations (in-camera)

In view of time and another meeting conflict, Alan Campbell suggested that the Executive meet at another time to consider the Executive and Executive Director Evaluations. Alan will communicate directly with the Executive to determine a suitable date and time to meet.

### **3.0 DELEGATIONS**

### **4.0 FOR ACTION/DECISION**

#### 1. Committee Update

**Lethbridge/Wadelius**

**THAT the following committee re-appointments be approved.**

Re-appointments:

- a) Resolutions & Policy Committee
  - Cheryl Smukowich, St. James-Assiniboia S.D.
  - Patty Wiebe, Border Land S.D.

**Carried**

#### 2. Bill 45 – The Public Schools Amendment and Manitoba Teachers’ Society Amendment Act

Morgan Whiteway provided an overview of several proposed options with respect to Bill 45. The Executive discussed various points and provided necessary feedback for Morgan and Josh to draft a memo, which will be shared out to member boards in the coming weeks.

### 3. 2021/22 Membership fee reduction

Based upon the recommendations of the MSBA ad-hoc subcommittee to study Resolution M-01-2019, MSBA Provincial Executive is encouraged to once again approve a collective rebate of up to \$175,000 for Fiscal Year 2021/22 under our Association's Reserve Policy. This rebate will be proportionately applied to each school board's membership fees and support the ability of school boards to accurately budget for these fees in the near future.

#### **Klassen/Bambridge**

**THAT the Manitoba School Boards Association distribute the association's internally restricted net assets in proportion to membership fees paid by member boards, to a maximum of \$175,000 for Fiscal Year 2021/22.**

**Carried**

### 4. Distribution of Board Ballots for 2021

In a normal year, the full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrolment count has been received by the first week of February, allowing the association to provide boards with their number of ballots to cast. To date, we have not yet received those numbers. If the 2020 FTE count is not received by February 16, the Executive was asked to move an exception to the above by-law to use the 2019 FTE count.

It was further noted by Executive that a by-law housekeeping amendment may be in order, to change "S4" to "Grade 12" or some alternative open-ended language, in keeping with modernization since the time the original by-law was passed. Staff will take this item away for operationalization in time for the Spring 2022 convention.

#### **Kublick/Wadelius**

**THAT In the event that the 2020 K-S4 full-time equivalent count is not received by February 16, 2021, the Manitoba School Boards Association make an exception to its By-law 5 b) on Board Ballots, and use the 2019 K-S4 full-time equivalent count to provide boards with their allotted number of board ballots for the 2021 Annual General Meeting.**

**Carried**

## **5.0 FOR DISCUSSION**

### 1. 2021-22 Preliminary Budget

The preliminary 2021/22 budget was presented by Robyn Winters, Chief Financial Officer, with response to questions following. A next-to-final 2021/22 budget will be presented at the June, 2021 Executive meeting, for final approval.

## 2. Canadian Charter of Learner's Rights

The Executive reviewed the Canadian Charter of Learner's Rights, which has been circulated to all boards directly by the Federation of Canadian Secondary Students. It raises concerns here in Manitoba's context. Many of the rights proposed under the Charter are enforceable under Manitoba's existing legal framework, without creating a secondary framework.

## 3. School Division bargaining mandates

Morgan Whiteway reviewed the school division bargaining mandate letter received by ADM Whiteford on February 2, as well as the Association's follow-up response. Dr. Whiteford has acknowledged receipt of the response on Feb. 4, with indication that she will respond as soon as possible.

## 4. Staff Compensation Market Review

The Executive agreed to resume the Staff Compensation Market Review, which was paused back in the spring due to the pandemic. Julie Fisher, Lena Kublick and Floyd Martens served as the Executive component of the committee and Josh will advise the staff assigned to this process that they can resume.

## 5. Joint Executive/Staff Compensation Committee

In view of the pandemic, the Executive/Staff Compensation committee, which would typically have commenced its process in the fall, was delayed. At its meeting in March, the Executive will appoint its members to this joint committee.

## 6. Bill 64 Advocacy

Executive considered the advocacy position of the association around Bill 64, The Education Modernization Act. As Minister Cullen has stated, the release is expected this spring and the association fully expects to be consulted regarding the implementation process.

## 7. Funding Announcement

Alan shared that while the funding announcement was \$6.6M for base funding, the province framed all the funding capital and otherwise as a \$20.8M increase. Only 9 divisions will be able to fund costs at the rate of inflation, the others will see increases below and of these, 16 will actually see funding decrease. Following interviews with various media outlets, many individuals expressed their concerns. Karen Harrington and I are working on distilling down my speech from convention 2020, as the messaging in there is still applicable today, 11 months later. We will share that video link out as soon as it's complete. The March, 2020 President Convention Speech will be re-released in coming weeks, in an effort to raise awareness around many still relevant issues of note to all Manitobans.

**6.0 INFORMATION REPORTS (Printed)**

1. Executive/Staff Activity Reports
  - Josh Watt, Executive Director report
  - Lena Kublick, Director Region 3
2. Correspondence (PRINTED)
  - Election/Scrutineer Committee for Convention
    - As per By-law #5, 9.d), the President appointed representatives from MASBO and MASS to act as scrutineers for the convention.
  - Election and Resolutions Memos to boards
  - Zoom How-To Guide
3. Correspondence (EMAILED)
  - Association Financials as at Dec. 31, 2020, sent January 20, 2021

**7.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday, March 8, 2021, 9:00 a.m., via Zoom Video-conference  
Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Video-conference

Alan thanked everyone for their participation and Vaughn Wadelius moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

/ak