



LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

April 28, 2021

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Dear Deans, Faculties of Education:

The Manitoba School Boards Association received the following requests for action from our member boards from Regions 2 and 6. We are forwarding the requests on their behalf for your consideration. These requests arose out of the business of our annual general meeting on March 19, 2021.

That the Manitoba School Boards Association call upon Faculties of Education to review and increase enrollment of French speaking applicants.

The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

Due to the shortage of French speaking educators and educational assistants in Manitoba, incentives (bursaries, grants, etc.) would help to increase recruitment in programs for certification, and increase the number of French speaking educators in Manitoba schools.

That the Manitoba School Boards Association call upon the provincial government and the Faculties of Education to develop and implement an action plan aimed at enrolling and graduating Indigenous and racialized peoples to better serve the diverse needs of the Manitoba public school system.

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The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

The most recent release of the report and calls to action as presented in the State of Equity in Education prepared by the Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle outline an underrepresentation of Indigenous teachers within metro Winnipeg school divisions and Indigenous students enrolled and graduating from the Faculties of Education.

Faculties of Education should work in collaboration with public school governance structures to provide an education program that will supply a representative teacher workforce to address the learning aspirations and needs of Indigenous and racialized students.

All Faculties of Education should set equity enrollment targets for Indigenous and racialized students similar to the Diversity Admissions Policy established by the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba.

The Association invites the faculty's response with respect to the above motions. Should you require any additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Executive Director Josh Watt at jwatt@mbschoolboards.ca or 204-594-5162.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan M. Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan M. Campbell
President

AMC/ak



LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

April 28, 2021

The Honourable Cliff Cullen
Minister of Education
Manitoba Legislative Building
168-450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
minedu@leg.gov.mb.ca

Dear Minister Cullen:

The Manitoba School Boards Association received the following requests for action from our Region 6 member board. We are forwarding the requests on their behalf for your consideration. These requests arose out of the business of our annual general meeting on March 19, 2021.

THAT the Manitoba School Boards Association call upon the provincial government to clarify how the proposed Bill 64 – Education Modernization Act will include in legislation (1) designated seats for Indigenous and racialized peoples for the proposed Provincial Education Authority and Provincial Advisory Council on Education, and (2) whether a consensus-decision-making process will be mandated in the proposed legislation for the proposed Provincial Education Authority and Provincial Advisory Council on Education.

The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

The guiding principle of the recently released State of Equity in Education Reports by the Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle and Newcomers Education Coalition is based on the premise that in order for educational outcomes to improve for Indigenous and racialized students, they must see themselves better reflected in the curriculum and teaching staff.

The State of Equity in Education Reports identified the underrepresentation of the Indigenous and racialized peoples within school governance structures, presently in the form of school boards, with respect to the population of students and communities being served.

Representation matters when it comes to who is included and excluded around decision-making tables in the public school system. The best possible decisions cannot be achieved if voices are missing in the problem-solving process which in turn influences the prioritization of issues, allocation of resources, and knowledge to address the colonial and structural barriers faced by Indigenous and racialized students in the education system.

To further address the issue of representation and marginalization, consensus rather than majority-role decision-making processes ensure that all voices are authentically included in public education governance structures.

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THAT the Manitoba School Boards Association call upon the provincial government to clarify how it will ensure that Employment Equity policies are implemented by the proposed 15 regional areas identified in the proposed Bill 64 – Education Modernization Act to ensure that the workforce within the public school system is representative of the Indigenous and racialized students served by public schools in Manitoba.

The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

The most recent release of the reports and calls to action presented by the State of Equity in Education by the Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle and the Newcomer Education Coalition outline the need for public school governance structures to be more intentional and accountable about addressing the underrepresentation of Indigenous and racialized teachers by establishing targets and monitoring results through the development and implementation of an employment equity policy and program within the public education system.

The provincial government should establish a task force to develop Employment Equity policies that commit to developing a workforce within the public education system that is representative of Indigenous and racialized students by setting targets; reviewing public school system policies to identify barriers for Indigenous and racialized peoples; provides anti-racism and equity-based training for all staff; publishes annual report that includes data regarding the extent to which targets have been met in both the classroom and administrative roles, and retention rates of Indigenous and racialized peoples.

The Association invites the Government's response with respect to the above motions. Should you require any additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Executive Director Josh Watt at hwatt@mbschoolboards.ca or 204-594-5162.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan M. Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan M. Campbell
President

AMC/ak



LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

April 28, 2021

The Honourable Wayne Ewasko
Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration
Manitoba Legislative Building
156-450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
minaesi@leg.gov.mb.ca

Dear Minister Ewasko:

The Manitoba School Boards Association received the following requests for action from our Regions 2 and 6 member boards. We are forwarding the requests on their behalf for your consideration. These requests arose out of the business of our annual general meeting on March 19, 2021. They have also been shared with the Deans in the Faculties of Education at U of M, U of W, Brandon U and USB.

That the Manitoba School Boards Association call on the government to provide incentives to French speaking applicants to enroll in Teacher Education and Educational Assistant training programs.

The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

Due to the shortage of French speaking educators and educational assistants in Manitoba, incentives (bursaries, grants, etc.) would help to increase recruitment in programs for certification, and increase the number of French speaking educators in Manitoba schools.

The following request for action was also received:

That the Manitoba School Boards Association call upon the provincial government and the Faculties of Education to develop and implement an action plan aimed at enrolling and graduating Indigenous and racialized peoples to better serve the diverse needs of the Manitoba public school system.

The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

The most recent release of the report and calls to action as presented in the State of Equity in Education prepared by the Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle outline an underrepresentation of Indigenous teachers within metro Winnipeg school divisions and Indigenous students enrolled and graduating from the Faculties of Education.

Faculties of Education should work in collaboration with public school governance structures to provide an education program that will supply a representative teacher workforce to address the learning aspirations and needs of Indigenous and racialized students.

All Faculties of Education should set equity enrollment targets for Indigenous and racialized students similar to the Diversity Admissions Policy established by the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba.

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The Association invites the Government's response with respect to the above motions. Should you require any additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Executive Director Josh Watt at jwatt@mbschoolboards.ca or 204-594-5162.

Sincerely,

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Alan M. Campbell
President

AMC/ak

M A N I T O B A
School Boards
A S S O C I A T I O N

LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

April 28, 2021

The Honourable Ron Schuler
Minister of Infrastructure
Manitoba Legislative Building
203-450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
minmi@leg.gov.mb.ca

Dear Minister Schuler:

The Manitoba School Boards Association received the following request for action from our Region 6 member board. We are forwarding the request on their behalf for your consideration. This request arose out of the business of our annual general meeting on March 19, 2021.

That the Manitoba School Boards Association call upon the Provincial Government to amend the Highway Traffic Act to allow school boards to install photo radar cameras on school buses.

The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

That the Provincial Government review and amend the Highway Traffic Act to allow for the installation of photo radar cameras on all school buses to promote student safety.

The Association invites Government's response with respect to the above motion. Should you require any additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Executive Director Josh Watt at jwatt@mbschoolboards.ca or 204-594-5162.

Sincerely,



Alan M. Campbell
President

AMC/ak



LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

April 28, 2021

The Honourable Rochelle Squires
Minister of Families
Manitoba Legislative Building
357-450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
minfs@leg.gov.mb.ca

Dear Minister Squires:

The Manitoba School Boards Association received the following request for action from our Region 5 member boards. We are forwarding the request on their behalf for your consideration. The request arose out of the business of our annual general meeting on March 19, 2021.

That the Manitoba School Boards Association call upon government to maintain rent assist programs, maintain operating, capital infrastructure and maintenance supports for Manitoba public housing, and develop a strategy to meet the waitlist demands of Manitobans in need of housing.

The rationale that was provided to our Association for the above motion was as follows:

In light of government plans to privatize Manitoba Housing units, school boards in Manitoba are concerned that a for-profit approach to helping families gain access to safe and affordable housing as a basic need are being jeopardized.

The negative impact of poverty on education outcomes and student achievement is well documented. In its report *Broken Promises Broken Futures; Child and Family Poverty in Manitoba* the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg documents a 19% increase in child poverty in 2018. The report demonstrates that at this rate it will take 697.5 years to end child poverty in Manitoba.

If we agree that alleviating poverty will have a direct and positive impact on student success, and that safe, healthy and affordable housing should be part of any poverty reduction strategy then a clear plan to meet the demand for housing is desperately needed.

- It is critical that the number of families who can access rent assist programs be maintained or increased within any third-party management agreement, rather than decreased at the same time rents are going up.
- To ensure homes remain safe and healthy environments, government must maintain operating, capital infrastructure support and maintenance supports rather than reduce the amount being invested.
- There are 7,000 families on the waitlist for Manitoba Housing at a time when government is selling social housing and transferring management to non-profits and the private sector rather than working to increase the supply.

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The Association invites Government's response with respect to the above motion. Should you require any additional information or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Executive Director Josh Watt at jwatt@mbschoolboards.ca or 204-594-5162.

Sincerely,

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Alan M. Campbell
President

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