

**Province of Quebec
Western Quebec School Board**

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on April 25, 2023, in a hybrid model at the Western Quebec School Board office 15, rue Katimavik at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Daly, Commissioners, Brushey, Cornforth, George, Giannakoulis, Goldsbrough, Labadie, Shaar, Co-opted Commissioners Commonda and Garner, and Parent-Commissioners Boucher-Sharma, Fortier and Taylor.

REGRETS: Commissioners Boucher, Graham, Lyrette-Brennan, McCrank and Parent-Commissioner Brennan

Personnel:

Director of Complementary Services L. Falasconi
Director of Finance M. Lupien
Director of Buildings P. Proulx
Assistant Director of Human Resources J. Svetec
Contract Compliance Officer A. Gendron
Administrative Officer R. Vincent

The Director General, M. Dubeau, the Secretary General / Director of Human Resources, G. Singfield, and the Assistant Director General / Director of Adult Education/Vocational Training, R. Ahern were also present.

- **Land Acknowledgment**

Call to Order: 7:22 p.m.

C-22/23-164

Adoption of the Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie that the agenda be adopted as presented, with the withdrawal of agenda items 7.7 and 7.8, and the addition of agenda item 10.3- motion from the IREC committee.

For: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion carried

C-22/23-165

Approval of Minutes

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Taylor that the minutes of a meeting held on March 28, 2023, be approved as circulated with the following amendment concerning the public participation: In place of text starting "regarding..." add: "...about her disagreement with the content and manner of other WQSB parent volunteers' expression of their views at her

Governing Board table and through the Parent Committee and its sub-committees on a variety of issues.”

Carried unanimously

Director General’s Report

The Director General and fellow Directors provided verbal reports on the following subjects:

- The potential bus driver strike starting May 1
- The new Commissioner’s training sessions
- Principal job postings
- School board elections – Electoral wards
- Update on the Commitment to Success Plan consultations
- Introduction of the new Director of Adult Education/Vocational Training Ms. Jennifer Dubeau
- The DPR campaign
- The WQSB Occupational Health and Safety Committee
- Sexual diversity training

C-22/23-166

Request for Additional Wards – School Board Elections 2024

WHEREAS in accordance with section 6 of the *Act respecting school elections*, there shall be eight (8) electoral divisions for a school board where there are more than 10 000 but less than 30 000 electors, which is the situation of the Western Quebec School Board;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 7 of the *Act respecting school elections*, the Minister may, upon request, authorize a school board to establish up to five additional electoral divisions, if the Minister considers this warranted by the particularly large size of the territory of the school board, the number of local municipalities whose territory is comprised in the territory of the school board and the isolated location of the territory of a local municipality in the territory of the school board;

WHEREAS for the last school elections held in 2018 and 2020, the Minister authorized the Western Quebec School Board to establish three (3) additional electoral divisions on its territory;

WHEREAS there are presently eleven (11) electoral divisions on the territory of the Western Quebec School Board;

WHEREAS the Western Quebec School Board has a particularly large territory, covering over 90 000 square kilometers, making it the second largest board in the Province of Quebec;

WHEREAS the territory of the Western Quebec School Board comprises approximately 160 local municipalities;

WHEREAS several local municipalities located on the Western Quebec School Board territory are isolated;

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the Western Quebec School Board and its students, parents, and taxpayers that it be permitted to establish more electoral divisions than the number provided for in section 6 of the *Act respecting school elections*, in order to ensure fair and adequate representation.

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that, according to the terms of section 7 of the *Act respecting school elections*, the Chairman of the Board be mandated to prepare and send a written request asking the Minister to authorize the Western Quebec School Board to establish three (3) more electoral divisions than the number provided for in section 6 of the said Act.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-167

Executive Committee Report – April 18, 2023

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Executive Committee minutes of April 18, 2023.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-168

Tendering Strategy - Board Office - Geothermal System Drainage, Assessment of Repair, Repair, and Refilling

WHEREAS a request has been tabled to the MEQ for the above-mentioned project in the amount of \$500,000.00 from the 2022-2023 Measure 50621;

WHEREAS the fluid in the geothermal system needs to be replaced to conform with new environmental requirements;

WHEREAS there is a leak in the system, but its origin is unknown;

WHEREAS a cost estimate has been provided for drainage and refilling;

WHEREAS the repair cost is unknown;

WHEREAS the tendering strategy is to allow the contractors to bid on the drainage of the system, the assessment of the repair, the refilling of the system, and the recommissioning of the system. For equitable reasons and to conform with contractual requirements, a fixed repair price of \$90,000.00 will be specified;

WHEREAS contractors will be required to provide a breakdown of the costs associated with the repair before the work is performed;

WHEREAS the cost breakdown will be reviewed and validated by the professional and internal team before the project is executed;

WHEREAS if any amendments to the contract are required, they will be handled in accordance with By-law 30;

WHEREAS This strategy has been recommended by both the Director of Buildings & Technology, Mr. P. Proulx and the Contract Rules Compliance Officer (Alain Gendron, RARC);

WHEREAS with its resolution E-22/23-152, the Executive Committee recommends that Council accept the tendering strategy for the geothermal system drainage, assessment of repair, repair, and refilling;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth that, as recommended by the Executive Committee, Council accept the tendering strategy for the geothermal system drainage, assessment of repair, repair, and refilling.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-169

Public Tender – Extension at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School – Lab-École - Project #22510B012

WHEREAS the MEQ has allocated \$17,520,478.00 for this project from the 2018-2028 and 2020-2030 Measure 50511;

WHEREAS the WQS and the MEQ have reached an agreement in principle regarding a new funding plan (C-22/23-12);

WHEREAS a call for public tender was completed;

WHEREAS the following persons and/or businesses retrieved the tender documents:

- 3990591 CANADA INC. (Beaudoin)
- 7170289 CANADA INC (BLB Construction)
- ACQ - Région de l'Outaouais
- ARMATURES BOIS-FRANCS INC.
- BOLESS INC.
- CONSTRUCTION FRED TROTTIER (QUÉBEC) LTÉE
- GOODFELLOW INC.
- LES CONSTRUCTIONS BINET INC.
- LES INDUSTRIES CAMA
- SÉGUIN MORRIS INC.

WHEREAS the following bids were received;

BOLESS INC.	\$24,827,700
LES INDUSTRIES CAMA	\$25,309,463
3990591 CANADA INC. (Beaudoin)	\$26,125,000

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

WHEREAS a request was sent to MEQ for confirmation of the funding plan;

WHEREAS with its resolution E-22/23-153, the Executive Committee recommends that Council:

- Accept the bid submitted by BOLESS INC.;
- Authorize the Director of Buildings & Technology, Mr. P. Proulx, to sign the contract conditional to the written approval from the MEQ.

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Shaar that, as recommended by the Executive Committee, Council accept the bid submitted by BOLESS INC. and authorize the Director of Buildings & Technology, Mr. P. Proulx, to sign the contract conditional to the written approval from the MEQ.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-170

Public Tender – Gym Renovation – Phase 1 - Infrastructure – South Hull – Contract # 22510B016

WHEREAS resolution C-21/22-197 approved the buildings and technology investment plan;

WHEREAS an amount of \$675,000.00 was allocated from the 2020-2021 school year Measure 50621 for the gym renovation project;

WHEREAS a public tender was completed;

WHEREAS the following persons and/or businesses retrieved the tender documents:

- 6739741 CANADA INC. (Gestion DMJ)
- ACQ – Région de l'Outaouais
- AppelleFred
- D.L.S. CONSTRUCTION INC.
- DEFRAN INCORPORÉE

WHEREAS the following bids were received;

6739741 CANADA INC. (Gestion DMJ)	\$194,150.00
AppelleFred	\$178,860.00
DEFRAN INCORPORÉE	\$131,222.00

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

WHEREAS with its resolution E-22/23-154, the Executive Committee recommends that Council award the contract to Defran Incorporée in the amount of \$131,222.00 and give the Director of Buildings & Technology signing authority for this contract;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Giannakoulis that, as recommended by the Executive Committee, Council award the contract to Defran Incorporée in the amount of \$131,222.00 and

give the Director of Buildings & Technology signing authority for this contract.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-171

Group Buying Program – (CAG) – Cellular Phone Services – 2023-8111-50

WHEREAS the school board has the opportunity to participate in the group purchasing plan offered by the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales for cellular phone services;

WHEREAS this type of contract requires the authorization of the chief executive officer of the public body before the notice of a call for tenders is published;

WHEREAS the contract will cover a period of 5 years, from October 21, 2023, to October 20, 2028, with no renewal option;

WHEREAS the estimated financial commitment for this contract is approximately \$300,000.00;

WHEREAS with its resolution E-22/23-155, the Executive Committee recommends that Council permit the WQSB to join the contract for cellular phone services through the CAG program and that the Director of Buildings & Technology, P. Proulx, be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brushey that, as recommended by the Executive Committee, Council permit the WQSB to join the contract for cellular phone services through the CAG program and that the Director of Buildings & Technology, P. Proulx, be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-172

Group Buying Program – (CAG) – Administrative Furniture – 2023-7554-50

WHEREAS the school board has the opportunity to participate in the group purchasing plan offered by the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales for administrative furniture;

WHEREAS this type of contract requires the authorization of the chief executive officer since this is a standing order contract with multiple suppliers;

WHEREAS the contract will cover a period of 1 year, from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024, with two renewal options of 6 months each;

WHEREAS the estimated financial commitment for this contract is approximately \$50,000.00;

WHEREAS with its resolution E-22/23-156, the Executive Committee recommends that Council permit the WQSB to join

the contract for the purchasing of administrative furniture through the CAG program and that the Director of Buildings & Technology, P. Proulx, be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Goldsbrough that, as recommended by the Executive Committee, Council permit the WQSB to join the contract for the purchasing of administrative furniture through the CAG program and that the Director of Buildings & Technology, P. Proulx, be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-173

Group Buying Program – (CAG) – Pest Management – 2024-8163-50

WHEREAS the school board has the opportunity to participate in the group purchasing plan offered by the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales for pest management;

WHEREAS the contract will cover a period of 3 years, from June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2027, with two renewal options of 12 months each;

WHEREAS the estimated financial commitment for this contract is approximately \$100,000.00;

WHEREAS with its resolution E-22/23-157, the Executive Committee recommends that Council permit the WQSB to join the contract for pest management through the CAG program and that the Director of Buildings & Technology, P. Proulx, be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth that, as recommended by the Executive Committee, Council permit the WQSB to join the contract for pest management through the CAG program and that the Director of Buildings & Technology, P. Proulx, be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-174

Public Tender – Lord Aylmer Junior – Replacement of the interior stairs North section and Levelling of the yard – Contract # 22510B022

WHEREAS the resolution C-21/22-197 approved the buildings and technology investment plan;

WHEREAS an amount of \$400,000.00 was allocated from the 2021-2022 school year Measure 50621 for the replacement of the northern section of the interior stairs;

WHEREAS an amount of \$350,000.00 was allocated from the 2021-2022 school year Measure 50621 for the levelling of the yard;

WHEREAS a public tender was completed;

WHEREAS the following persons and/or businesses retrieved the tender documents:

- 2696894 CANADA INC. (Les constructions Qualitech)
- 9405-7478 Québec Inc. (Les constructions Matthieu Galipeau)
- ACQ – Région de l'Outaouais
- AppelleFred
- D.L.S. CONSTRUCTION INC.
- DEFRAN INCORPORÉE

WHEREAS the following bids were received;

2696894 Canada Inc. Les constructions Qualitech	Not conformed
AppelleFred	\$148,940.00
D.L.S. CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$157,000.00
DEFRAN INCORPORÉE	\$278,622.00

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie to award the contract to AppelleFred in the amount of \$148,940.00 and give the Director of Buildings & Technology, P. Proulx, signing authority for this contract.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-175

Group Buying Program – Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales – Employee Assistance Program and Telehealth – Mandate No. 2023-7527-01

WHEREAS the WQSB is offering an Employee Assistance Program (EAP);

WHEREAS our current contract ends on June 30, 2023;

WHEREAS our yearly expenses are approximately \$35,000.00 for our Employee Assistance Program;

WHEREAS the WQSB can participate in the group purchasing program through the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales (CAG) for the EAP;

WHEREAS Telehealth is now available with this new EAP group purchase;

WHEREAS the contract will cover a period of 3 years, from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2026, with two renewal options of 1 year each;

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Taylor that Council approves WQSB's participation in the CAG group-buying program for the Employee Assistance Program and authorizes the Director General to sign all necessary documents to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-176

SEAC Committee Report – March 14, 2023

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that Council acknowledge receipt of the SEAC Committee Minutes of March 14, 2023.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-177

Transportation Committee Report – April 19, 2023

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Transportation Committee minutes of April 19, 2023.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-178

Transport Létourneau Contract Sale

WHEREAS by its resolution number C-22/23-17 adopted on September 27, 2022, the WQSB awarded Transport Létourneau a six-year contract;

WHEREAS Transport Létourneau has recently informed the WQSB of its interest in selling their contract representing 1 bus route and vehicle to Autobus Maheux.

WHEREAS with its resolution CT-22/23-15, the Transportation Committee recommends that Council approve the sale of the contract representing 1 bus route and vehicle to Autobus Maheux;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth that, as recommended by the Transportation Committee, Council approve the sale of the contract representing 1 bus route and vehicle to Autobus Maheux;

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-179

Proposed Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024 – Council of Commissioners

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Goldsbrough that the 2023-2024 calendar of meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the Western Quebec School Board, as proposed by the Director General, be sent for public notice as called for by section 392 of the Education Act.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-180

Proposed Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024 – Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth that the 2023-2024 calendar of meetings of the Executive Committee of the Western Quebec School Board, as proposed by the Director General, be sent for public notice as called for by section 392 of the Education Act.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-181

Ad Hoc Intercultural Relations and Education Committee Mandate

WHEREAS the WQSB Council established an Ad Hoc Intercultural Relations and Education Committee at its March 28, 2023 meeting (C-22/23-145);

WHEREAS the Committee's mandate is to address anti-racism and reconciliation as well as intercultural training and sensibilization, as well as community outreach;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garner that an initial \$3,000 including travel and lodging of \$1,000 be allotted to host Darren McKee for Council training in May.

Carried unanimously

C-22/23-182

Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that the meeting be adjourned at 8:49 p.m.