



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

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### MINUTES

**Present:** D. Sowers – Committee Chair, G. Anderson, R. Collver, D. Dean, B. Doyle (arrived at 8:02 p.m.), A. Felsky, J. Harris, J. Richardson (arrived at 7:23 p.m.), K. Sandy, C.A. Sloat, T. Waldschmidt, J. Hsiao (Student Trustee), L. Kelly (Student Trustee)

**Administration:** Director - B. Blancher; Superintendents – D. Abbey, W. Baker, L. De Vos, D. Martins, S. Sincerbox, L. Thompson, R. Wyszynski; Recording Secretary – L. Howells

**Regrets:**

**Trustees:** Nil  
**Administration:** Nil

**A - 1 Opening**

**(a) Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, G. Anderson at 6:15 p.m. for the purpose of conducting the Open Session.

**(b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Nil

**(c) In Camera Session**

Moved by: A. Felsky  
Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Board move into In Camera Session to discuss personnel, legal and property matters at 6:15 p.m.

**Carried**

**(d) Welcome to Open Session**

The Public Session meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, D. Sowers at 7:15 p.m.

**(e) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: G. Anderson  
Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt  
THAT the Agenda be approved.

**Carried**



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

R. Collver congratulated Trustee Alex Felsky for running an excellent provincial campaign. R. Collver also congratulated Trustee Carol Ann Sloat who was elected Second Vice-President of the Ontario Public School Board Association at the OPSBA Annual General Meeting on June 2 and commended Trustee John Harris for putting his name forward as President of OPSBA.

(f) **In Camera Report**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board confirms that the Director's Performance Appraisal has been completed.

**Carried**

**B - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings**

*J. Richardson arrived the meeting at 7:23 p.m.*

(a) **Ad Hoc Committee – Grand Erie & Six Nations to Review Enrolment Pressures at McKinnon Park Report**

B. Blancher referred to the Report of the Joint Grand Erie and Six Nations Ad Hoc to Review Enrolment Pressures at McKinnon Park Committee report providing an overview of the background, Committee Membership, data presented to the Committee, Information Shared and Discussed at Committee Meetings, Input from the Committee, Committee Summary and the Next Steps.

R. Collver asked B. Blancher to expand on the development of an action plan and what her thoughts around that are? B. Blancher responded that the committee was put together under Bylaw 8 and the plan is to bring an action plan back to the board in the Fall.

J. Harris thanked Director Blancher for her hard work on this and noted the relationship building is essential and important.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: K. Sandy

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Report of the Joint Grand Erie and Six Nations Ad Hoc to Review Enrolment Pressures at McKinnon Park Committee as information.

**Carried**



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

Moved by: D. Dean

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board disband the Grand Erie and Six Nations Ad Hoc to Review Enrolment Pressures at McKinnon Park Committee

**Carried**

(b) **Caledonia Centennial PS French Immersion Update**

R. Wyszynski referred to the Caledonia Centennial PS French Immersion Update report noting the Quality Accommodation Committee recommended the French Immersion program for the 2018-19 school year be split between Caledonia Centennial Public and River Heights School by moving the Grade 4 to 8 French Immersion students to River Heights due to current growing enrolment at Caledonia Centennial Public School in the regular program and French Immersion as a result of the McClung development. At the April 2018 Board Meeting, the recommendation was not supported by Trustees for 2018-19 and Trustees requested a report back to further dissect the accommodation challenges in Caledonia.

R. Wyszynski referred to the Appendices which provided student demographics of where the students attending Caledonia Centennial PS French Immersion program reside. R. Wyszynski reviewed the French Immersion Student Transportation Data noting 18 additional students would become eligible to receive transportation if the program was moved to River Heights and the reasons the Quality Accommodation Committee selected River Heights.

J. Harris noted concern and wants to ensure we give the opportunity for the public to comment and asked if there are time constraints? B. Blancher responded there are no time constraints and the information has been shared with the community. L. DeVos further responded that she has received calls from the parents of the school and advised them this report was coming to the board today as information and if there were to be a decision, the final decision would be ratified the end of June. J. Harris further commented if the discussions have occurred with the community he is comfortable moving forward.

J. Richardson noted his concern was around the communication and if Superintendent De Vos has had communication with the community, he is comfortable moving forward.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the relocation of the French Immersion Programs for grades 4-8 from Caledonia Centennial Public School to River Heights School effective September 2019.

**Carried**



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

(c) **Selection of Slate of Officers**

It was noted due to Trustee Sloat's recent election as Second Vice-President of the Ontario Public School Board Association at the OPSBA Annual General Meeting on June 2, Trustee Sloat is required to step down as Grand Erie District School Board OPSBA Director and Voting Delegate. It was noted Alternate OPSBA Director R. Collver has declined the position. The Board is required to elect a new OPSBA Director and Voting Delegate.

(i) **Appointment of Scrutineers**

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT Denise Martins and Rafal Wyszynski be appointed as scrutineers for the election of the OPSBA Director.

**Carried**

(ii) **Method of Nominating**

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT nominations for the election of OPSBA Director be made orally.

**Carried**

(iii) **Nominations for OPSBA Director and Voting Delegate**

D. Dean nominated J. Harris who accepted the nomination.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the nominations for the position of the OPSBA Director and Voting Delegate be closed.

**Carried**

J. Harris was declared acclaimed as OPSBA Director and Voting Delegate of the 2018.

(iv) **Nominating Committee Report**

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the election of the OPSBA Director and Voting Delegate.

OPSBA Director/ Voting Delegate
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J. Harris
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**Carried**



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

### (d) Student Transportation Update

R. Wyszynski referred to the Student Transportation Update report noting this is to provide Trustees with an update on developments from the recent Student Transportation Services Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk (STSBHN) Board of Directors Meeting regarding exploring a decrease in the current walking distances for elementary students from 1.6 km to 1.4 km that first surfaced in October 31, 2017 from the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board (BHNCDSD).

R. Wyszynski informed Trustees that at the May 22, 2018 Board of Directors meeting, it was confirmed that BHNCDSD approved the 1.4 km elementary student walking distance for their transportation policy at their April 24, 2018 Board Meeting. R. Wyszynski further noted that Phil Kuckyt, Manager of Transportation Services presented Procedure 002-Transportation Eligibility which has been sent out for comment for 60 days and has been revised to show the 1.4 km walking change for BHNCDSD while Grand Erie and Conseil Scolaire Catholique MonAvenir maintain the 1.6 km elementary walking distance.

R. Wyszynski informed Trustees that the STSBHN Board of Directors will meet on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to approve the revised procedure and noted the walking distances will no longer be harmonized if the revised procedure is approved and Trustees will be informed of the outcome from the July 24, 2018 meeting.

G. Anderson asked how many voting members on the committee. R. Wyszynski responded two per board. G. Anderson further asked if the revised procedure could be defeated? R. Wyszynski noted it is possible.

J. Richardson asked Trustees for their inputs on how they wish to vote at the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Trustees support J. Richardson and R. Wyszynski to vote against the revised procedure.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Student Transportation Update as information.

**Carried**

### (e) Mapleview Elementary Construction Project Update

R. Wyszynski referred to the Mapleview Elementary Construction Project Update report providing Trustees with background and noted at the June 5, 2018 Construction meeting it was discovered that occupancy by the first of September cannot be guaranteed. R. Wyszynski



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

noted classrooms are expected to be ready but there are expected delays in the opening of the gymnasium and library. R. Wyszynski informed Trustees that the current Fairview Avenue site will be able to absorb the students with minimal disruption to staffing and transportation and reviewed the four options that Trustees will need to consider.

R. Wyszynski noted regarding the option taken, Sr. Administration will ensure that the communication with families, students, staff and the community is a top priority and further noted Sr. Administration recommends Option 3 – Move in January 2019 be selected which offers more flexibility and allows for clear messaging.

J. Richardson recommends Trustee consider Option 4 - Delay the Announcement until the August 2018 meeting. J. Richardson requested it be communicated to families that students will start at Fairview Avenue in September and the occupancy date will be communicated closer to the start of the school year.

Moved by: J. Richardson

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the recommendation to delay the announcement of the date of opening of Mapleview Elementary until the August 27, 2018 Board Meeting.

**Carried**

### C - 1 Director's Report

Director's highlights:

- OPHEA Healthy Schools – Healthy Schools certification highlights Grand Erie commitment to health, well-being. Seven Grand Erie schools are celebrating their accomplishments this month as part of a commitment to promoting and enhancing the health and well-being of students, staff, and the wider community. Central Elementary, and Houghton are the proud recipients of gold status through OPHEA and Prince Charles and North Ward School have maintained gold status with Pauline Johnson Collegiate celebrating a move to gold status this year. In addition, Princess Elizabeth and Grandview Elementary received silver status. OPHEA uses a point system to measure school's efforts, aligning with the Ministry of Education's Foundations for a Healthy School resource.
- Sharing Our Voices – Indigenous Education Event in partnership with the Grand Erie Elementary Teachers Federation is taking place on June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Sanderson Centre from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. The theme is "Imagine a Canada" where students will share what they dream about in a Canada with Reconciliation. There will be student performances, including choirs, dance, art, ukulele groups, spoken word and more. Special Guests are Kevin Lamoureux, National Education Lead with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and Logan Staats, Winner of CTV's "The Launch"



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

and former Grand Erie student. National Indigenous Peoples Day takes place on June 21<sup>st</sup>

- Student Vote – a hands-on learning program that brings democracy into the classroom and helps foster the habits of active and engaged citizenship. Students learn about government and the electoral process, and research the issues, parties and candidates through classroom activities and media review. On Student Vote Day, students cast ballots for the official election candidates running in their school's electoral district. Grade Erie had 67 schools involved and 5,507 votes cast (likely Grade 5 and Grade 10 classes but can be a whole school thing too). The Student Vote is a program of CIVIX, Canada's leading civic education charity – with help from Elections Ontario. Grand Erie Student Vote Results: Brant/Brantford – Alex Felsky, NDP, Haldimand/Norfolk – Toby Barrett, PC
- B. Blancher requested that R. Wyszynski speak about the approval to move forward with the Hagersville Child Care Centre and also approval to move forward with the Child Care addition at Central Elementary in Brantford.
  - R. Wyszynski provided trustees with an update for the Hagersville Child Care Centre. The funding which was approved in January 2017 has finally had a floorplan approved by the Early Years and Child Care Division in the Southwest corner of the building. The next steps include the development of construction documents so that a tender can be hopefully released in the summer. Anticipated occupancy is January 2019 at the earliest.
  - R. Wyszynski also provided an update on the Central PS addition. The funding, which was granted to the Board in December of 2017 will construct a 4 room addition onto Central PS. The board has since received approval on the floorplan that was submitted earlier in May. The addition is anticipated to be completed ahead of September 2019.

C.A. Sloat commented on an upcoming event: June 22 CAGE Track & Field Event.

***B. Doyle arrived the meeting at 8:02 p.m.***

***K. Sandy left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.***

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Director's Report of June 11, 2018 as information.

**Carried**





## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

### D - 1 New Business – Action/Decision Items

#### (a) Annual Review of the Special Education Plan

L. Thompson referred to the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan report noting as per regulation 306, each school board is required to maintain a Special Education Plan, review it annually, make amendments as appropriate and ensure the Special Education programs and services are made available to the community by the start of the school Year. L. Thompson noted the approved plan is posted on the board website.

L. Thompson provided a high level overview of the changes that were in made in response to feedback from the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), parent and community input, as well as Ministry personnel from the London Regional Office who attended the October 19, 2017 SEAC meeting to review the 2016-17 Special Education Plan. L. Thompson noted the 2017-18 Special Education Plan was approved at the May 17, 2018 SEAC meeting.

G. Anderson and R. Collver thanked L. Thompson and her team for the detail of this information and noted that the report is outstanding.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: R. Collver

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan, and the submission of two copies of the plan and the Special Education Report Components Checklist to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education.

**Carried**

#### (b) 2018-19 Board Budget

R. Wyszynski referred to the 2018-19 Budget Approval report noting the 2018-19 Operating and Capital Budgets have been developed as set out in Policy F2 – Budget Development Process and the budgets will be submitted to the Ministry as required by regulation on or before the submission deadline of June 29, 2018 pending Board approval.

R. Wyszynski reviewed the Operating and Capital Budget Highlights and the budget outlook.

G. Anderson commented that R. Wyszynski is doing a remarkable job.

C.A. Sloat asked if R. Wyszynski expects any changes to the budget before is it submitted. R. Wyszynski responded that he does not expect any unless we hear anything from the Ministry.





## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2018-19 Operating Budget of \$325,607,308.

**Carried**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Richardson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the 2018-19 Capital Budget of \$25,569,629.

**Carried**

C.A. Sloat asked if we will see a further detailed report on the capital budget. R. Wyszynski responded the plan is to bring a more detailed report when the revised budget estimate report is presented in the Fall and further commented for the 2019-20 Budget the report will have more detail to it.

D. Dean noted in the capital budget there is the learning common conversions and understands we may not have the funds to complete at this time but is requesting that a plan be developed and presented on how remove the open concept classrooms in our schools.

### D – 2 New Business – Information Items

#### (a) Category III Trips

B. Blancher referred to the Category III Trips report and explained the trips listed were approved between January and June 2018 and the previously approved trips have not yet taken place.

C.A. Sloat is was great to see the Centennial-Grand Woodlands and Echo Place did a combined school trip.

D. Sowers commented that she would like to see trips to overseas locations that are costly have fundraising activities to allow all students within the class the opportunity to attend.

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Category III Trips report as information.

**Carried**



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

(b) **Implications of 2018-19 Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Events on Lakewood Elementary School**

W. Baker referred to the Implications of 2018-19 Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Events on Port Dover Students noting there are no months with the 13<sup>th</sup> day falling on a Friday for the 2018-19 school year.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report on Implications of 2018-19 Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Events on Port Dover Students as information.

**Carried**

(c) **The Joint Protocol for Student Achievement**

L. Thompson referred to the Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) report and noted the JPSA has been developed to support the unique circumstances and education needs of children and youth involved in the child welfare system as part of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Education commitment to improving the education outcomes of student who are in the care of, or receiving the services of Child Welfare Authorities.

L. Thompson noted the JPSA will be shared with school administrators at the September Director's meeting and posted on the Board's website.

C.A. Sloat noted that she wished the name was a little more clear in terms of what the protocol is for. C.A. Sloat indicated that the protocol is applicable to Kindergarten to Grade 12, what about students who are over 18 is this applicable to them? D. Martins responded that there are no clear directions but believes it support those students.

C.A. Sloat noted that some of the Appendix forms should contain retention schedule.

Moved by: T. Waldschmidt

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) as information.

**Carried**



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

(d) **Revised Violent Threat Risk Assessment Protocol**

W. Baker invited Christine Bibby to the table. W. Baker referred to the Revised School and Community Violence Threat/Risk Assessment Protocol report noting the original protocol was approved by Trustees in January 2013 and since inception of this protocol its use has increased significantly in our schools. W. Baker commented the protocol is reviewed annually and the revised protocol will include the addition of three signatories, including the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School and both boards will be hosting a protocol signing event at Walter Gretzky/St. Basil's on June 14, 2018.

C. Bibby reviewed the changes that have been made to the protocol.

G. Anderson commended C. Bibby with her work on this. D. Dean expressed his support and appreciation for the report.

C.A. Sloat commented some of the forms don't contain the retention schedule and recommends that be added.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: C.A. Sloat

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Revised School and Community Violence Threat/Risk Assessment Protocol as information.

**Carried**

E - 1 **Bylaw/Policy/Procedure Consideration – Action/Decision Items**

(a) **FT5 Pupil Accommodation Review**

R. Wyszynski referred to the FT5 Pupil Accommodation Reviews report noting this policy was approved by the Board in November 2016 and due to the April 2108 release of the revised Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Guideline, Policy FT5 has been identified for review. R. Wyszynski noted this policy will be going out for comment and referred to the revisions.

R. Collver thanked R. Wyszynski for doing this and commented with the recent election this could be changed further. R. Collver would suggest/request that we reach out to our new elected Brantford/Brant and Haldimand-Norfolk MPPs and lobby them for support.

B. Blancher noted an error on page 3 of the policy under 6.0 which should read forty (40) business day not calendar days.



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

Moved by: C.A. Sloat

Seconded by: T. Waldschmidt

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board forward Policy FT5 Pupil Accommodation Review to all appropriate stakeholders for comments to be received by November 2, 2018 as amended.

**Carried**

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board direct the Board Chair to write a letter congratulating the two newly elected local MPPs and request a meeting.

**Carried**

(b) **Bylaw 27 Electronic Meetings**

B. Blancher referred to the Bylaw 27 Electronic Meeting report noting this bylaw was received by the Board in January 2015. B. Blancher noted following the Governance Engagement initiated by the Ontario Government in the fall of 2017, changes were made to Ontario Regulation 463/97 – Electronic Meetings which has implications for Bylaw 27. B. Blancher referred to the revisions for Trustee consideration.

Moved by: R. Collver

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Bylaw 27 – Electronic Meetings.

**Carried**

(c) **SO6 Student Suspensions**

W. Baker referred to the SO6 – Student Suspension report noting SO6 Student Suspension is scheduled for review in September 2019 and due to Ontario's Cannabis Act (2017) which dictates changes to the Education Act, specifically Section 306, including cannabis-related reasons for suspension, these changes have to be reflected in SO6.

W. Baker informed Trustees a group of Grand Erie school administrators has been working to streamline the reasons for suspensions regarding disaggregating two generalized and much overused reasons and have finished its work and the revised reasons for suspension have been approved by Executive Council. With the Education Act changes, this is an opportune time to incorporate the working group's revisions.

W. Baker reviewed the revisions and noted though these changes are significant in scope, the process related to suspensions remain the same. W. Baker further noted Sr.



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

Administration would like the policy change to be in place for September 2018 and requests that the minimum 60 day of circulation period for stakeholder input as stated in Bylaw 9 be waived.

C.A. Sloat asked about SO7 Student Expulsion and if that will also be changed. W. Baker responded that the team has looked it and noted it will be brought to board in August.

D. Dean agrees with the changes.

Moved by: B. Doyle

Seconded by: D. Dean

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve the changes to SO6 – Student Suspensions.

**Carried**

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: A. Felsky

THAT the Bylaw 9 – Processes for Development of By-laws, Policies and Procedures be waived with respect to circulating SO6 Student Suspension to all appropriate stakeholders for comments.

**Carried**

### E – 2 Procedure Consideration – Information Items

#### (a) SO124 Use of Service Dogs in School

L. Thompson referred to SO124 Use of Services Dogs in School report noting this procedure was brought to Board in November 2015 and since then new information has been provided to school boards to ensure the proper coverage of insurance the owner of a service dog must provide to the school board. L. Thompson referred to the revisions that include a letter to go home to families describing insurance requirements.

J. Harris commented in regards to financial cost for insurance, do we know what the cost would be for the family? L. Thompson responded we do not but have been advised that this would most likely be covered under their home/property insurance.

C.A. Sloat noted that she is very uncomfortable with this not going out for comment and also asked who makes the determination regarding meaningful education? L. Thompson noted there will more changes and the schools can make the determination if the student is able to access their education in a meaningful and appropriate way with accommodations and modifications.



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

---

C.A. Sloat asked if this would come back during the regular review cycle. L. Thompson responded that is correct.

J. Harris recommends that this changes be put in place but requests SO124 be brought back in September to be sent out for comment from stakeholders.

### *A. Felsky left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.*

D. Sowers asked how long will the owner have to provide proof of insurance. L. Thompson responded she is not sure and will obtain the answer.

B. Doyle asked if the Board insurance could be used. R. Wyszynski responded that is risk for the Board.

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: B. Doyle

THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Procedure S0124 Use of Service Dogs in School as amended.

**Carried**

Moved by: J. Harris

Seconded by: G. Anderson

THAT the Bylaw 9 – Processes for Development of By-laws, Policies and Procedures be waived with respect to circulating SO124 Use of Service Dogs in Schools to all appropriate stakeholders for comments.

**Carried**

### F - 1 Other Business

#### (a) OPSBA Report

C.A. Sloat referred to the OPSBA Report.

J. Harris commented on the leave of absence issue, noting it seems there is a gap in the act and believes that this needs to be sent back to OPSBA.

### G - 1 Correspondence

Nil



## Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2018  
Education Centre, Board Room

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### H - 1 Adjournment

Moved by: G. Anderson

Seconded by: J. Harris

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

**Carried**

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Committee of the Whole Board Chair, D. Sowers