

## Finance and Legal Committee

### Public Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 15, 2023 – 10:00 am  
Via Zoom

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**Present:**

Vice Chairperson	R. Belleza
Trustee Member	K. Hamaguchi
Trustee Alternate	D. Tablotney
Trustee	A. Wong
Secretary Treasurer	C. Wang
Assistant Secretary Treasurer	M. Fu
Executive Director, Facilities Services/Richmond Project Team	F. Geyer
President, Richmond Teachers' Association	L. Baverstock
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Richmond Teachers' Association	T. McCracken
President, CUPE 716	I. Hillman
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, CUPE 716	S. Robinson*
Representative, Richmond Management and Professional Staff	R. Corbin
Past President, Richmond District Parents Association	D. McFie
Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)	J. Coronel

**Regrets:**

Chairperson	D. Sargent
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\*Present for a portion of the meeting

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am.

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledged and thanked the First Peoples of the hən̓q̓əmiñəṁ language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

#### 1. Adopt Agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

#### 2. Approve Minutes

The minutes of the public meeting held Wednesday, January 18, 2023, were approved as circulated.

### 3. **2022/2023 Annual Amended Budget Bylaw (Recommendation)**

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer provided information on the 2022/2023 Amended Annual Budget which consists of the Operating, Special Purpose, and Capital Funds. She also explained significant changes in the 2022/2023 Amended Annual Budget, as compared to the 2022/2023 Annual Budget.

The President of Richmond Teachers' Association clarified that the additional expense item on indigenous teachers on call refers to Teachers Teaching On-Call who provide relief to support the indigenous focused graduation requirement. The Assistant Secretary Treasurer noted this comment and will rephrase this item in the 2022/2023 Amended Annual Budget.

The President of Richmond Teachers' Association also expressed her concern on funds potentially unspent due to current challenges on teacher recruitment. She urged the Committee to follow up on this to ensure that positions are filled to avoid further delay of service to students.

In response to a question from the Vice Chairperson if the district's budget is stable, sufficient, and sustainable, the Secretary Treasurer explained that based on current information, the district is in a better position compared to the past two years due to an increase in revenue from international students and a projected increase in enrolment. She also noted that more budget information will be shared with stakeholders when they are available in the coming months.

The President of Richmond Teachers' Association agreed with the Secretary Treasurer that the district is in a better financial position primarily due to an unexpected increase in enrolment this school year and the series of budget reductions over the past few years. Without these factors, the district will be in a different financial position because of lack of funding from the provincial government. Trustee Tablotney echoed the statement of the President of Richmond Teachers' Association.

The Secretary Treasurer and Assistant Secretary Treasurer responded to questions from the President of CUPE 716 with regard to percentage salary increase for exempt staff, reporting of labour settlement funding for support staff, as well as potential operating surplus due to unfilled trades positions.

The Committee then agreed to forward the following **RECOMMENDATION** to the Board:

**THAT** the Board of Education (Richmond) approve the 2022/2023 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw by way of three readings and that the Board authorizes the Chair of the Board, Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer to sign the 2022/2023 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw and submit the 2022/2023 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw together with the 2022/2023 Amended Annual Budget to the Ministry of Education and Child Care by February 28, 2023.

### 4. **2023/2024 Facility Rental Rates (Recommendation)**

The Executive Director, Facilities Services/Richmond Project Team spoke to his report as included in the agenda package.

The Committee agreed to forward the following **RECOMMENDATION** to the Board:

**THAT** the Board of Education approves a five per cent (5%) increase to both non-commercial (not-for-profit) and commercial (for profit) facility rental rates for the 2023/2024 fiscal year as presented herein.

**5. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 10:00 am.**

The Vice Chairperson noted that future meetings will be on zoom based on survey results.

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 am.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Rod Belleza  
Vice Chairperson, Finance and Legal Committee*