



"Accepting the Challenge"

Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes

Wednesday, October 3, 2012 (11:30 a.m.)

Board Room, Administration Office

Present: P. Bowslaugh, Chairperson, K. Sumner, D. Karnes (alternate),
Dr. D. Michaels.

Guest: K. Boklaschuk, Communications in Technology Specialist (12:30
p.m. to 1:00 p.m.)

Regrets: M. Snelling

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. by Trustee Bowslaugh

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Bowslaugh wished to include the following items for discussion:

- Presentation by Ms. K. Boklaschuk regarding Vincent Massey's Cyber Safety Workshop;
- Setting a meeting date for the Joint City Task Force Committee;
- Volunteers in the school;
- Email from Guy Roberts regarding funding through the National Crime Prevention Strategy to support the School Resource Officer.

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Minutes of the September 5, 2012 minutes were received as information.

4. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

A) Follow-up from September 5, 2012

- **Stakeholder Meeting Student Council Presidents and Vice Presidents.**

The Committee reviewed the meeting held with representatives from the three high school student councils and reflected on the comments made by the students.

5. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A) Policy 1020 – "Parent/Guardian Division Advisory Committee"

Discussions were held at the Policy Review Committee in February 2011 regarding the possibility of a Student Liaison Committee that would allow the Board to hear more fully, the student voice. The Policy Review Committee referred the matter to the Divisional Futures and

Community Relations Committee to discuss as it relates to Policy 1020. Discussions were held regarding what would be the best avenue available to students to communicate with Trustees and/or the Board of Trustees. Considerations were given to travelling to meet students at their schools; having a set agenda with a less structured meeting format; ensuring students know the Board of Trustees is available should the need arise; and the importance of the Board "keeping their finger on the pulse" through either set meetings. Holding regular Committee meetings, or on an as needed basis; whether or not to develop a student committee similar to the Division's BTA Liaison Committee; and picking the proper time of year to meet with students based on their schedules was also discussed. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels confirmed the Board of Trustees would be receiving a full report on the Student Voice Survey at the Regular Meeting of the Board to be held on October 9, 2012. She confirmed the results of the survey were very useful to schools when developing school plans.

Trustee Bowslaugh suggested a letter be written to each Student Council to advise them that the door is always open should they wish to meet with the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee and/or the Board of Trustees. She would prepare a letter to be brought back to the Committee for review at a later date.

B) Volunteers in the School

Trustee Bowslaugh inquired about the possibility of partnering with Seniors for Seniors to obtain volunteers to work with students in the school. It was confirmed the Division does have a policy with respect to volunteers in the school and that there are several volunteers in the elementary schools, as per the policy.

It was agreed promotion of this resource to school principals and senior centres about Division policy on this matter was required.

C) Joint City Task Force Committee

Trustee Bowslaugh requested a meeting date be set for this Committee. It was agreed the meeting would be set for Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Supper would not be provided. Trustee Bowslaugh would advise the members of the Committee who were on City Council.

D) Letter from Guy Roberts – National Crime Prevention Strategy

The Committee reviewed a letter which had been forwarded to all Trustees by the Board Chairperson from Guy Roberts. He will be applying for funding, through the National Crime Prevention Strategy to support the deployment of an additional School Resource Officer. Discussions were held regarding the best way to support this application. It was agreed a recommendation would be brought to the Board of Trustees to write a letter of support. The Committee Chairperson would ask the Board Chairperson if this could be brought to the October 9, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees as a late item.

Recommendation:

That the Brandon School Division write a letter of support to the National Crime Prevention Strategy supporting the application of the Brandon Police Services for funding to deploy an additional School Resource Officer.

E) Vincent Massey High School Cyber Safety Workshop

Ms. Kelli Boklaschuk, Communications in Technology Specialist, entered the meeting at 12:30 p.m. and provided the Committee with information regarding the upcoming Cyber Safety Workshop to take place at Vincent Massey High School. She noted the workshop was a program developed in partnership between Child and Family Services and the Brandon Police Services. The Vincent Massey High School Student Council was sponsoring this event. Grade 9 students would attend the workshop on October 22 and 23, 2012, while parents of these students would be invited to attend a workshop on the evening of November 6, 2012. The goal of the program was to start small and ensure a quality presentation before opening it up to larger groups. Detailed discussions were held regarding whether or not this should be considered as something the Division takes on in the future; the importance and benefit of such a program; the content of the program and the availability of a crisis team should students require assistance; and whether or not younger students should also be included in future workshops. Ms. Boklaschuk will be discussing this item at the November LSS Meeting. It was agreed feedback from both parents and students would be required before discussions regarding any further roll-out of such a program would take place.

F) Brandon School Division Website Update

Ms. Boklaschuk reviewed what she is currently posting on the Division website and the plans for the future with the implementation of School Bundle. She provided a brief overview of the roll out of School Bundle. She also spoke about the Division's Blog on ebrandon as well the Division's Twitter account. She will continue to update the Committee on the changes to the website as they take place. She concluded her presentation with an update on the upcoming Press Release she is currently working on with WCG regarding the dark fibre project. The Committee thanked Ms. Boklaschuk for her presentations noting they were pleased with all her work to date and like the change in communications she is bringing to the Division.

6. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Bowslaugh, Chair

M. Snelling

K. Sumner

D. Karnes (Alternate)