

DATE: October 11, 2011

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Michael Janz, Conference Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Report #1 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held September 27, 2011)

ORIGINATOR: Tash Taylor, Director Executive and Board Relations

RESOURCE STAFF: Anne Sherwood

REFERENCE: Trustees' Manual re In-Camera Sessions – Committee of the Whole – Conference
http://www.epsb.ca/policy/tr_sectionone_conference_meetings.shtml

ISSUE

A recommendation arising from the Conference Committee meeting held September 27, 2011 is being presented for approval as per the terms of reference for Conference Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Report #1 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held September 27, 2011 be received and considered.**
- 2. That the nomination of Trustee Ripley for a position on the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) Standing Committee on Intra-governmental Political Relations at the PSBAA Annual General Meeting be approved.**

BACKGROUND

The Standing Committee on Intra-governmental Political Relations (IGPR) of the Public School Boards' Association is intended to develop a plan and resources for member Boards and the PSBC that would be useful in exerting positive influence on MLAs and municipal councillors for the benefit of public school education. The IGPR Standing Committee is comprised of four elected members plus a Vice-President of the Association, as decided by the Executive Committee. Every year, two members are elected to serve a two-year term. Trustee Ripley is one of two members currently on the IGPR Standing Committee completing their first two-year term. Trustee Ripley is eligible for re-election for one more two-year term in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Committee (ATTACHMENT I).

RELATED FACTS

Elections for two members of the IGPR Standing Committee will take place on Saturday October 22, 2011 in conjunction with the PSBAA Annual General Meeting.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

N/A

CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS

N/A

NEXT STEPS

A Trustee will put forward Trustee Ripley's name on the nomination board at the Saturday, October 22, 2011 PSBAA Annual General Meeting. Trustees will seek support for Trustee Ripley's nomination to the IGPR Standing Committee.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Terms of Reference Standing Committee on Intra-governmental Political Relations

AS:mmf

**Terms of Reference
Standing Committee on
Intra-governmental Political Relations**

A. Purpose

The purpose of the Committee is:

- to develop and guide the implementation of an Intra-governmental Political Relations Program for the Association and, at the discretion of members, for the members themselves, with the intention of improving and sustaining the relationships between and among M.L.A.s and public school trustees;
- to develop a plan with strategic initiatives, goals and objectives, and events and undertakings for members of the Association;
- to work actively at developing and strengthening political contacts and working relationships;
- to monitor the statements and activity of Members of the Legislative Assembly in order to provide advice to the PSBAA (including the PSBC) and member boards about the positions and apparent intentions of M.L.A.s as these relate to public school education;
- to provide advice to the PSBAA (including the PSBC) and member boards about how to improve and maintain good relationships with M.L.A.s locally and provincially;
- to provide member boards and the PSBAA (including the PSBC) with resources and reference materials, templates and other tools, plans and training that would be useful in exerting positive influence on M.L.A.s for the benefit of public school education;
- to host or organize events and other activities that members may opt into, for the purpose of connecting provincial issues and interests with local interests and issues; and,
- to produce reports from time to time, as directed by the membership or as the Committee itself deems appropriate.

The Committee is expected to lead by example and work with and for members by participating in events and programs designed to enhance intra-governmental political relations.

The Committee shall:

- conduct itself in ways that are inclusive, respectful, collaborative, transparent, ethical, and demonstrate a commitment to excellence;
- take into account similar work and resources of member school jurisdictions; and,
- approach its work with the understanding that the design of the work must provide for local adaptation in every public school jurisdiction, regardless of circumstances.

The secondary audience for the work of the Committee is municipal councilors. Terms of Reference – Standing Committee on Intra-governmental Political Relations October 2009

B. Committee Membership

Members of the Committee will be elected by and from among the members of the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta.

On the establishment of the Standing Committee, two members of the Standing Committee will be elected for a term of one year and two members will be elected for a term of two years. Thereafter, election will be for a two year term, and a member may be re-elected once in succession to a completed term. A former member of the Standing Committee may be elected to the Standing Committee after one year off the Committee.

A Vice-President of the Association, as decided by the Executive Committee is the fifth member and Chair of the Standing Committee.

The Minister of Education has a standing invitation to name a Member of the Legislative Assembly who is a resident of a public school district to be a member of the Committee, *ex officio*.

C. Meetings of the Committee: the Business of the Committee

Meetings of the Committee will be at the call of the Chair. Meetings of the Committee may be conducted according to the bylaws of the Association. The Committee may conduct business by email or otherwise, as the members of the Committee agree.

D. Resources

The Budget of the Standing Committee is contained within the Budget of the Association, and the Committee may not expend funds except to the extent funds have been set aside by the Executive Committee for the work of the Standing Committee. The expenditure of funds, such as for the payment of per diem allowances and for expenses incurred, is otherwise subject to the policies of the Association.