

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 24, 2011

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Response to Refugee Transportation Loan Sub-committee of Strategic Alliance for the Advancement of Immigrant and Refugee Children and Youth (SAAIRCY) Delegation

ORIGINATOR: T. Parker, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

RECOMMENDATION

That a letter in support of the SAAIRCY campaign be approved.

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BACKGROUND

On May 10, 2011 delegation spokespersons, Ms. Roxanne Felix and Mr. Matt Hundert, representatives of the SAAIRCY sub-committee, appeared before the Board to request a letter (or other form of support, i.e., resolution) to support their campaign that advocates for Government of Canada to:

1. Immediately cancel all outstanding refugee transportation and pre-entry medical loan debt.
2. Cease seeking repayment of the refugee transportation and pre-entry medical costs for new Government Assisted and Privately Sponsored refugees coming to Canada.
3. Undertake these actions without reducing the number of refugees who are allowed to resettle in Canada.

NEXT STEPS

If the recommendation is approved the Administration will draft a letter of support for the Board Chair's signature.

TP:ja