

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 9, 2004

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee S. Hansen

SUBJECT: Motion Re Natural Gas Rebate Program: Request To Increase Financial Support to School Jurisdictions

RECOMMENDATION

That a letter be forwarded from the Chairman on behalf of the Board to the Premier with copies to the Ministers of Infrastructure and Learning urging the provincial government to shield school districts from natural gas price increases.

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The Alberta government has committed to provide partial support to cover increases in the price of natural gas during winter months (November to March). The formula results in a higher local contribution the higher the rate. In the past few weeks, the rates have exceeded the \$8.00 per gigajoule and this is a period in which the Natural Gas Rebate Program is not in effect.

It should be emphasized that failing to provide the necessary support would result in funds, designated to address the plant operation and maintenance needs, having to be diverted to support increased utilities costs.

SH:AH:cg