



SD69 QUALICUM

**Finance & Operations Committee of the Whole Report**  
**Monday, October 19, 2020**  
**VIA ZOOM**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Mandate:** *To discuss and make recommendations to the board on financial matters and matters pertaining to facilities, maintenance, technology and transportation.*

**Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories**

**Presentation:**

- **Parksville Lions Housing Society**

Laurie Nickerson, James Barrand and Michael Garland gave a presentation on the work of their Society. They currently have three facilities in the Parksville area that supports affordable housing. They have reached out to City of Parksville and are now asking the School District to see if there is available land to build another facility.

Specifically in looking at the Craig Street Commons site, they are asking if land could be made available to lease or sell to build, knowing they would need about 1 acre. They currently have a relationship with BC Housing already with their facilities as this type of initiative is supportable through them. They recognize the need for affordable housing is not going away so are asking for the School Board to consider their request.

There was some discussion and questions from Trustees regarding school sites and capital planning and will be followed up by the Secretary Treasurer for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

**Project Updates:**

- **Oceanside Community Track (at Ballenas) Project Update**

Superintendent Elder and Trustee Young gave an update on the project. In light of the recent discussions by the Oceanside Services Committee, there is a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 20 of the Steering Committee to consider next steps.

- **Arrowview Elementary Child Care Space**

The General Manager of Operations, Chris Dempster, provided a status report of the progress to date on this project. Permits will be submitted this week, so that the Request for Proposals can go out at the end of October. It is hoped that construction could start as early as December. Dates for opening could be as early as May 2021 if construction goes well or September to better align with school startup.

**Items for Discussion**

- **CUPEBC Seamless Childcare Proposal**

Trustee Austin spoke briefly to the letter received and asked for support for a recommendation to the Board to write a letter to the Premier in support of the proposal. This was generally supported and the motion will go the Board at its October regular Board meeting.

- **Class Size Costing**  
Trustee Austin shared further understanding on the elements of costing for reduced class sizes. General discussion followed on current class sizes in light of the home support model.

Trustee Austin also shared recent provincial discussions and recommendations that Districts should start their Budget deliberations earlier this year. The Primary Program discussions will be added to the budget items later in the year.

- **COVID Related Expenses to Date**  
Secretary Treasurer Amos walked the committee through the summary that was provided in the agenda. He highlighted that the costing includes the additional information required to account for the provincial and federal funds received in September.

### **Recommendations to Board of Education**

- **Letter to the Premier Regarding Seamless Child Care**  
**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) write a letter to the Premier to support, in principle, the concept of the seamless child care initiative proposed by CUPEBC.

### **Information Items**

- **Quarterly Financial Summary**  
Secretary Treasurer Amos spoke briefly to the first quarters report, noting that it covers 3 months of information but only 1 month of the educational year. It is still early in the year however, he was cautious as to how the year will unfold. Two items were asked to be added as future topics: an update on rentals and general discussion on the ISP program.
- **Enrolment Report**  
The preliminary enrolment report was presented based on the data submitted to the Ministry for the September 30 count. Enrolment has been better than projected overall; however, COVID has changed the choices that families have made. Whereas the elementary and secondary schools saw a decline in enrolment, the Distance Learning program has seen an increase. The other observation is the stark change in the international program with enrolment down by 83%, from 180 students in September 2019 to 30 students this year.

### **Next Meeting Date/Location:**

- Monday, November 16 at 10:30, via Zoom