



SD69 QUALICUM

Finance & Operations Committee of the Whole Report
Tuesday, April 19, 2022
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.*

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES

2. PRESENTATION - None

3. PROJECT UPDATES

a. Fundraising - Oceanside Community Track at Ballenas

Trustee Young provided an update of the fundraising activities of the Committee. It was reported that the committee has now created a charitable society for the purposes of raising funds and allowing for independence from the School District when applying for grants.

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Revenue Sources - Rentals

Secretary Treasurer Amos provided a financial update on the rental site revenues and the corresponding expenditures. In presenting the 5-year historical information, it was shared how the rental sites have evolved into an active portfolio of various tenant groups, from childcare providers to adult programs to social agencies. All of the 5 sites are well supported with an occupancy ranging from 65% to 100%. Reviewing the escalating costs, it was shared that the current rental rates have not been changed since they were established at \$13.50/sq. ft. in 2014 and that an increase is being reviewed to be effective July 1, 2023, with consideration for a NFP rate as well as the commercial rate. Support for this approach was received.

Discussion then turned to the current courtesy bus rider rate and the consideration of increasing them. The current rate of \$125/yr was established several years ago and although fees have been waived for catchment students, there has been no increases to the courtesy rate. It was presented that over the past 5 years fuel costs and overall transportation costs have risen by 62% and 20% respectively. After some discussion on the merits of the increase it was felt that the fees could remain the same for now.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Incoming Director of Operations

Secretary Treasurer Amos shared what was announced earlier this month regarding the appointment of the new Director of Operations. Phil Munro will be joining the district effective May 24. Coming from his current position at the GTAA in Ontario, he'll bring a wealth of experience as he takes on the leadership and planning for the Operations and Maintenance department. It was also shared how the current work in the department is being well supported by the two Assistant

Managers, Will Rosendale and Brant Prunkl and it is thanks to them that the department continues to be in good hands.

b. 3rd Quarter Financial summary

Secretary Treasurer Amos provided an overview of the latest quarterly results noting that the 3 years of data makes a better comparison for a normal school year. He shared that expenditures are well within budget, highlighting the rebound in International Student Program revenues and tenant rentals as the district recovers from the impact of COVID.

c. Lead in Water Report

Assistant General Manager Rosendale provided the latest results of the water testing done in March as required by the Ministry. Most of the tests came back within acceptable levels; however, some are requiring a mitigating strategy be identified. For these, signage will be posted at the sites to run the water for 30 seconds to clear the lines of contaminants. Automatic flushers are being looked into to support some of these sites, recognizing that the testing focusses on the source being for drinking purposes, not necessarily for washing or watering. The report will be posted on the district website.

d. Prism Study

Secretary Treasure Amos provided an update of the work to date being done by Prism Engineering. The five sites selected for the project were visited in February and the data is being reviewed. Some questions still remain regarding the impact of Solar projects and the energy they contribute.

Reports will be filed shortly with BC Hydro to gain the grants that are being used to pay for the study costs with the expectation that the recommendations such as heat pumps or DDC work will be implemented to reduce electricity usage at these sites. The final report is expected by late 2022.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Information regarding the recent 2022-23 Capital Program announcement was shared and a Capital Plan Bylaw will be presented for adoption by the Board at the April Regular Board meeting.

Planning for the 5 projects including Phase 2 of the Ballenas Secondary School's HVAC, 3 solar installations and replacement of a bus will continue. There was some discussion on the choice of suppliers and particularly the merits of electric buses. It was shared that although the next bus would not be electric as costs and "fit" still remain impediments, that the district is still committed to pursuing the use of electric vehicles.

7. FUTURE TOPICS

8. NEXT MEETING DATE:

Monday, May 16 at 10:30; Via Zoom