

MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL PUBLIC MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 85 (VANCOUVER ISLAND NORTH)

November 14, 2022

4:00 PM

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by John Martin, Secretary Treasurer of the Board of Education, at the School Board Office, Port Hardy, BC. at 4:00 pm with the following in attendance:

Carol Prescott, Trustee  
Eric Hunter, Trustee  
Janet Deane, Trustee  
Jeff Field, Trustee  
Kat Tjepkema, Trustee  
Lawrie Garrett, Trustee  
Leightan Wishart, Trustee

---

**WELCOME & OATHS  
OF OFFICE**

Secretary Treasurer John Martin opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw. The Secretary Treasurer administered Trustee Oaths of Office to the seven newly elected trustees.

**NOMINATION OF  
BOARD CHAIR**

Secretary Treasurer John Martin called for nominations of Board Chair for the next year. Trustee Carol Prescott nominated Trustee Leightan for Board Chair, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations. Trustee Leightan Wishart was acclaimed as Board Chair. Chairperson Leightan Wishart assumed the Chair.

**ELECTION OF THE VICE-  
CHAIR**

Chair Leightan Wishart called for nominations for Board Vice-Chair. Trustee Eric Hunter nominated Trustee Jeff Field for Board Vice-Chair, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations. Trustee Jeff Field was acclaimed as Board Vice-Chair for the next year.

**ELECTION OF BCSTA  
PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
AND ALTERNATE**

Chair Leightan Wishart called for nominations for the BCSTA Provincial Council and Alternate. Trustee Jeff Field nominated Trustee Eric Hunter, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no other nominations and Trustee Eric Hunter was acclaimed as BCSTA Provincial Councilor for 2023.

Trustee Jeff Field nominated Trustee Carol Prescott for the BCSTA Provincial Council Alternate, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no other nominations and Trustee Carol Prescott was acclaimed as BCSTA Provincial Council Alternate for 2023.

**ELECTION OF BCPSEA  
REPRESENTATIVE AND  
ALTERNATE**

Chair Leightan Wishart called for nominations for BCPSEA Representative and Alternate. Trustee Eric Hunter nominated Trustee Jeff Field, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no other

nominations and Trustee Jeff Field was acclaimed as BCPSEA Representative for 2023.

Trustee Carol Prescott nominated Trustee Leightan Wishart for the BCPSEA Alternate, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no other nominations and Trustee Leightan Wishart was acclaimed as BCPSEA Alternate for 2023.

**ELECTION OF FNEC REPRESENTATIVES (2) AND ALTERNATE (2)**

Chair Leightan Wishart called for nominations for two FNEC Representatives and two FNEC Alternate. Trustee Jeff Field nominated Trustee Eric Hunter as FNEC Representative, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. Trustee Lawrie Garrett nominated Trustee Carol Prescott as FNEC Representative, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations and Trustee Eric Hunter and Trustee Carol Prescott were acclaimed as FNEC Representatives for 2023.

Trustee Carol Prescott nominated Trustee Leightan Wishart as FNEC Alternate, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. Trustee Carol Prescott nominated Trustee Kat Tjepkema as FNEC Alternate, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations and Trustee Leightan Wishart and Trustee Kat Tjepkema were acclaimed as FNEC Alternate Representatives for 2023.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES 52/22**

Jeff Field / Carol Prescott:  
That the regular meeting minutes of October 11, 2022 be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Trustee Remuneration / Jeff Field / Regular Agenda

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA 53/22**

Eric Hunter / Carol Prescott:  
That the agenda be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

**BOARD COMMITTEES**

Chair Leightan Wishart asked trustees to review the committees available and then contact him to advise which Board Committees they are interested in sitting on. Board Committees will be finalized at the December 12, 2022 Board Meeting.

**PRESENTATION**

BCSTA Term Service Pins  
Carol Prescott – 5 Terms  
Eric Hunter – 4 Terms  
Jeff Field – 4 Terms  
Lawrie Garrett – 2 terms  
Leightan Wishart – 6 Terms

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

No correspondence.

**DISTRICT REPORTS:**

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Christina MacDonald reported on the following items that have happened around the school district:

- First group of SD85 learners attended Nawalakw camp and it was reported to be an overwhelming success. Three grants were received from Vancity to cover student costs to attend Nawalakw.
- Many outdoor learning activities occurred.
- A special thank you to BC Hydro who graciously provided funds to Sea View Elementary Jr. Sec. School to have a field trip and lunch while power was disconnected for maintenance, rather than losing a day of instruction.
- The Professional Development Day held on November 18 was facilitated and led by VINTA with a theme of kindness, compassion, and caring.
- Five SD85 employees attended the recent BCSSA Conference with a theme of celebrating learning in BC.

**DISBURSMENTS  
54/22**

Jeff Field / Eric Hunter:  
That the November 2022 disbursement statements be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**NEW EMPLOYEE  
ORIENTATION**

Assistant Superintendent Rena Sweeney shared the following items happening around the school district:

- New employee orientation took place on October 23, in Alert Bay / U'mista. Second session planned for February 2023.

**BUSINESS ARISING**

Trustee Jeff Field reported on some comparisons of Trustee Remuneration in other school districts.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business items.

**TRUSTEE SHARING:  
ORIENTATION**

Chair Leighton Wishart shared that Trustee Orientation went very well and a tremendous amount of information was provided.

**BCPSEA**

Trustee Jeff Field shared he attended Symposium on November 7-8. Trustee Field was able to speak with Minister Whiteside regarding an unanswered letter sent last year about student loan forgiveness. Further discussion is expected. Field was also able to talk to another ministry employee about recruiting Indigenous teachers, noting our districts direct competition with Band schools. Bargaining with Teachers Federation has reportedly "matured" well and seems to be going very well. New teachers have reported the need for mentors when starting in their new roles.

- FNEC** Trustee Eric Hunter reported there will be a second FNEC meeting on January 12, 2023.
- BCSTA PC** Trustee Eric Hunter will be attending the Provincial Council on December 2. A motion that will be voted on at this meeting is that BCSTA urges the Ministry of Education and Child Care to provide emergency funding adjustments to our budgets in order to address inflation and cost pressures.
- Chair Leighton Wishart asked trustees to confirm their support. No objections were reported.
- HEARING OF DELEGATES** No hearing of delegates.
- STUDENT TRUSTEES** Bella Corrigan report the NISS student council is beginning talks to approach Principal regarding future school dances.
- DPAC** No DPAC Representative to report.
- VINTA** VINTA President Jason Voth welcomed new Trustees and thanked everyone for their service. Mr. Voth hoped that all Trustees will remember to make decisions that best reflect the needs of our students.
- CUPE** No CUPE President to report.
- QUESTION PERIOD  
(10 MINUTES MAXIMUM)** No questions were presented to the Board.
- ADJOURNMENT  
55/22** Prescott:  
That the regular meeting of November 14, 2022 be adjourned (5:00 pm)  
**CARRIED**

---

Chairperson of the Board

---

Secretary Treasurer