

Court File No. CHI-S-S-40035 File No. Chilliwack Registry

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Between

LYNDA DI ARMANI

and

Petitioner

THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 33 (CHILLIWACK)

Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF LYNDA DI ARMANI

I, Lynda Di Armani, of Chilliwack, British Columbia, SWEAR THAT:

- I have personal knowledge of the matters and facts hereinafter deposed to by me, except where same are stated to be based upon information and belief, in which cases I believe them to be true.
- 2. I have been a resident of Chilliwack for approximately 16 years. I have two grandchildren currently in the British Columbia school system.
- 3. I worked for the Chilliwack School District from April 2007 to June 2017 (approximately 10 years) primarily as an educational assistant, focussing on assisting students with special needs.
- 4. Given my experience as a mother, grandmother, and an educational assistance, I have sincere concern for the well-being of children. This has led me to follow the decisions facing the Board of School Trustees of School District No. 33 (Chilliwack) (the "Board") and to attempt to provide input to the elected Trustees of the Board, including at public Board meetings.

June 13, 2023 Board Meeting

- 5. On June 13, 2023, I attended the Board meeting (the "Meeting") as a concerned citizen wishing to provide comments on certain issues raised by the Meeting agenda (the "Agenda").
- 6. The Board's "Bylaw 5 Board Meeting Procedures," a copy of which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A," provides for public participation times during public Board meetings where the public can provide comments or ask questions concerning the Board meeting agenda. Attendees who wish to address the Board simply take turns at the podium.
- 7. The majority of the Meeting was recorded (subject to the exclusions I describe below) and posted on the Board's YouTube channel. The Meeting can be viewed at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whjk6zlkLAk</u> (the "Recording"), a copy of which has been downloaded onto a USB and is available for the use of the court and for the prior inspection of the Board, pursuant to Rule 22-2(9)(c). I reviewed the Recording in preparation of this affidavit.

Requirement not to record Board Meetings

- 8. Prior to being allowed to enter the building where the Meeting was being held, I was stopped by security personnel who required that I complete a form they provided (the "Form") in order to be permitted to enter the building and attend the Meeting. I had previously been required to sign a substantially similar form when I had attended a previous meeting. From conversations with numerous other individuals who attend Board meetings, I am informed and do believe that the Board requires all members of the public to sign such forms before being permitted to attend Board meetings.
- 9. I was required to check off two boxes beside two paragraphs on the Form which read as follows:

I acknowledge that this is a Public Board Meeting that is livestreamed and recorded for public meeting.

I acknowledge that no other video/audio recordings are permitted with the exception of authorized media.

- 10. I did not agree with the requirement not to record the meeting and informed the security personal that I did not wish to sign the Form. The Board security personnel advised I was not allowed to enter the building and attend the Meeting unless I checked both boxes and endorsed the Form.
- 11. Because I could not attend the Meeting otherwise, I checked off both boxes and signed my name. The security personnel knew my first name and wrote "Linda" thereon before granting me access to the building. I took a picture of the Form, a copy of which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "B".
- 12. I asked the security personal for the policy or authority allowing him to request my endorsement on the Form, and I was provided with a copy of the Respondent's Policy 170, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit "C"**, which states in part:

Regular public meetings of the Board may be audio-visually recorded; however, there are no legal requirements for the Board to record its meetings and/or make the recordings available to the public.

My Concerns with Agenda item 5.3

- 13. A Board of Education Decision Report dated June 13, 2023 "FROM: Teri Westerby, Trustee" was included in the Agenda under item 5.3, "Board Support for National Pride Month in Canada". Excerpts of the Agenda, including Trustee Westerby's Report are attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "D". Trustee Teri Westerby recommended that the Chilliwack School District install a third flagpole at the board office for special event flags, with Trustee Westerby specifically requesting that "the School Board Office raise the pride flag for the month of June."
- 14. I was aware that Trustee Teri Westerby is also the Director of Marketing for the Chilliwack Pride Society. Trustee Westerby's profile is contained on the Chilliwack Pride Society Website, a copy of which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "E".
- 15. I was also aware of the Respondent's Policy 131 titled "Conflict of Interest", ("Policy 131"), a copy of which is attached hereto and marked as **Exhibit "F"**, which states in part:

A Trustee is always required to act in the best interests of the Board as a whole, without regard to their personal interests. Trustees have an obligation to avoid conflicts of interest, to remain in a position to provide an unbiased, even-handed

and disinterested consideration of matters that come before the Board. A Trustee must never use their position for personal benefit.

[...]

Trustees need to be vigilant in avoiding engagement in discussion, debate, decision-making or being privy to information that can give rise to actual, or perceived, conflicts of interest.

16. I reviewed Policy 131 and other materials and drafted some notes in preparation of speaking at the Meeting.

Silencing of my remarks at the Meeting

- 17. Prior to opening the podium to the public to address the Board Chair Willow Reichelt advised that members of the public were not to identify people by names and to avoid being disparaging or discriminatory. These statements commence at 23:23 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: <u>https://youtu.be/whjk6zlkLAk?t=1403</u>.
- 18. I was the first member of the public to address the assembled Trustees at the June 13, 2023 meeting. I began by stating my name and pointing out that I wished to speak to item 5.3 of the Agenda and Policy 131. These statements commence at 24:02 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/whjk6zIkLAk?t=1442. I pointed out that a school trustee must never use their position for personal benefit and that Trustee Teri Westerby wanted to bring forward a motion to put up a new flagpole when I was interrupted by a point of order called by Vice-Chair Carin Bondar.
- 19. Chair Reichelt silenced my microphone and announced a point of order had been called. These statements commence at 24:20 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/whjk6zlkLAk?t=1460. Vice-Chair Carin Bondar stated that my question was discriminatory towards a board member. I attempted to respond but my microphone remained turned off and at 24:29 Chair Reichelt silenced the entire audio of the Recording. Chair Reichelt then advised me that "we don't call out individual trustees by name and it's not a conflict of interest; there is no pecuniary conflict of interest" before once again silencing the entire audio aspect of the Recording at 24:42.
- 20. Chair Reichelt turned on the audio went on to state: "Sorry, you can speak to your own feelings about pride if you want to but if you're going to continue to call out one of our individual

trustees by name you will have to have a seat. So, do you want to speak to the idea of having a board pride statement you are more than welcome to continue." These statements commence at 24:45 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/whjk6zlkLAk?t=1485.

- 21. Trustee Westerby's name was contained numerous times in the Agenda, including specifically as the Trustee who brought forward the recommendation to install a third flagpole and raise the Pride flag. I was concerned that this particular Trustee was in a conflict of interest considering Trustee Westerby's position as Marketing Director at the Chilliwack Pride Society. I addressed Trustee Westerby by name because Trustee Westerby was identified in the Meeting Agenda, and because I wanted to properly identify the Trustee to which I was referencing in order to accurately communicate my concerns without ambiguity.
- 22. Feeling intimidated and flustered, I attempted to continue with my notes and ask whether other Trustees were also members of the Pride Society because this would put them in a conflict of interest as well when Vice-Chair Carin Bondar called another point of order and Chair Reichelt turned off my microphone once again. These statements commence at 25:05 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: <u>https://youtu.be/whjk6zlkLAk?t=1505</u>.
- 23. Vice-Chair Carin Bondar stated: "This speaker is not correct. It is not a conflict of interest when we are talking about a human right. When you are talking about a human right there is no conflict of interest." Chair Reichelt upheld the point of order, stating: "There is no conflict of interest when you're talking about basic human rights." These statements commence at of 25:19 the Recording. which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/whjk6zlkLAk?t=1519. At 25:36 Chair Reichelt silenced the entire audio of the Recording after she finished speaking.
- 24. My microphone was turned back on and I continued with my notes, this time addressing my concerns regarding the promotion of special interest groups through raising flags being a violation of the duty of state neutrality when I was interrupted again by another point of order called by the Vice-Chair Carin Bondar, and my microphone was silenced again by Chair Reichelt. These statements commence at 25:45 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/whjk6zIkLAk?t=1545.

- 25. Vice-Chair Carin Bondar stated: "Basic human rights include reflection of basic human rights and I don't feel there is a point to what you are saying." These statements commence at 26:01 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: <u>https://youtu.be/whjk6zlkLAk?t=1561</u>.
- 26. Chair Reichelt upheld this last point of order, stating: "Gay people and queer people are not special interest; they are members of our society."
- 27. My microphone was turned back on, and I attempted to continue with my previous point by stating that non-governmental and special interest flags create segregation and discrimination when Chair Reichelt interrupted and spoke over me, stating that this was a point of order and told me to sit down. These statements commence at 26:20 of the Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/whjk6zlkLAk?t=1580. At 26:30 Chair Reichelt silenced the entire audio of the Recording again, and the entire Recording remained muted until the next public member was at the podium and ready to speak at 26:56. During this time I attempted to read a relevant passage of the Supreme Court of Canada ruling in *Saguenay*, even though my microphone was muted. And then I gave up trying to express my concerns to the assembled Trustees and I took my seat as instructed by Chair Reichelt.
- 28. To my knowledge, no "authorized media" made and published a complete audio recording of the June 13, 2023 Meeting, which would include the communication that occurred while Chair Reichelt silenced the entire audio of the Recording.
- 29. The Chair did not give me an opportunity to complete what I wanted to say, nor was I given an opportunity to complete many sentences before I was interrupted and silenced. After the fourth time I was silenced, I felt defeated and disgraced.

Context of censorship at Chilliwack School District board meetings

30. I attended Board meetings off and on over the past decade. In the last few years, however, I have observed and read reports of the following kinds of behaviour by the Board at its public meetings, which I believe restricts and discourages citizen participation in the democratic decision-making process by:

- censuring and silencing sitting trustees who express viewpoints not shared by the majority of the Trustees;
- preventing the public from raising their concerns at public board meetings; and
- preventing the public from recording the Board meetings.
- 31. This censorship by the Board has affected many others besides myself. I believe that it is in the public interest for Board to be held accountable to its censorship. I am commencing this case in hopes that Chilliwack School District will refrain from censorship in the future, which would serve to benefit the public's democratic participation in Board decisions.

February 7, 2023 Board meeting

- 32. The February 7, 2023 Board meeting that I attended provides examples of the Board's censorship.
- 33. The February 7, 2023 meeting was recorded and posted on the Board's YouTube channel at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WraW9VXbfKE</u> (the "February 7, 2023 Recording"), a copy of which has been downloaded onto a USB and is available for the use of the court and for the prior inspection of the Board, pursuant to Rule 22-2(9)(c).
- 34. The February 7, 2023 meeting attracted a large public interest due to the topic of learning resources being on the agenda at that time. Many parents, grandparents and members of the public were concerned that certain books available to the students were sexually explicit and inappropriate for school students.
- 35. During the February 7, 2023 meeting security personnel were hired to check people's bags, identification and request the public to sign a form that stated public recording of the meeting was prohibited. This was the first time I had ever been searched, asked to produce identification and sign a form in order to be allowed to attend a public school board meeting.
- 36. Shortly after the meeting began, Chair Reichelt stopped the meeting and addressed a member of the public, stating: "The gentleman who is filming in the audience, you need to stop that or I'm going to ask you to leave. I'm sorry, you can't be doing that, this is all online. You can

knock that off". These statements commence at 11:32 of the February 7, 2023 Recording that is accessible via the following link: <u>https://youtu.be/WraW9VXbfKE?t=692</u>.

- 37. Further during the February 7, 2023 meeting, former Board Trustee Dr. Darrell Fergusson addressed the Board as a community member wherein he asked a question about the legality of the sexually explicit material or learning resources in the school. At 52:00 of the February 7, 2023 Recording Chair Reichelt silenced Dr. Fergusson's microphone, stating: "I'm turning off your mic Dr. Fergusson. We're not doing this. There is no illegal material in our schools that is highly defamatory. No, I'm not going to let you. Sorry, too bad. Its not true, there is no illegal material in our schools. It is not a thing that is happening so you can have a seat now. Thank you... this is a meeting of the Board and I told you to sit down...None of what you are saying is on the public record because I have turned off your mic.... Can you please ask Dr. Ferguson to leave if he will not sit down...." The recording of the meeting was cut off several times, and eventually, the entire meeting was adjourned, which prevented Dr. Ferguson's comments from being on the public record and the February 7, 2023 Recording. These statements commence at 50:47 of the February 7, 2023 Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/WraW9VXbfKE?t=3047.
- 38. Later in the meeting when Policy 380, Learning Resources, was discussed by the Board, Trustee Maahs spoke, raising her concerns about the controversy of the learning resources and the need of the Board to set parameters within the policy to satisfy parent concerns. When Trustee Maahs attempted to ask whether there is a line the Board wouldn't cross and mentioned the *Criminal Code*, Chair Reichelt interrupted Trustee Maahs to deny any materials violating the *Criminal Code*. These statements commence at 1:37:34 of the February 7, 2023 Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/WraW9VXbfKE?t=5854.
- 39. Trustee Maahs tried to call a point of privilege twice after being interrupted by Chair Reichelt and specifically asked Chair Reichelt to let her finish. Chair Reichelt responded: "No, I'm not cause I'm going to interrupt you and tell you that there is no...materials in our schools that break the *Criminal Code* and that are illegal". These statements commence at 1:38:44 of the February 7, 2023 Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/WraW9VXbfKE?t=5924.

- 40. Trustee Maahs called another point of privilege, at which point Chair Reichelt stated: "You're calling a point of privilege I am the chair I am denying your privilege...Are you going to stop saying there is stuff that is breaking the *Criminal Code*...I've cut your mic." Chair Reichelt silenced Trustee Maahs from being able to continue to speak. These statements commence at 1:38:58 of the February 7, 2023 Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/WraW9VXbfKE?t=5938.
- 41. Late during the February 7, 2023 meeting, during the public participation portion of the meeting, I attempted to provide a comment about school learning resources referring to sexual abuse and incest that I believe were inappropriate for children. Chair Reichelt interrupted me, silenced my microphone and denied me the right to express my concerns. These statements commence at 2:18:56 of the February 7, 2023 Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/WraW9VXbfKE?t=8333.
- 42. Also during the February 7, 2023 meeting, a member of the public, Tanya Gaw, attempted to address her concerns about protecting children from sexual abuse and SOGI123 when Chair Reichelt interrupted Ms. Gaw to advise that SOGI123 was not on the agenda despite Ms. Gaw's plea that it was a learning resource. Chair Reichelt silenced her microphone and advised the learning resources policy was passed, which was on the agenda, and told her if she wanted to challenge the learning resources she could "figure out how to do that". Ms. Gaw's microphone remained silenced by Chair Reichelt despite her attempts to continue to speak. These statements commence at 2:22:10 of the February 7, 2023 Recording, which is accessible via the following link: https://youtu.be/WraW9VXbfKE?t=8530. At 2:23:24 Chair Reichelt silenced the entire audio portion of the February 7, 2023 Recording.
- 43. I believe that without intervention by the Court, concerned members of the public will continue to be prevented, restricted and discouraged by the Board from expressing their concerns and raising questions at the Board's public meetings. I bring this matter to the Court to advance what I believe to be the public interest in protecting the right of members of the public to participate in the public discussion of matters of public importance at Board meetings.
- 44. I swear this Affidavit bona fide and for no improper purpose.

SWORN BEFORE ME at Chilliwack, British Columbia on this 6 th day of October, 2023	Lynda di Amane
ELIZAVETA SIROTA	

a



BYLAW 5 BOARD MEETING PROCEDURES

A BYLAW OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33 (Chilliwack) (hereinafter called "the Board") to establish Board meeting procedures.

WHEREAS the School Act provides that the Board may deal with such matters by bylaw.

AND WHEREAS the Board wishes to enact meeting procedures to ensure that meetings shall be conducted in a democratic and expeditious manner, with an intent to serve students and the public.

NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 33 (Chilliwack) Board Meeting Procedures Bylaw 5.

1. Oath of Office, Inaugural Meeting and Election of Board Officers

- 1.1. A person elected or appointed as a Trustee must take a prescribed oath of office, by oath or solemn affirmation, within the timelines outlined in the School Act, before taking their seat on the Board.
- 21.2. After the general local election of Trustees, the Secretary Treasurer will convene a first meeting of the Board as soon as possible and, in any event, within 30 days from the date that the new Board begins its term of office.
 - 1.3. The Secretary Treasurer will call the meeting to order and will preside until a Chair has been elected.
 - 1.4. The Secretary Treasurer will announce the results of Trustee elections and confirm that all Trustees have taken the oath of office, or will administer or cause the oath of office to be administered.
- 1.5. The Secretary Treasurer will call for nominations for the position of Board Chair. m LIZAVETA SIROTA
 - 1.5.1. Trustees may not nominate themselves.
 - 1.5.2. Nominations do not require a seconder.
 - 1.5.3. After each nomination, the Secretary Treasurer will request that each candidate accept or decline their nomination.
 - 1.5.4. Once nominations are closed, Trustees, who have accepted a nomination, may address their colleagues for two minutes.
 - 1.5.5. Trustees who are not elected for one office may accept a nomination for another office.
 - 1.6. The Secretary Treasurer will then conduct a vote by secret ballot. The Secretary Treasurer may designate one or more staff members as scrutineers to count the ballots. A person

Related Legislation: School Act [RSBC 1996, Part 4, Division 6, Section 50; and Part 6, Division 1, Sections 65-72] and [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act, Section 47(1)(a)] and Local Government Elections

Notary Public

receiving a clear majority of votes cast shall be elected Board Chair. If no person receives a majority, further ballots will be taken.

- 1.6.1. If more than two candidates are on a ballot and no majority is reached, then candidate/s with one vote will be eliminated from the next ballot.
- 1.6.2 In the event of a 3-2-2 vote the Trustees with two votes will be on a separate ballot and the winner will be included in a final ballot with the Trustee who received three votes.
- 1.6.3. The Secretary Treasurer will declare the duly elected Chair of the Board for the ensuing year and will vacate the Chair.
- 1.6.4. All ballots shall be destroyed by motion of the Board.
- 1.7. Upon assuming the chair, the Board Chair will call for nominations for Vice-Chair, and then for the BCSTA Provincial Councilor and BCPSEA representative (and their alternates) for the ensuing year and will conduct each election in the same manner as described in 1.5 and 1.6 above.
- 1.8. The Chair and Trustees serve at the pleasure of the Board or until the annual special meeting in the following December.

2. Annual Special Meeting and Election of Board Officers

2.1. In the years when no inaugural meeting is required, an annual special meeting of the Board will be held no later than the second Tuesday in December. The Secretary Treasurer will preside as Chair at the meeting to elect a chair as per 1.5 and 1.6 above. When the Board Chair is elected, the Chair will then proceed as per 1.7 above.

3. Meetings of the Board - General Provisions

- 3.1. Annually, the Board of Education will determine the schedule of Board meetings for the following school year.
- 3.2. All meetings will begin with an acknowledgement of Traditional Stó: lo Territory.
- 3.3. A quorum of the Board is a majority of the Trustees holding office at the time of the meeting.
- 3.4. Any Trustee with a conflict of interest shall immediately declare so and leave the meeting or the part of the meeting during which the matter is under consideration.
- 3.5. At the appointed time for commencement of a meeting, the presiding officer will ascertain that a quorum is present before proceeding to the business of the meeting. If a quorum has not been made within one-half hour after the appointed time, the meeting shall stand adjourned until the next meeting date or until another meeting has been called in accordance with this Bylaw.
- 3.6. In the event both the Chair and Vice Chair are absent, a chair will be decided by drawing of lots of those trustees willing to have their name stand.

Related Legislation: School Act [RSBC 1996, Part 4, Division 6, Section 50; and Part 6, Division 1, Sections 65-72] and [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act, Section 47(1)(a)] and Local Government Elections Regulation Adopted: February 8, 2022

- 3.7. After a meeting has commenced, if notice is drawn to a lack of quorum, the presiding officer shall adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting date or to another meeting called in accordance with this Bylaw.
- 3.8. Meetings of the Board shall be conducted in accordance with this Bylaw and, where the Bylaw is silent, using Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.
- 3.9. A motion, when introduced, brings business before the meeting.
 - 3.9.1. The presiding officer may divide a motion containing more than one subject and it will be voted on in the form in which it is divided.
 - 3.9.2. A replacement or substitute motion or an amendment should be worded in a concise, unambiguous, and complete form and, if lengthy or complex, should be provided in writing. Staff can provide assistance with wording, if requested.
 - 3.9.3. All debateable motions shall be seconded.
- 3.10. Wherever possible, requests for information are to be addressed prior to the question being considered.
- 3.11. Debate shall be strictly relevant to the question before the meeting and the presiding officer will advise speakers when violating this rule.
 - 3.11.1. Speakers shall be recognized by the Chair and will address remarks to the Chair.
 - 3.11.2. Each Trustee has the right to speak twice on the same question on the same day but cannot make second comments so long as any Trustee who has not spoken on that question desires to speak. No Trustee shall speak for more than three minutes at one time.
 - 3.11.3. Debate may be extended, subject to a motion requiring a majority vote.
- 3.12. A matter of privilege (a matter dealing with the rights or interests of the Board as a whole or of a Trustee personally) may be raised at any time and will be dealt with forthwith before resumption of business.
- 3.13. No Trustee shall interrupt another Trustee who has the floor except to raise a point of order or a point of privilege, or to disclose a conflict of interest.
- 3.14. It is expected that all Trustees present at a duly constituted meeting of the Board will vote on each motion, unless a Trustee has a declared conflict of interest, in which case the Trustee must not vote.
 - 3.14.1. The Board chair shall vote at the same time as other Trustees.
 - 3.14.2. Voting, unless elsewhere stipulated, shall be by show of hands. The record will indicate Trustees in favour, opposed or abstained for each motion.
- 3.15. The Board-approved written minutes are the official record of a meeting.

4. Regular Public Meetings

4.1. Regular Board meetings shall be open to the public.

- 4.2. The Chair will ensure that a draft agenda and notice of meeting is prepared in consultation with the Vice Chair, the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer. Proposed items may be requested to be on the draft agenda in one of the following ways:
 - 4.2.1. By notifying the Board Chair, Vice Chair or Superintendent one week prior to the board meeting.
 - 4.2.2. By notice of motion at a previous meeting within the trustee's written report.
 - 4.2.3. As a request from a committee of the Board.
- 4.3. Where a Trustee has proposed an item for the agenda and it has not been included, the Chair will advise the Trustee and provide reasons.
- 4.4. The proposed agenda and supporting documentation will be posted on the district website on Friday afternoon prior to the meeting. Written notice of each meeting, together with the proposed agenda, will be provided to each Trustee by email using the school district provided email account at least 24 hours prior to the agenda being made public.
- 4.5. The order of business at regular Board meetings shall be:
 - 4.5.1. call to order, acknowledgement and inclusion statement
 - 4.5.2. adoption of agenda
 - 4.5.3. reading and approval of minutes
 - 4.5.4. strategic presentations/delegations
 - 4.5.5. reports
 - 4.5.5.1. written Board Advisory and Working Committee reports and/or minutes
 - 4.5.5.2. Trustee written reports
 - 4.5.5.3. information item reports
 - 4.5.6. public participation: comments and/or questions concerning the agenda
 - 4.5.7. action items
 - 4.5.8. meeting summaries
 - 4.5.9. public participation: comments and/or questions concerning the agenda
 - 4.5.10. adjournment
- 4.6. An addition or deletion to the agenda, or change to the order of business, may be proposed by any Trustee at the adoption of the agenda. Any addition to the agenda, or change to the order of business, shall require a majority vote.
- 4.7. Trustee Reports
 - 4.7.1. Trustees will prepare a short, written report regarding their liaison and representation assignments.
- 4.8. A regular meeting will stand adjourned at three hours after its commencement unless a resolution is passed by a majority vote to extend the hour of adjournment.
- 4.9. Minutes of the proceedings of regular meetings will be stored in digital format certified as correct by the Secretary Treasurer or other employee designated by the Board under the *School Act*, and signed by the Chair or other member presiding at the meeting or at the next meeting at which the minutes are adopted.
 - 4.9.1. The minutes of the regular public meeting will be open for inspection at all reasonable times.
 - 4.9.2. Copies and extracts will be made available in accordance with the School Act.

Related Legislation: School Act [RSBC 1996, Part 4, Division 6, Section 50; and Part 6, Division 1, Sections 65-72] and [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act, Section 47(1)(a)] and Local Government Elections Regulation

- 4.10. If the Secretary Treasurer is unable to attend the meeting, another employee must be appointed by Board motion to serve as acting Secretary Treasurer to record motions and their disposition.
- 4.11. In accordance with the *School Act*, the Chair may expel from the meeting a person, other than a Trustee, that the Chair considers is conducting themselves improperly.
 - 4.11.1. A majority of the Trustees present at a meeting of the Board may expel a Trustee from the meeting for improper conduct.

5. Public Participation in the Public Meeting

- 5.1. Communication with the public is extremely important. The public Board meeting is the formally designated means of transacting Board business. Two public participation periods are therefore provided solely as a means for ensuring that community members who are present in the audience have an opportunity to provide comments and/or ask questions about business or issues pertaining to the Board agenda.
- 5.2. The public participation periods are open to comments and/or questions from the public concerning the agenda.
 - 5.2.1. Each public participation period will generally be allotted fifteen minutes.
 - 5.2.2. Speakers must identify themselves before speaking.
 - 5.2.3. Individuals will be limited to a total of two minutes per speaker.
 - 5.2.4. Persons addressing the Board are reminded that, when requests or questions are directed to the Board, actions or answers to many questions may be deferred pending Board consideration.
 - 5.2.5. The Chair may indicate another means of response if question cannot be answered at the time.
- 5.3. Community members who have other comments or questions are encouraged to contact Trustees or the Superintendent or, if desired, to appear as a formal delegation on the Board agenda in accordance with section six of this Bylaw.
- 5.4. Matters currently under negotiation or litigation, or related to personnel or student circumstances, are not permitted and will not be addressed in the public participation periods.
- 5.5. The Chair shall have the authority to terminate the remarks of any individual who does not adhere to this Bylaw.

6. Delegations

- 6.1. Delegations comprised of an individual or groups of students, parents, teachers and others are welcome at regular meetings.
- 6.2. Delegations that wish to appear before the Board shall submit a request in writing to the Secretary Treasurer ten days prior to the meeting, outlining the item(s) they wish to present and naming a spokesperson.

Related Legislation: School Act [RSBC 1996, Part 4, Division 6, Section 50; and Part 6, Division 1, Sections 65-72] and [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act, Section 47(1)(a)] and Local Government Elections Regulation Adopted: February 8, 2022

- 6.3. A maximum of ten minutes will be allowed for each delegation to make a presentation.
- 6.4. The Secretary Treasurer will review the delegation request at the agenda review meeting and, if accepted, will then make the appropriate arrangements for the delegation to appear.
- 6.5. A delegation accepted to appear before the Board may present written material to the Board which must be provided at least five working days prior to the meeting for inclusion on the Board agenda.
- 6.6. The Board will hear the delegation's presentation and the Trustees may ask questions for clarification. The Board will ordinarily take the presentation under advisement and will take action after due deliberation, usually at a subsequent meeting.
- 6.7. If circumstances warrant, the Board may receive such individuals or delegations "incamera".

7. In-camera Board Meetings

- 7.1. If, in the opinion of the Board, the public interest so requires, persons other than Trustees may be excluded from a meeting.
- 7.2. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the following matters shall be considered in an in-camera meeting:
 - 7.2.1. salary claims and adjustments and consideration of requests of employees and Board officers with respect to collective bargaining procedures;
 - 7.2.2. accident claims and other matters where Board liability may arise;
 - 7.2.3. legal opinions respecting the liability or interest of the Board;
 - 7.2.4. the conduct, efficiency, discipline, suspension, termination or retirement of employees;
 - 7.2.5. medical reports;
 - 7.2.6. matters pertaining to individual students including the conduct, discipline suspension or expulsion of students;
 - 7.2.7. staff changes including appointments, transfers, resignations, promotions and demotions;
 - 7.2.8. purchase of real property including the designation of new sites, consideration of appraisal reports and accounts claimed by owners, determination of Board offers and expropriation procedures;
 - 7.2.9. lease, sale or exchange of real property prior to finalization thereof;
 - 7.2.10. matters pertaining to the safety, security or protection of Board property; and
 - 7.2.11. such other matters where the Board decides that the public interest is best served.
- 7.3. If the Secretary Treasurer is unable to attend the meeting, another employee must be appointed by Board motion to serve as acting Secretary Treasurer for the purpose of the meeting, to record motions and their disposition.
- 7.4. No Trustee shall disclose to the public the proceedings of an in-camera meeting unless a resolution has been passed at the in-camera meeting to allow such disclosure, except such as might be necessary to enforce the conflict of interest provisions of the *School Act*.

Related Legislation: School Act [RSBC 1996, Part 4, Division 6, Section 50; and Part 6, Division 1, Sections 65-72] and [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act, Section 47(1)(a)] and Local Government Elections Regulation Adopted: February 8, 2022

- 7.5. The Board will prepare a meeting summary listing the general nature of the matters discussed. The in-camera meeting summary will be presented at the next regular public meeting of the Board.
- 7.6. The Chair will ensure a draft agenda and notice of an in-camera meeting is prepared in consultation with the Vice Chair, the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer, Proposed items may be requested to be on the draft agenda in one of the following ways:
 - By notifying the Board Chair, Vice Chair or Superintendent one week prior to the 7.6.1. meeting.
 - 7.6.2. By notice of motion at the previous meeting.
 - 7.6.3. As a request from a committee of the Board.
- 7.7. Where a Trustee has proposed an item for the agenda and it has not been included, the Chair will advise the Trustee and provide reasons.
- 7.8. The proposed agenda and supporting documentation will be provided to each Trustee by email using the school district provided email account at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.
- 7.9. The order of business at in-camera meetings shall be:
 - 7.9.1. call to order
 - 7.9.2. meeting attendance
 - 7.9.3. adoption of agenda
 - 7.9.4. approval of minutes
 - 7.9.5. information items
 - 7.9.6. action items
 - 7.9.7. adjournment
- 7.10. A change to the order of business may be proposed by any Trustee at the adoption of the agenda. Any addition or deletion to the agenda, or change to the order of business, shall require a majority vote.
- 7.11. Any Trustee with a conflict of interest shall immediately declare so and leave the meeting or the part of the meeting during which the matter is under consideration.
- 7.12. An in-camera meeting shall adjourn or recess at least 15 minutes before the regular public meeting and shall not exceed a total of 2 hours unless a resolution is passed by a majority vote to extend the hour of adjournment.

8. Special Meetings

- 8.1. Special meetings are any Board meetings held between the regularly scheduled meetings.
- 8.2. A special public or special in-camera meeting of the Board may be called by the Chair or, upon written request by a majority of the Trustees, will be called by the Secretary Treasurer.
- 8.3. The agenda and supporting documentation will be provided to each Trustee by email using the school district provided email account at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Related Legislation: School Act [RSBC 1996, Part 4, Division 6, Section 50; and Part 6, Division 1, Sections 65-72] and [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act, Section 47(1)(a)] and Local Government Elections Regulation

- 8.3.1. Delivery of a written notice and the agenda may be waived by a majority vote of Trustees holding office, provided all reasonable steps have been taken to notify all Trustees of the meeting.
- 8.4. No business other than that for which the meeting was called shall be conducted at the meeting unless waived unanimously by all Trustees present.
- 8.5. If the Secretary Treasurer is unable to attend the meeting, another employee must be appointed by Board motion as acting Secretary Treasurer for the purpose of the meeting, to record motions and their disposition.

9. Electronic Participation by Trustees

- 9.1. In accordance with the School Act, Trustees may participate in or attend a meeting of the Board by telephone or other means of communication, provided that all Trustees and other persons participating in or attending the meeting are able to communicate with each other.
- 9.2. If a Trustee participates in or attends a meeting of the Board by telephone or other means of communication, the Trustee is to be counted for the purpose of establishing a guorum.

READ A FIRST TIME THE 7th day of February 2023 READ A SECOND TIME THE 7th day of February 2023 READ A THIRD TIME AND ADOPTED THE 7th day of February 2023

Keichelt

Board Chair

Secretary Treasurer

This is Exhibit " B " referred to in the Affidavit of <u>Lynda DiArmani</u> sworn before me at <u>Chillwack</u>, BC. this <u>Off</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2023

ELIZAVETA SIROTA Notary Public



Chilliwack School District	HENDE
Name:(photo ID-moy be required)	N
I am a:	
 Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Grandparent of Student Student Other: 	 Local Community Member Employee Media
Meeting that is live recorded for publi	c viewing. no other video/audio mitted with the





POLICY 170 RECORDING OF BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Public meetings of the Board may be audio-visually recorded; however, there are no legal requirements for the Board to record its meetings and/or make the recordings available to the public.

The official audio or video recording of any public meeting of the Board is the Board's exclusive property and is to be used solely at its discretion. Recordings of Regular Public Board meetings will be stored and available for a one-year period after a general school election.

The official record of a Board meeting is the Board-approved written minutes.

The recording of Board Meetings is subject to the following guidelines:

Guidelines

1. T 225 255 255 255 255

N

ELIZAVETA SIROTA Notary Public

- 1.1. Staff of the Chilliwack School District who are invited to speak or present at a meeting do so with the understanding that they may be recorded.
- 1.2. Signage will be posted to ensure that attendees or participating members of the public are aware that the meeting is being recorded and will be shared publicly and archived by the Board.
- 1.3. Wherever possible, if a member of the public wishes to present to the Board but would prefer not to be visible on the live-stream or recording of the meeting, consideration will be given to alternatives to accommodate that request.
- 2. There shall be no recording of tablet screens or digital resources used at the Board of Education table, excluding public presentation materials.
- 3. While it is the Board's intent to live stream and make available recorded Regular Public Board meeting proceedings, the Board, at its discretion, may:
 - 3.1. Discontinue the recording of a meeting at any time at the discretion of the Board Chair, if recording is creating any impediment to conducting the meeting in an efficient or orderly fashion; or
 - 3.2. Withhold posting of a recording of a meeting, or a portion of a meeting in order to avoid possible legal liability to the Board, the District and District employees. In such an instance, legal advice will be sought as necessary.
- 4. The recording may contain a notification disclaiming responsibility for statements made by those in attendance at the meeting.

Related Legislation: School Act [RSBC 1996, Part 6, Division 1, Section 72] and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act [RSBC 1996, Part 3, Division 1, Section 27.3.d]



THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

School District #33 (Chilliwack)

Regular Public Board Meeting

(Live Streamed and Recorded)

AGENDA

June 13, 2023

5:30 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER – School District Office

- 1.1. Call to Order Welcome, Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory and Diversity Statement
- 1.2. Adoption of the Agenda (THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.)
- 1.3. Approval of the Minutes (THAT the minutes of the May 9, 2023 meeting be approved as circulated.)

2. PRESENTATIONS

- 2.1. Strategic Plan Presentation: 90 Day Cycle Update
- 3. INFORMATION ITEMS
 - 3.1. Audit Working Committee Report
 - 3.2. Education Policy Advisory Committee Report
 - 3.3. Student and Family Affordability Fund Update
 - 3.4. BCSTA Report
 - 3.5. Trustee Written Reports

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - COMMENTS/QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE AGENDA

5. ACTION ITEMS

- 5.1. Schedule of Board Meetings Amendment
- 5.2. 2023 2024 Preliminary Budget 2nd & 3rd Reading and Adoption
- 5.3. Board Support for National Pride Month in Canada

This is Exhibit "D" referred to in the Affidavit of Lynda Di Armani sworn before me at Chillinad: BC this 6⁴ day of October 2022

A Notary Eublic in and for the Province of British Columbia ELIZAVETA SIROTA Notary Public

- 5.4. Policy Renovation Project Policies to be Reaffirmed
 - 5.4.1. Policy 221 District Parents' Advisory Council
 - 5.4.2. Policy 310 Student Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities
 - 5.4.3. Policy 313 Safe Schools
 - 5.4.4. Policy 314 Student Substance Use
 - 5.4.5. Policy 360 Inclusion
 - 5.4.6. Policy 433 Provision of Menstrual Products
- 5.5. Policy Renovation Project Policies to be Repealed
 - 5.5.1. Board Reg 300.2 School Administrative Entitlements
 - 5.5.2. Policy 416 Exchange Teaching
 - 5.5.3. Policy 430 Staffing Allocations
 - 5.5.4. Policy 508 Distance Learning Ordinarily Resident
 - 5.5.5. Policy 513 Student Safety Equipment
 - 5.5.6. Policy 517 Health Promoting Schools
 - 5.5.7. Policy 533 Maintenance of Order & Policy 717 Trespassing

6. MEETING SUMMARIES

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - COMMENTS/QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE AGENDA

8. ADJOURNMENT

8.1. Next Board of Education Meeting: September 13, 2023 at 5:30pm (or June 27, 2023 if approved)

BOARD OF EDUCATION DECISION REPORT

Chilliwack School District

DATE: June 13, 2023

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Teri Westerby, Trustee

RE: BOARD SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL PRIDE MONTH IN CANADA

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Education acknowledges and shows support for staff, students and families in the Chilliwack School District community who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+ by putting a message of support on the district website each June in recognition of National Pride Month in Canada.

AND

THAT the Board of Education direct staff to install a third flagpole at the board office for special event flags. Additionally, when not in use, the flagpole may be used to fly the Chilliwack flag.

BACKGROUND:

The Chilliwack School District is fully aware that many members of our community identify as 2SLGBTQIA+. We value each person who enters our doors and treat them as equals, deserving of respect and safety. As Canada celebrates National Pride Month, I would like to respectfully request that the Chilliwack Board of Education acknowledges the struggles that the 2SLGBTQIA+ community continues to endure. We should also recognize and appreciate the amazing and hardworking 2SLGBTQIA+ teachers, librarians, EAs, administrators, and staff, who are leading the way with inclusive and affirming practices for our students, despite facing daily hardships and discrimination.

Our district is committed to raising awareness of 2SLGBTQIA+ issues, reducing stigma through education, and embracing Gender and Sexuality Acceptance Clubs (GSA) in our schools. We strive to provide our students and staff with welcoming, respectful, safe, healthy, and inclusive learning and working environments that respect diversity, promote equity, and foster a sense of belonging.

If permitted by the B.C. Government Office of Protocol, I kindly request that the School Board Office raise the pride flag for the month of June. Doing so would demonstrate our commitment to our students, staff, parents, caregivers, and community members and would signal that our schools are safe spaces for everyone. Moreover, raising the Pride flag aligns with our Strategic Plan Human and Social Development goal, which seeks to support staff wellness and promote a sense of belonging for students in a caring learning environment.

We wish everyone a Happy Pride Month.



(https://chilliwackpride.com)

This is Exhibit " E " referred to in the Affidavit of Lynda Di Armani sworn before me at <u>Chilliwack</u>, Bc this Oh day of <u>October</u>, 2023

A Notary Public in and for the Province of Battsh Columbia ELIZAVETA SIROTA Notary Public





THE 2023 CHILLIWACK PRIDE FESTIVAL

The 2023 Chilliwack Pride Festival is being held on Saturday for the first time ever!

On August 19th from 10 am to 4 pm, the Chilliwack Pride Festival will take over Downtown Chilliwack as a safe, accessible, car-free zone with local vendors, service providers, familyfriendly activities, and the very best Drag performers from across the Fraser Valley

The Chilliwack Pride Festival aims to uplift and empower people who identify as LGBTQIA+, Two-Spirit, Black, Indigenous, People of Color, or as having a disability and create a space of belonging, inclusion, and celebration.

Apply to be a Vendor! (https://chilliwackpride.com/2023-vendor-registration/)

Local Organization? Join Us! (https://chilliwackpride.com/2023-service-provider-registration/) scaled.jpg)

Chilliwack Pride Society -- Equality, Equity and Inclusion in Chilliwack

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograpcontent/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograp

Fillingerade

(https://chilliwackpride.com)

grap content/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhoscaled.jpg)



(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-
content/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotogra
scaled.jpg)

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wpap content/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograp scaled.jpg)

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograpcontent/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograpscaled.jpg)scaled.jpg)

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograpcontent/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograpscaled.jpg)scaled.jpg)

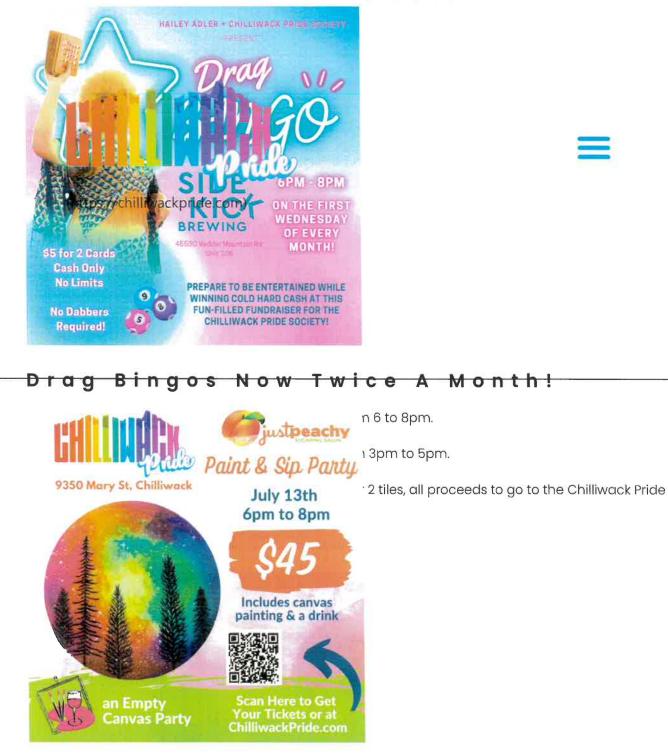




Chilliwack Pride is all set to offer some incredible events and activities for the upcoming weeks. The city is buzzing with excitement and anticipation for the many happenings that are planned. From festivals and concerts, to workshops and tours, there is something to suit every interest and age group.

Whether you are looking to take the family out for a fun day, or seeking a night out with friends, there is no shortage of options to explore. Experience the rich culture and art scene of Chilliwack through various exhibits and shows. From craft markets that showcase local artisans to live music performances from talented artists, there's something for everyone.

Chilliwack also has plenty of outdoor activities to offer such as hiking, biking, fishing, and swimming. You can take scenic drives or explore the many nearby parks and lakes. So why not come and experience the excitement of Chilliwack's upcoming events for yourself?



Paint & Sip Party

Join us for a fabulous evening of canvas painting, snacks and alcoholic beverages! July 13th from 6pm to 8pm at 9350 Mary Street.

For \$45, get your friends together and share a few laughs over a cocktail or two! In 2 hours you will create your very own masterpiece in a relaxed and inspiring atmosphere.





12022 PRIDE BY THE NUMBERS

Estimated

20,000+

Attendees

BEST LOCAL EVENT & BEST FESTIVAL

Chilliwack Progress A-List Awards

+1,900

Facebook Followers

+1,450

Instagram Followers



CHILLIWACK PRIDE MEDIA PARTNERS

Chilliwack Progress



SPONSOR IS FEATURED ON:	DUR BEST JUDY.		NEER ROYAGZY	ANA IT'S CF PROF
PRICE MAIL STAGE		0		0
RAC-0 A05		0		0
PRNT AG9				0
eman magneting	٠		0	0
on. He ads		٠	۲	0
воюти ат рестича.				0
SOCIAL MEDIA				
sponsors» pannsr				٠
卢尔克宁 WEB研作				٠
2000	\$7.500+	\$3.000+	\$1.500*	\$\$00+

You

Chil

BECOME A SPONSOR & ESTABLISH YOUR BRAND AS INLUSIVE

vill provide your organization with a direct link to

We'verput together of sponsorship packages to suit a variety of businesses that want to help make Chilliwack Pride happen.

If you don't see something that suits your needs, please reach out to our team.

Mallory Tomlinson

Fundraising@ChilliwackPride.ca

See our Sponsorship Package! (https://chilliwackpride.com/2023-sponsorship-package/)

GET TO KNOW THE CHILLIWACK PRIDE SOCIETY

The Chilliwack Pride Society recognizes the ancestral traditional territory of the Pilalt and Ts'elxweyeqw Stó:lō Coast Salish peoples, on which we operate as settlers, and honor them as the rightful keepers of this land. The 2023 Chilliwack Pride Society Board of Directors is in it's 4th year of operation.

Volunteer with Us! (https://www.ivolunteer.ca/agency/detail/chilliwackpridesociety/)

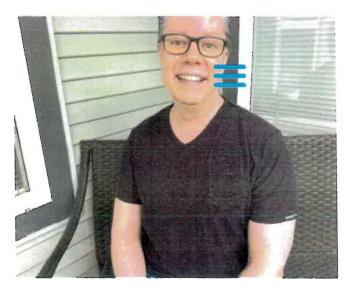




Aaron Pariseau Director of Annual Pride



Mallory Tomlinson Director of Fundraising



Katie Bartel

Director of Administration

Jason Stromberg Director of Treasury



Sheralie Taylor Director of Accessibility



Meg McCusker Director of Community



Teri Westerby Director of Marketing







Leah Mammel Director of Volunteers OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- to support, promote and create safe spaces for the LGBTQIAP+ and Two-Spirit communities through education, advocacy, and representation.
- to be guided by the principles of intersectionality, equity, and collaboration.
- to promote inclusive social, medical, mental health, and spiritual-related resources to members of the LGBTQIAP+ and Two-Spirit communities.
- to continuously reframe our individual understandings and collective responsibility to this land, community, and decolonization, while dismantling implicit bias and systemic racism.
- to work towards facilitating inclusive and low-barrier experiences for marginalized communities.
- to collaborate with community partners and individuals who align with our values to further our purposes.

(https://chilliwackpride. content/uploads/2022/I scaled.jpg)

(https://chilliwackpride. (https://chilliwackpride. (https://chilliwackpride. content/uploads/2022// content/uploads/2022// content/uploads/2022// scaled.jpg)

scaled.jpg)

scaled.jpg)



-

In 2019, a small group of EGBT+ folks hosted what they thought would be a small BBQ Pride celebration in Chilliwack. What they never expected was the overwhelming response of the community as over 700 Chilliwack locals came pouring in to celebrate! This event became Chilliwack's first EVER Community Pride experience!

After seeing the incredible response and need from the community, the Pride Society was formed in late 2019.

Then, in 2020 – COVID hit. We held a socially distanced Pride scavenger hunt featuring supportive and inclusive local businesses!

In 2021, we hosted the first-ever Chilliwack Pride Festival in partnership with the Downtown Chilliwack Community Market and saw over 10,000 attendees! Since then, we've hosted numerous community events such as twice monthly Drag Bingos, annual Youth Dances, community fundraisers, monthly Queer Cafe hang-outs and more!

In 2022, we hosted Chilliwack Pride for the 4th time, seeing over 20,000 attendees, and set August as our official Chilliwack PRIDE month!

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wpcontent/uploads/2023/04/30028922_web1_Chilliwac content/uploads/2021/07/2019PRIDE2.jpg)

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-





(https://attiliayackiphikaadeprideraom)

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wpcontent/uploads/2021/07/117960052_33205603816 content/uploads/2021/07/117334479_33261710143

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wpcontent/uploads/2022/05/SarahSovereignPhotograr content/uploads/2022/06/BL-Pride-22-65-Edit_jpg) scaled.jpg)

(https://chilliwackpride.com/wp-

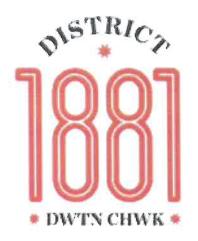
OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Chilliwack Pride Society - Equality, Equity and Inclusion in Chilliwack



CH'ILLIWACK







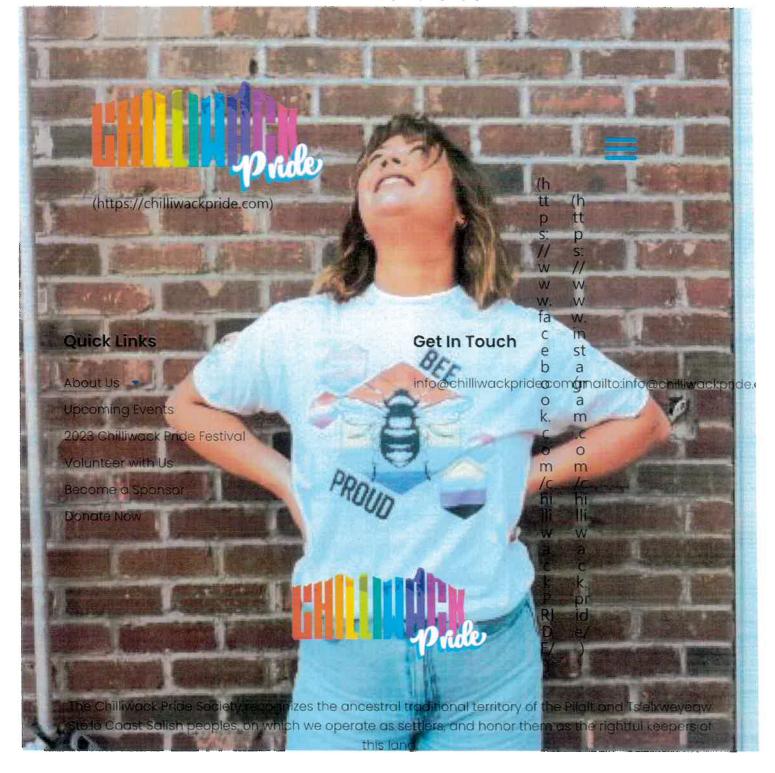






Chilliwack Pride Society - Equality, Equity and Inclusion in Chilliwack





© All Rights Reserved.



POLICY 131 TRUSTEE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A Trustee is always required to act in the best interests of the Board as a whole, without regard to their personal interests. Trustees have an obligation to avoid conflicts of interest, to remain in a position to provide an unbiased, even-handed and disinterested consideration of matters that come before the Board. A Trustee must never use their position for personal benefit.

Conflicts of interest can arise in a variety of ways, including a direct or indirect pecuniary conflict of interest, a conflict of interest arising by virtue of predetermination of a matter coming before the Board and conflict of interest arising as a result of a personal interest resulting from circumstances or relationships of individual Trustees. A pecuniary interest is an interest in a matter that could monetarily affect the Trustee and includes an indirect pecuniary interest referred to in the *School Act*.

Trustees need to be vigilant in avoiding engagement in discussion, debate, decision-making or being privy to information that can give rise to actual, or perceived, conflicts of interest.

In accordance with common law, a Trustee is not qualified to vote on a matter in which they have a personal interest that could lead a reasonably well-informed outsider to think that their judgment could be influenced by that interest leading to a reasonable apprehension of bias.

A Trustee who has a conflict of interest in a matter before the Board must declare that interest – and not take part in the discussion, vote or attempt in any way to influence the outcome. The declared conflict of interest must be recorded in the Board meeting minutes.

 \vec{k} The provisions of the School Act regarding disclosure do not apply to a pecuniary interest in any \vec{k} matter that a Trustee may have by reason of the Trustee having an interest in the matter which is an interest in common with electors generally.

Trustees are responsible to make themselves aware of the requirements of the School Act. Should a Trustee knowingly contravene the requirements of section 58 of the School Act, the courts may declare the Trustee's office vacant and require financial restitution.

Guidelines

T

LIZAVETA SIROTA

Notary Public

- It is expected that if a Trustee has any conflict of interest in any matter, and is present at a meeting of the Board at which the matter is considered, the Trustee shall:
 - 1.1. disclose their interest and the general nature of the conflict of interest at the meeting;
 - 1.2. not take part in the discussion of or vote on any question in respect of the matter.
 - 1.3. not attempt in any way, whether before, during or after the meeting, to influence the voting on any question in respect of the matter.
 - 1.4. If the meeting is not open to the public the Trustee shall immediately leave the meeting or the part of the meeting during which the matter is under consideration.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33 (CHILLIWACK) Policy Manual



- 2. The general nature of every disclosure made at a board or committee meeting open to the public will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If the meeting was closed to the public, the fact that a disclosure was made, but not the general nature of the interest, shall be recorded in the minutes of the next open meeting.
- 3. As there are many individual considerations and variations when considering issues of conflict of interest, individual Trustees or Boards of Education may wish to seek external legal advice on such matters. In many situations, the individual circumstances must be considered before a determination of conflict can be made.