

**Motions presented by ratepayers, Regina Public School Electors Annual Meeting, Jan. 27, 2015**

**REQUESTING THE AUDITOR GENERAL EVALUATE PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**

Whereas Ontario Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk (formerly Auditor General of Saskatchewan), after reviewing all 74 Ontario Public Private Partnerships (P3), found P3 public infrastructure is consistently more expensive due to higher borrowing costs;

And whereas the Ontario Auditor General found no empirical evidence in any of the “Value for Money Audits” for the claimed savings and efficiencies of P3 projects;

And whereas she found the claims of savings were often the result of inflated construction estimates for P3 projects;

And whereas the construction costs of the Regina Wastewater Treatment plant were inflated by \$44 million dollars after the decision to proceed as a P3 project:

And whereas the \$180 million P3 WWTP construction cost (the high end of the original non P3 estimate) is now claimed as a \$42 million savings;

And whereas excessive debt incurred now, reduces the funding available for education in the future;

Therefore be it resolved that the Regina School Board strongly request that the Saskatchewan Auditor General review the P3 school proposal to determine their financial viability.

- Submitted by Jim Holmes

**Carried**

**TREATY 4 FLAG**

**Whereas** Regina’s public schools are located on Treaty 4 Territory;

**And whereas** requests from school communities to fly the Treaty 4 flags outside their schools have not been accommodated thus far;

**And whereas** we are all Treaty people;

**Be it resolved that** the Treaty 4 flag be flown outside all Regina public schools.

- Submitted by Rene Dumont

**Carried**

### **Motion: Public Transparency and Accountability**

**Whereas** the use of closed session at school board meetings has noticeably expanded in scope in the past five years;

**And whereas** the level of information recorded in board minutes on discussion items in closed session has been markedly reduced from past practice;

**And whereas** electors can no longer gain information from their trustees on many items of public interest, due to the increased use of closed-door sessions and the accompanying requirement of absolute secrecy;

**Be it resolved that**, in the interests of public transparency and accountability, the board of trustees commit to curtailing the use of closed session primarily to legal items, land sales, and personnel matters, and that reasons for discussing any item in closed session be publicly stated and open to debate, and that meeting minutes contain a clear account of what specific items were under discussion in closed session.

- Submitted by Rene Dumont

### **Defeated**

## **RESOLUTIONS ON MILITARY TRAINING IN REGINA HIGH SCHOOLS**

### **RESOLUTION 1**

Whereas the decision to introduce a military training program into Regina high schools was taken without any public discussion;

And whereas School Board trustees were not allowed to vote on the matter;

And whereas over 2,000 people have signed a petition calling for this decision to be reversed;

Therefore be it resolved that the Director of Education call a public meeting to discuss the introduction of military training into Regina high schools and that School Board trustees be allowed to vote on the matter.

- Submitted by Florence Stratton

### **Defeated**

## **RESOLUTION 2**

Whereas the military training program about to be introduced into Regina high schools includes instruction in weapons handling, thus raising ethical questions about what we want young people to learn our schools;

And whereas Col. Ross Ermal has publicly stated that the program is meant to “revitalize the reserves” in Regina, thus raising ethical questions about the program’s link to military recruitment;

And whereas students who take the program will be paid \$2,000, thus raising ethical questions about who the program is targeting;

And whereas the military training program is not compatible with the United Nations view of education as enabling “individuals to learn to live together in a world characterized by diversity and pluralism”;

And whereas war is a catastrophe for everyone who experiences it;

Therefore be it resolved that the Regina Board of Education reverse its decision to introduce military training into Regina high schools and instead implement a course for credit in Peace Studies.

- Submitted by Florence Stratton

**Defeated**