



**Minutes of proceedings of a special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the New Frontiers School Board** held in the Library at Howard S. Billings Regional High School, 210 McLeod, Chateauguay, Quebec, on **Tuesday, January 23, 2024**, at 19:00 hours and at which the following commissioners were present, representing quorum of the Council of Commissioners:

- John Ryan, Chair
- Raymond Ledoux, Vice-Chair, Electoral Division #1
- Lina Chouinard, Electoral Division #3, on Teams
- Kenneth Crockett, Electoral Division #4, arrived at 19:12 hours
- Joy Thomas, Electoral Division #5, arrived at 19:04 hours
- Abdul Pirani, Electoral Division #6
- Dianne McKell Eastwood, Electoral Division #7
- Peter Stuckey, Electoral Division #8
- Barbara Ednie, Electoral Division #9
- Connor Stacey, Electoral Division #10
- Brenda Bourdeau, Commissioner representing the Special Needs Advisory Committee
- Lorne Ferguson, Commissioner representing Parents, Elementary Level
- Jennifer Largan, Commissioner representing Parents at Large
- Caleigh Saucier, Commissioner representing Parents, Secondary Level, arrived at 19:04 hours

**Absent with regrets:**

- Karin Van Droffelaar, Electoral Division #2

**Also in attendance:**

- Mike Helm, Director General
- Joyce Donohue, Assistant Director General & Secretary General
- Kara Johnstone, Director of Systems & Information Technology
- Chantal Martin, Director of Continuing Education
- Cuthbert McIntyre, Director of Human Resources
- Terence Savoie, Director of Financial Services
- James Walker, Director of Educational Services
- Luisa Benvenuti, Manager of Administrative Services & Communications
- Sue-Anne Ross, NFAA Representative

**Call to Order & Opening Remarks**

The Chair opened this 342<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 19:00 hours and welcomed members, noting Sue-Anne Ross was representing the New Frontiers Administrators' Association.

**Recognition Statement**

Commissioner L. Ferguson acknowledged that the land on which we gather is the traditional and unceded territory of the Mohawk; a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Nations.

**Declaration of Conflict**

There were no declarations made relative to tonight's agenda items.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as presented on a motion by Commissioner J. Largan.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Public Question Period**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

### **Resolution #CC24-01-23-001**

#### **Executive Committee - Funding of Bill 96 Intervention**

Whereas on December 5, 2023, the Council of Commissioners of the New Frontiers School Board unanimously agreed to become an intervenor in the constitutional challenge of Bill 96 put forward by the English Montreal School Board; and whereas the New Frontiers School Board Council of Commissioners mandated the legal firm, Power Law, to institute on its behalf the appropriate legal proceeding; and whereas the Executive Committee, at their meeting of December 12, 2023, considered the matter of funding the intervention; and whereas members agreed that that a motion to Council should be presented at its next meeting to confirm that the Council's professional development funds be used to fund the School Board's intervention in the English Montreal School Board's Bill 96 case; and whereas it was moved by Commissioner B. Ednie that a motion to confirm that the Council of Commissioners' professional development funds be used to fund this constitutional challenge;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, it was moved by Commissioner J. Largan that the Council of Commissioners of the New Frontiers School Board approve the use of their own professional development funds to cover expenses related to becoming an intervenor in the constitutional challenge of Bill 96 put forward by the English Montreal School Board.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

### **Resolution #CC24-01-23-002**

#### **Executive Committee - National Student Ombudsman – Delegation**

Whereas a new process to treat complaints is in effect since August 28, 2023, following the adoption of the Act respecting the National Student Ombudsman; and whereas the new process includes various steps and levels for the treatment of complaints from students or parents; and whereas on September 5, 2023, the Council of Commissioners designated Luisa Benvenuti as the "Complaints Officer" (*Responsable du traitement des plaintes*) for the New Frontiers School Board; and whereas the new process includes the role and functions of a Regional Student Ombudsman for each school board and school service centre; and whereas a motion is required to authorize the Director General to approve recommendations made by the Regional Student Ombudsman; and whereas a motion is required to authorize the Executive Committee to reject recommendations made by the Regional Student Ombudsman; and whereas the Executive Committee, at their meeting of December 12, 2023, considered this matter;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, it was moved by Commissioner B. Ednie that the Council of Commissioners authorize the Director General to approve recommendations made by the Regional Student Ombudsman; and that the Executive Committee be authorized to reject recommendations made by the Regional Student Ombudsman.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

#### **Director General's Items**

The Director General presented his report, which will be available in the Governance folder. The report included an update on the *Vérificateur Général du Québec* audit. Members indicated their support for ongoing discussions with the City of Chateauguay regarding the transfer of a baseball field from near Harmony School to near Saint-Willibrord School.

#### **Departure from Chambers**

Commissioner A. Pirani left the meeting at 19:33 hours, during the Director General's report presentation.

#### **Return to Chambers**

Commissioner A. Pirani returned to the meeting at 19:37 hours, during the Director General's report presentation.

#### **Departure from Chambers**

Commissioner K. Crockett left the meeting at 19:50 hours, during the Director General's report presentation.

#### **Return to Chambers**

Commissioner K. Crockett returned to the meeting at 19:53 hours, during the Director General's report presentation.

### **Resolution #CC24-01-23-003**

#### **Transfer of Land to Centre de services scolaire des Grandes-Seigneuries**

Whereas on December 6, 2022, the Council of Commissioners of the New Frontiers School Board authorized the Chair or, in his absence, the Vice-Chair, and the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign the Tripartite Agreement for the transfer of land to Centre de services scolaire des Grandes-Seigneuries (CSSDGS) to build a new elementary school; and whereas on July 10, 2023, the New Frontiers School Board (NFSB), the City of

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-003 / Transfer of Land to CSSDGS – cont’d**

Chateauguay and the CSSDGS entered into a tripartite agreement to promise transfers of certain parcels of land to CSSDGS in support of the construction of a new CSSDGS elementary school adjacent to Harmony School; and whereas the Ministry of Education has authorized funding for this new school project; and whereas the NFSB intends to transfer a part of Lot # 4 709 888 to CSSDGS at no cost; and whereas the CSSDGS intends to allow the NFSB to have access to a drop-off zone that will be built adjacent to both elementary schools; and whereas Lot # 4 709 888 will be subdivided into a parcel of land of 5,444.9 square meters to be ceded to CSSDGS; and whereas the NFSB intends to allow the City of Chateauguay to use a field adjacent to Howard S. Billings and St-Willibrord schools to relocate a baseball field from the site of the new CSSDGS elementary school; and whereas in accordance with article 272 of the Education Act, the NFSB must obtain the approval of the Minister of Education to cede any parcel of land;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the New Frontiers School Board submit a request for approval to the Minister of Education to transfer a part of its Lot # 4 709 888 to the Centre de services scolaire des Grandes-Seigneuries; and that upon approval by the Minister of Education, the New Frontiers School Board proceed with the transfer of part of Lot # 4 709 888 representing 5,444.9 square metres of land to Centre de services scolaire des Grandes-Seigneuries at no cost (\$0); and that the Director General be authorized to sign the request for approval to the Minister of Education; and that the Chair of the Council of Commissioners and the Director General be authorized to sign the deed of transfer, and any associated documents in order to give effect to this transfer of immovable property to the Centre de services scolaire des Grandes-Seigneuries.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-004**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Interior Renovation Phase 2, Centennial Park School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Interior renovation phase 2” at Centennial Park School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas two tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Les Construction B. Martel Inc.	\$1 108 300.00
Groupe Celeb Inc.	\$1 239 000.00

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 18, 2023, in the presence of Vice-Chair Raymond Ledoux; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Joyce Donohue, Assistant Director General and Secretary General; and whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Les Constructions B. Martel Inc. for \$1 108 300.00; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Les Constructions B. Martel Inc. for the project “Interior renovation phase 2” at Centennial Park School, for an amount before taxes of \$1 108 300.00.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-005**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Interior & Exterior Renovation, Hemmingford Elementary School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Interior & Exterior renovation” at Hemmingford Elementary School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas two tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Les Constructions B. Martel Inc.	\$1 173 428.00
Construction J Boulais Inc.	\$1 208 217.00

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-005 / MMB - Interior & Exterior Renovation, Hemmingford Elementary School - cont'd**

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 19, 2023, in the presence of Vice-Chair Raymond Ledoux; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Léopold Hatungimana, Manager of Material Resources; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Joyce Donohue, Assistant Director General and Secretary General; and Holly Sarazin, Administrative Technician of Material Resources; and whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Les Constructions B. Martel Inc. for \$1 173 428.00; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Les Constructions B. Martel Inc. for the project “Interior & Exterior Renovation” at Hemmingford Elementary School, for an amount before taxes of \$1 173 428.00.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-006**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Replacement of Exterior Doors, Chateaugay Valley Regional High School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Replacement of Exterior Doors” at Chateaugay Valley Regional High School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas five tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Romcobat Bâtiments Inc.	\$449 140.51
Les Constructions B. Martel Inc.	\$469 000.00
Vitrierie R.D. Ltee	\$529 900.00
6848508 Canada Inc.	\$539 552.00
Construction Emery Paquette Inc.	\$618 000.00

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 19, 2023, in the presence of Vice-Chair Raymond Ledoux; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Léopold Hatungimana, Manager of Material Resources; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Joyce Donohue, Assistant Director General and Secretary General; and Holly Sarazin, Administrative Technician of Material Resources; and whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Romcobat Bâtiments Inc. for \$449 140.51; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Romcobat Bâtiments Inc. for the project “Replacement of Exterior Doors” at Chateaugay Valley Regional High School, for an amount before taxes of \$449 140.51.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-007**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Drainage and Interior Renovation, Howick Elementary School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Drainage & Interior Renovation” at Howick Elementary School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas five tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Hulico Inc.	\$525 000.00
Construction Jacques Theoret Inc.	\$569 189.50
J.L. Priest Inc.	\$604 702.00
Construction Leger & Fils Inc.	\$751 000.00
Les Constructions B. Martel Inc.	\$892 300.00

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-007 / MMB - Drainage and Interior Renovation, Howick Elementary School - cont'd**

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 19, 2023, in the presence of Vice-Chair Raymond Ledoux; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Léopold Hatungimana, Manager of Material Resources; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Joyce Donohue, Assistant Director General and Secretary General; and Holly Sarazin, Administrative Technician of Material Resources; and whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Hulico Inc. for \$525 000.00; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Hulico Inc. for the project “Drainage & Interior Renovation” at Howick Elementary School, for an amount before taxes of \$525 000.00.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-008**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Replacement of Windows and Curtain Walls, Howard S. Billings High School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Replacement of Windows and Curtain Walls” at Howard S. Billings High School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas three tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Romcobat Bâtiments Inc.	\$1 539 823.12
Les Constructions B. Martel Inc.	\$2 212 236.00
XO Construction Inc.	\$2 644 000.00

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 20, 2023, in the presence of Commissioner Lina Chouinard; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Léopold Hatungimana, Manager of Material Resources; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Kara Johnstone, Director of IT & Systems; and Holly Sarazin, Administrative Technician of Material Resources; and whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Romcobat Bâtiments Inc. for \$1 539 823.12; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project; Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Romcobat Bâtiments Inc. for the project “Replacement of Windows and Curtain Walls” Howard S. Billings High School, for an amount before taxes of \$1 539 823.12.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-009**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Interior & Washroom Renovation, Mary Gardner School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Interior and washroom renovation” at Mary Gardner School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas four tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Construction Coboss Inc.	\$380 856.43
Polyval Construction Inc.	\$414 300.00
Les Constructions B. Martel Inc.	\$494 200.00
ARGI Construction	\$553 544.00

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 20, 2023, in the presence of Commissioner Lina Chouinard; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Léopold Hatungimana, Manager of Material Resources; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Kara Johnstone, Director of IT & Systems; and Holly Sarazin, Administrative Technician of Material Resources; and

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-009 / MMB - Interior & Washroom Renovation, Mary Gardner School - cont'd**

Whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Construction Coboss Inc. for \$380 856.43; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Construction Coboss Inc. for the project “Interior and Washroom Renovation” Mary Gardner School, for an amount before taxes of \$380 856.43.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-010**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Interior Renovation Phase 1, Heritage Elementary School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Interior Renovation Phase 1” at Heritage Elementary School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas two tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Construction Leger & Fils Inc.	\$497 500.00
Les Constructions B. Martel Inc.	\$831 000.00

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 21, 2023, in the presence of Chair John Ryan; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Léopold Hatungimana, Manager of Material Resources; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Kara Johnstone, Director of IT & Systems; and Holly Sarazin, Administrative Technician of Material Resources; and whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Construction Leger & Fils Inc. for \$497 500.00; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project;

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Construction Leger & Fils Inc. for the project “Interior Renovation Phase 1” Heritage Elementary School, for an amount before taxes of \$497 500.00.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-011**

**Building Maintenance Measure (MMB)**

**Interior Renovation Phase 3, Ormstown Elementary School**

Whereas the Ministry of Education has provided the New Frontiers School Board with funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” from the 2023-2024 school year for the following project “Interior Renovation Phase 3” at Ormstown Elementary School; and whereas the professionals (architects and engineers) were given a mandate to prepare plans and specifications for said project; and whereas three tenders were received:

Company	Bid (excluding taxes)
Construction Emery Paquette Inc.	\$619 000.00
Les Constructions B. Martel Inc.	\$687 300.00
Construction Leger & Fils Inc.	\$888 000.00

Whereas sealed tenders for the above-mentioned project were opened publicly on December 22, 2023, in the presence of Commissioner Lina Chouinard; Terry Savoie, Director of Finance; Léopold Hatungimana, Manager of Material Resources; Stéphane Laliberté, Manager of Material Resources; Joyce Donohue, Assistant Director General and Secretary General; and Holly Sarazin, Administrative Technician of Material Resources; and whereas after analyzing the bids, the professionals have determined that the lowest conforming bidder, before taxes, is Construction Emery Paquette Inc. for \$619 000.00; and whereas there are sufficient funds within the measure “Maintien des bâtiments” for the 2023-2024 school year for this project;

**Resolution #CC24-01-23-011 / MMB - Interior Renovation Phase 3, Ormstown Elementary School cont'd**

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Operations Standing Committee, it was moved by Commissioner D. McKell-Eastwood that the Council of Commissioners authorizes the Director General or, in his absence, the Assistant Director General, to sign a contract with Construction Emery Paquette Inc. for the project "Interior Renovation Phase 3" Ormstown Elementary School, for an amount before taxes of \$619 000.00.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

**Appreciation**

The Chair asked that all those who were involved in preparing our MMB projects for submission, and all those who took part in the tendering process be thanked for their dedication and hard work in seeing that NFSB projects were ready for market early in the year.

**Second Public Question Period**

There were no members of the public present.

**Closure**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20:17 hours on a motion by Commissioner L. Chouinard.

**MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

John Ryan  
Chair

Joyce Donohue  
Secretary General