



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016  
FROM 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM  
AT THE ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

Member Organization	Name	
A.A.E.S.Q	Sam Bruzzese	Present
	Ralph Mason	Present
A.C.E.S	Cindy Finn	Present
	Gail Somerville	Present
CEGEPS	Normand Bernier	Regrets
ADGESBQ	Sylvain Racette	Present
SCHOOL BOARD EDUCATIONAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES	Marie Wahba	Present
	Sandra Furfaro	Present
	Brenda Smylie	Present
	Geoffrey Hipps	Present
	Kandy Mackey	Regrets
	Marian Lothian – Regrets	Present- Stewart Aitken
	Lisa Mosher	Present V.C.
	Lisa Rae-Nutter	Present
	Mark Sutherland	Present V.C.
I.S.A.T.	Holly Hampson	Present
	Corinne Levy Sommer	Regrets
P.R.O.C.E.D.E	Mario Argiropoulos	Regrets
	Bonnie Mitchell	Present
PROFESSIONALS' ASSOCIATIONS	Tino Bordonaro	Present
	Arlene Scott	Present
Q.P.A.T.	Andrew Adams	Present
	J.P. Fossey	Present
	Sébastien Joly	Present
	Paul Pompa	Present
SPECIAL STATUS BOARD EDUCATIONAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES	CREE-Serge Beliveau	Regrets
	LITTORAL-Deborah Foltin	Present
MEESR/DSCA	Lise Langlois	Present
	Christie Brown	Present
UNIVERSITIES	Bishops-Avril Aitken	Present
	McGill-Fiona Benson	Regrets
	Dominic Martini	Regrets
ADM – English Sector	Anne-Marie Lepage	Regrets
LEARN	Christine Truesdale	Present
Coordinator	John Ryan	Present
Recording Secretary	Angela Rosa	Present
GUESTS		
Catherine McKenzie – Legal Firm of Irving Mitchell Kalichman		
David Grossman – Legal Firm of Irving Mitchell Kalichman		
Eric Campbell – Secretary General ETSB		
Johanne Brabant – Secretary General SWLSB		



## **1. WORDS OF WELCOME**

- 1.1. Cindy Finn welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2016 and extended wishes for a happy new year. A roundtable introduction followed for the lawyers from the firm of Irving Mitchell Kalichman.

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTMEMBER 17, 2016 MEETING**

### **Resolution #18-2016-01-14**

- 2.1. It was moved by Bonnie Mitchell and seconded by Marie Wahba and unanimously resolved that the minutes of the regular meeting of the committee held on September 17, 2015 be approved.

## **3. LINGUISTIC POLICY – Guests Catherine McKenzie and David Grossman, Legal Council from the firm of Irving Mitchell Kalichman.**

- 3.1. Cindy introduced the guest and informed members that the firm of Irving Mitchell Kalichman specializes in civil, commercial and constitutional law and has experience litigating language laws. They were entrusted with looking at current Ministry's linguistic policy at LCEEQ's request due to the increasingly restrictive use and different interpretation and implementation.
- 3.2. The key comments made during the discussion:
- As it stands now the policy does not violate freedom of expression under the Charter of the French Language. That being said the issue becomes how the policy has been and is being implemented. Cindy Finn offered some context on the process and communication had with the MEESR and the difficulty of getting a copy of the policy. LCEEQ was told the policy is under review due to the new structure of the ministry but unfortunately there would be no opportunity to meet with Ministry prior to this revision.
  - According to the firm - it is clear in the policy that pedagogical materials should be provided in English in an English environment. It was the opinion of both lawyers that teachers in an English school do not have to have a working knowledge of French and materials provided for teachers must be in English.
  - One issue stems from the fact that there is no definition in the policy of what is a pedagogical document. In turn there is nothing that restricts the Ministry to take its own interpretation. A roundtable discussion followed on whether a definition of pedagogy is needed. It was determined following a lengthy discussion that time would be better spent, rather than defining pedagogy, on a different approach. The following suggestions were brought forward:
    - ✓ By using an approach that is collaborative and mediating. This will also be useful if, ultimately, the boards will seek legal direction.
    - ✓ The policy should clearly identify a timeline for translation.
    - ✓ It was recommended that an evolution of examples/problems starting in 2009 be recorded/listed. This information will be useful for the letter to the Ministry and will be part of any further analysis.
    - ✓ The approach would be to show how the policy has been narrowing in its implementation and how this is diminishing the use of the English language.

- ✓ Ask for a process of dialogue and input – allow for a process that when a problem arises the network can talk to the Ministry.
- ✓ Prove that the boards have to continually ask for translations – why does the onus have to be on the school boards at all times? Work on identifying what it is that the Ministry has an obligation to translate – and if it does not - then the boards can take legal recourse.
- ✓ Include in the letter – the concerns involving textbooks. The lawyers said the Canadian Charter supersedes all other laws – so if boards feel that the charter is violated, the linguistic policy could be changed.
- Brief summary:
  - ✓ Creating the list of examples will help create a clearer understanding of pedagogical documents and will also help support the fact that the translation is not being actively done by the Ministry. The exercise will have to show that materials provided by MEESR are not sufficient, nor fully acceptable and the word material should be open enough to capture even the professional development aspect. The Ministry has to provide or approve an equivalent document, text, and/or service to the English school boards.

#### **4. BILL 86 – CHANGES IN GOVERNANCE**

- 4.1. Cindy Finn introduced two members of the sub-committee of the Secretaries General of the English School Boards of Quebec. This sub-committee of ADGESBQ, along with all the other sub-committees, proves to be an excellent resource on particular dossiers. The Secretaries General are very familiar with the new bill and agreed to make a presentation to LCEEQ.
- 4.2. Éric Campbell, Secretary General of ETSB and Johanne Brabant, Secretary General of SWLSB (Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary of EMSB sent regrets due to illness) presented a powerpoint and covered the salient points of the Bill.
- 4.3. A question and answer period followed. Many questions remain and members understood that the bill might be significantly revised following the parliamentary hearings.
- 4.4. LCEEQ members requested a copy of the PPT. The Secretaries General Table will follow up and if shared, it will be with the understanding that the document will be graciously shared with the members of LCEEQ for consultation purposes only and that it should not be distributed, nor reproduced.

#### **5. ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER’S REPORT – ANNE-MARIE LEPAGE**

Lise Langlois reported on Mrs. Lepage’s behalf.

- 5.1. Dates of the Parliamentary hearings. The recommendation by the sous-ministre was to include LCEEQ but this did not happen. LCEEQ can always send a brief and is encouraged to do so.
- 5.2. The DSCA will be ready to work on the bill when it becomes law by taking in the perspective of all the boards and all the sectors.
- 5.3. Today at 2:30 Pierre-Karl Péladeau is expected to give a press release on Bill 86
- 5.4. Lise Langlois reported that the sous-ministre Mme Barcelo is a strong proponent of increasing collaboration within the Ministry itself and with all partners. DSCA is looking forward to the improvements that will be forthcoming from this direction.



## **6. NEW GOVERNMENT ACTION PLAN TO COUNTER BULLYING AND VIOLENCE**

6.1. Christie Brown reported that this is an inter-ministerial dossier and ministries will be working against bullying as it is now seen as a shared responsibility. Christie circulated a hardcopy document but Terry Lin will come a later meeting to report on the final guidelines. There is more work to be done amongst the ministries. John will also share the link where LCEEQ members may access additional resources. Hopefully there not too many changes to what has been done over the past years so as to keep the continuity of process – Example: reports and ententes with police.

## **7. LCEEQ BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **7.1. DSCA REPORT**

- Christie reminds members to read the monthly update that is circulated soon after it is deposited at the ADGESBQ meeting. Much information and details can be found in these reports.
- The Programme d'échanges linguistiques intra-Québec (PÉLIQ-AN) which provides grants to help cover the costs of language exchange projects that teachers wish to organize with their classes has been extended for a second phase. Applications are being accepted.
- WOTP - Ingrid Hove Gust has returned to the position of project development officer for the Work-Oriented Training Path (WOTP). Ingrid is available to support WOTP programs in the English sector throughout the province. She can be reached at [ihove@swlauriersb.qc.ca](mailto:ihove@swlauriersb.qc.ca) and she is working with Marsha Gouett at the DSCA.
- Training for the new history program – update will be added to the March agenda of LCEEQ
- CST Math changes in sec IV have begun this past fall – The expectation is that Sec V will also be changed accordingly – but no information is yet available for the Sec V yet.
- The Math Institute information sessions were held in December – being discussed is how to get administrators involved. (elementary and Cycle I secondary)

### **7.2. ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

- John Ryan reported on the 2016 conference which is coming up on February 8 and 9. Registration closed last Friday and 728 registration were received – John thanked everyone for their support.
- The only major disappointment for LCEEQ was the extremely small response to the request for students and educators to send a simple video-selfie answering the question “What does education mean to me?” The question was put to the Table whether this should be terminated or extend the deadline for submissions until the end of January. Members agreed that another opportunity should be given. John will send out a reminder to all members.
- Special for Parents: Rick Lavoie will be offering a presentation on the evening of February 8<sup>th</sup> for parents. The session is free but parents must register. A one-page information sheet was deposited and can also be found on the website.
- The dates for the 2017 conference are confirmed for February 13 and 14, 2017.



### 7.3. **PRESENTATION BY DR. S. LUPIEN**

- John reminded members that a session originally scheduled for September 17<sup>th</sup> was canceled and had not yet been rescheduled. It will now be offered on April 14, 2016 at the VINO ROSSO Restaurant on Henri-Bourassa West. The session on “Stress, Work and Performance” will be given by Sonia Lupien, PhD. The invitation will go to all administrators and their spouses. The cost-sharing policy for travel and accommodation will apply.

### 7.4. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR MARCH 10, 2016**

- Members were invited to submit any suggestion for agenda items
  - ✓ update on the pilot programs will be given at the March meeting
  - ✓ updates on the History program

## 8. **ADJOURNMENT**

8.1. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.