

TRUSTEE TALK

Updates from the Board of Trustees for our Sturgeon Public school community
January 2022



- It Takes A Village
- Community Collaboration for Exemplary Education

Building Community Connections

Chaired by Trustee Stacey Buga, the Advocacy Committee is working towards fostering relationships with our surrounding partners in the community. An engagement plan is being created to connect with MLA's, Municipal Partners, Alexander First Nation, and the surrounding school boards.

By reaching out and making new and renewed connections, the Advocacy Committee's goal is to create a collaborative community that supports providing the best student educational experience possible. By working together we can ensure that each student in our care can thrive and grow to be successful in whatever life path they choose. The Advocacy Committee is looking forward to hearing from and sharing ideas with the Student Advisory Committee in their meeting coming up in February.



**Sturgeon
Public Schools**
Dare to reimagine learning

We're Covered!

Bill 58, or Freedom to Care Act, came into effect September 1, 2021. It has been reviewed by Corporate Services mainly around the aspect of insurance coverage for volunteer groups.

As Bill 58 covers all volunteer groups, not just in the Education System, we wanted to make sure we have the right coverage in scenarios that relate to the Division - things like:

- volunteers that act on the request of the Division in activities such as field trips, hot lunches, classroom volunteers, and library volunteers.
- School Councils as a Volunteer Group.
- Parent Fundraising as a Volunteer Group.

Under Bill 58 coverage for all volunteers includes:

- that no volunteer is liable for accidental damage caused while acting on request of the not-for-profit organization.

- damage caused by a volunteer through willful, reckless, criminal misconduct, or gross negligence is not covered.
- damage to a volunteer's personal vehicle while being used for activity is not covered.
- offences are not covered along with damages done while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.



In obtaining legal council around the three scenarios relating to the Division, it's been clarified that Sturgeon Public Volunteer groups are protected under Section 251 of the Education Act, however some situations are not covered. In looking into the Division insurance policy, we are confident we have the proper coverage necessary to cover any liabilities. One new update in January 2022 to the policy states that volunteers engaging in skimming and other fraudulent activities will be reported to the police. *The Division has insurance coverage for such issues under the Employee Dishonesty policy, which also covers volunteers.*



Clean and Healthy!

With the ever changing nuances of COVID-19, we have been continuing the daily enhanced cleaning measures set out in our schools. The next project - installing Hepa air filtration systems in classrooms!

To our amazing Custodians and Facilities Team working hard to keep our schools clean and all of us healthy, THANK YOU!