

SYNOPSIS

The following is a summary of the February 16-17, 2018 Provincial Council meeting, which took place at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver.

Please log in to the [BCSTA HUB](#) to access and view linked documents.

You can view both the [draft copy of the Provincial Council Meeting Minutes](#) and the [Disposition of Motions online](#). For further details, please contact BCSTA CEO Mike Roberts at mroberts@bcsta.org.

Funding Formula Review Presentation

On the Friday night before Provincial Council, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education Reg Bawa and Sector Resourcing and Service Delivery Executive Director Kim Horn spoke to Provincial Council reps about the funding formula review that the Ministry is undertaking. They presented the timeline, their findings, so far, and the steps following that will involve close consultations with education partners.

[Download the Funding Formula Presentation here.](#)

President's Report

During his report to Provincial Council, BCSTA President Gordon Swan spoke about notable events and the ongoing work of the Board of Directors. President Swan spoke about the reinstatement of trustee governance and leadership to the BCPSEA board. He emphasized the importance of running in the upcoming October local elections and acknowledged and thanked members of the Board of Directors who will not be seeking reelection. He also spoke about ongoing projects, the BCSTA strategic plan, the work of the elections and bylaw review committees, as well as the work BCSTA is doing in response to the 2018 BC Budget.

[Read the full President's Report here.](#)

CEO's Report

CEO Mike Roberts addressed two key items during his report to Provincial Council. The first was BCSTA work to provide boards with resources and templates to address the pending School District Financial Health requirements that must be initiated by June 30, 2018. In April 2017, the Ministry of Education announced a number of new financial monitoring and oversight requirements for school districts, with a required implementation date of June 2018. Although the operationalization of these requirements is now not required until June 2019, BCSTA is providing a number of supports and learning opportunities for boards that will begin to be delivered later this month and into the summer. The information slides provided during his report are attached.

In the second half of his report, Mike reviewed this past week's Throne Speech and its likely implications for the new provincial budget to be released on February 20th. While some small additions to the K-12 budget may be included, it is not expected that public education will see any significant influx of operational money beyond coverage of increasing enrollment. Knowing that government will be concerned about the cost of public sector bargaining settlements in 2019, it was suggested that BCSTA may wish to focus on increased flexibility for boards to spend existing money to meet local student needs. This could include changes to government policy, collective agreements, the funding distribution formula, and current tracking processes to allow more local decision making on how overall funding is spent.

BCSTA will be providing further updates to members following the provincial budget announcement on Tuesday as well as during the remainder of the funding formula review process.

[Download the CEO's presentation here.](#)

CSBA Report

In his Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) report, President Swan spoke about the 2018 CSBA Congress and National Aboriginal Gathering that is going ahead in Halifax despite the Nova Scotia government's decision to abolish school trusteeship in the province. He spoke against this decision and emphasized the importance of locally-elected boards of education.

[Read the full CSBA Report here.](#)

Professional Learning Committee Report

In their meeting before Provincial Council, the Professional Learning Committee reviewed their budget, the *Trustee Learning Guide* and the recently-concluded Trustee Academy. The committee also discussed the programming for the upcoming 2018 Annual General Meeting and Trustee Academy.

The committee had their usual breakfast meeting with the Aboriginal Education Committee where they discussed the important alignments of their work.

[Read the full Professional Learning Committee Report here.](#)

Aboriginal Education Committee Report

In their meeting prior to Provincial Council, the Aboriginal Education Committee discussed the process of committee member selection and passed motions asking for a review of their committee's composition. The committee discussed projects they undertook during last November's Trustee Academy.

Ted Cadwallader, Director of Aboriginal Education with the Ministry of Education joined the committee in the afternoon on Thursday and spoke about how to work with BCSTA to support students, parity and equity.

Juanita Coltman, the K-12 Policy Manager at First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) also came to speak during the meeting about working to develop partnerships with BCSTA.

[Read the full Aboriginal Education Committee Report here.](#)

Legislative Committee Report

For this Provincial Council meeting, the Legislative Committee reported that they received seven motions by

the motion submission deadline. The Legislative Committee determined that six of the seven motions were emergent in nature. The Legislative Committee had, therefore, approved for debate by Provincial Council, motions 9.1 through 9.6 which appear in the agenda package.

The committee determined that several motions targeted at influencing the 2018-2019 provincial budget are emergent because the provincial budget that will be released this month is the new government's first full budget since taking office. If discussion of these motions was delayed until AGM, this would impact negatively on boards' ability to influence public policy.

[Read the full Legislative Committee Report here.](#)

Financial Committee Report

The members of the Finance and Audit Committee reviewed the *BCSTA Draft 2018/2019 Budget* with the February 2018 Provincial Council and requested feedback from the assembly. As the final budget draft will be adopted by the April 2018 Provincial Council, Provincial Councillors and member boards of education have an additional opportunity to provide feedback on the 2018/2019 budget draft.

Feedback for the Finance and Audit Committee regarding BCSTA's 2018/2019 draft budget can be sent by March 19, 2018 to:

BCSTA Finance Committee

c/o Jodi Olstead, Director of Finance & Human Resources
BC School Trustees Association
4th Floor, 1580 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V6J 5K9
jolstead@bcsta.org

Disposition of Motions

The following motions were carried:

- 8.1 BCSTA Draft 2018/2019 Budget
- 8.2 Vancouver Island Branch Association Constitution and Bylaws-Proposed Changes
- 9.1 Impact of Funding Formula Review
- 9.2 Specific Focus for Funding Model Review
- 9.4 Additional Funding for Emergency Preparedness
- 9.5 Additional Funding for Aboriginal Perspectives, Content and Instructional Methodologies
- 9.6 Base Funding for Small Remote and Rural Districts with Low Enrolment

[See the full Disposition of Motions.](#)