

February 2021

# SYNOPSIS

## BCSTA Provincial Council Summary

This is a summary of the February 2021 Provincial Council (PC) meeting, which took place on Zoom in accordance with BCSTA's social distancing protocol during the COVID-19 pandemic. Draft minutes are available [here](#). Contact Gordon Li at [gli@bcsta.org](mailto:gli@bcsta.org) for more details.

### President's Report

President Stephanie Higginson welcomed attendees and shared updates on COVID-19, motions from October's PC meeting, and creating a district reserves policy. Read the report [here](#).

### CEO's Report

Sylvia Russell thanked BCSTA staff for their excellent support. She also spoke with appreciation for the passion, leadership and hard work of the president, vice-president and directors. The association has provided important, balanced leadership during the pandemic and the involvement of BCSTA representatives on the provincial steering committees has been invaluable.

Sylvia spoke briefly to the importance of following the advice of the local Medical Health Officer regarding health and safety matters.

Board chairs will be receiving a survey regarding "surplus/reserves." This is to support the development of strong provincial policy and direction about the purpose of surplus/reserves.

BCSTA is in the process of developing a number of excellent position papers, including a draft paper which sets out conditions to improve planning for school opening in September 2021, based on feedback provided by trustees this past fall

### CSBA Report

Vice-President Carolyn Broady delivered a report on the activity of the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA), including updates on the COVID-19 crisis and school board advocacy across Canada. Read her report [here](#).

### Finance & Audit Committee Report

The Finance and Audit Committee presented the draft 2021/2022 budget. Feedback can be sent to [jolstead@bcsta.org](mailto:jolstead@bcsta.org). Read the full report [here](#).

### Legislative Committee Report

The committee examines motions submitted to PC. Ryan Painter delivered a verbal report to the council, which can be read [here](#).

### IEC Report

Dana Moraes, Indigenous Education Committee Co-Chair, delivered the committee's report including a new resources guide and upcoming call-out questions to members. Download the report [here](#).

### Professional Learning Committee Report

Leah Ward, PLC Chair, delivered the committee's report focusing on plans for AGM. Download the report [here](#).

# Disposition of Motions

The following motions were carried by PC:

- 9.1 That BCSTA request the Ministry of Education increase Distributed Learning funding to the standard per full time equivalent (FTE) funding level. Carried.
- 9.2 That BCSTA request the Ministry of Health assign high priority to the vaccination of workers in the public education sector when the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available as described in the February 19th update to the Covid 19 Immunization Plan which states "Note: Once additional vaccines are approved and become available, people between the ages of 18 and 64 who are front-line essential workers or work in specific workplaces or industries may be included in the later part of Phase 3." Carried as amended.
- 9.3 That BCSTA urge provincial and local health authorities to provide better communications around how safe schools are in regard to COVID-19 and make this information available to families and staff on a variety of platforms and languages. Carried as amended.

Download the full disposition of motions [here](#).