

**SUMMARY OF THE BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING OF
GREATER ST. ALBERT RCSSD NO. 734
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Trustees Caron, Crockett, Kaup, McEvoy, Proulx, and Shaw

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Trustee Radford

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

D Keohane, superintendent; D Schlag, secretary treasurer

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and Trustee Kaup offered the opening prayer.

PRESENTATION

Brian Brost, Business Manager Planning and Engineering, for the City of St. Albert, and Raheem Dilgir, Project Consultant on the **Safe Journeys to Schools** initiative provided Trustees with a power-point presentation and commentary on recommendations from the Final Report. Mr. Dilgir offered the Trustees a highlight of the recommendations in hope many may be addressed, within the scope of affordability, to improve the journey to school for all involved, students, parents, and staff.

ASBA BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND PROPOSED POLICY POSITIONS

Trustees received the ASBA Bylaw Amendments and Proposed Policy Positions that will be considered at the Spring General Meeting, but had no further comment at this time.

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES FRAMEWORK

Superintendent Keohane shared a recently completed document created by the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA). Further consideration of this item will be brought to a regular meeting of the Board.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Trustee Crockett provided a February 11, 2015 St. Albert Business Liaison meeting report (attached).
- Trustee Shaw provided a summary report on the February 27, 2015 ASBA Zone 2/3 Meeting (verbal).

OTHER EVENT REPORTS

- Trustee Kaup verbally reported that he and Trustee Caron attended the APEGA luncheon.
- Trustee Kaup provided a verbal update from the MCHS School Council meeting, highlighting the following items of interest:
 - ✓ Charity Hamper and the recognition from MP, Rona Ambrose
 - ✓ Youth Job Fair
 - ✓ Cookbook project for the District's 150th Anniversary Celebration

Trustee Kaup offered the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Meeting chaired by Trustee Shaw



Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 734

Committee Report Summary

Board Advocacy Committee Meeting Date: March 2, 2015

Submitted by Trustee: Trustee Crockett

Committee/Event Name: Business Liaison (St. Albert)

Committee Meeting Date & Time: February 11, 2015 – State of the City Address – Mayor Nolan Crouse (300 in attendance)

Highlights of Items Relevant to GSACRD: : networking with St. Albert mayor and councillors, regional mayors and councillors, St Albert Public trustees, St. Albert business owners, table discussion, and the honor of being introduced as an elected official of GSACRD.

Highlights:

- Mayor Crouse began by thanking all those who serve the community of St Albert and in particular Constable David Wynn whose life was taken while serving.
- City has focused on the cultural and social aspects of what make a City #1 to live in. Council has invested in human capital in the last 10 years, going from 50 annual events to 100 events in 2014 with an emphasis on gathering areas for people to come together. "Cities, Crouse shared, "Are not structures, cities are people and people want social and environmental processes in place so they feel like their city is their home".
- Economic Development – The Mayor shared numerous times throughout his presentation that there would be no boom, no bust from the fallout of lower oil prices but continued solid growth. Population growth has been flat for the last 50 years with an increase of about 1000 new residents per year. A changing housing mix going into the future with more multi-family units being built will aid future growth. Average of 200 housing starts per year for 2010 – 2014. Riel and Campbell are now full with North Ridge to be full by 2015. Thirty stores will fill the area of the old Holes Site which is now called Shops of Boudreau. Decision to be made by Council in the future is whether to go ahead with a \$25 million sewer trunk line to help spur development on St Albert's west end. Poor economy – little development vs timely development if economy stays stable.
- Environment - \$30 mln Riel Park is now complete, waste and organic recycling going well, pesticides have been virtually eliminated and environmentally friendly toilet will be a future incentive to conserve water. Ridding black knot disease in urban forest is an ongoing problem.
- Infrastructure – continued emphasis on "gathering places" because people want to be with people. Need for library, possibly an Art Gallery 2016, Museum – 2017, Arena 2019 or sooner, and perhaps a children's museum. Fire Station is needed in Campbell North

Service Place (98% used) – now breaks even but has taken 8 years to do so. 110 minor hockey teams use the ice.

- **Park and Ride land bought in 2010 awaits Government plans as does the completion of Anthony Henday.**
- **Conclusion - Mayor is optimistic, community satisfaction high, safety issues low, proud of Safe Journeys to School, no categories of dire concern, good relations with neighbors with region growing at a rate of 28 000 per year.**
- **“We are on stable ground, the Mayor concludes, “Our challenges create creativity.”**