

DPAC/BCCPAC Report – 26 April 2017

Submitted by John Puddifoot, Byng DPAC rep.

Any questions related to DPAC or BCCPAC can be forwarded to pac@puddifoot.com

1. BCCPAC held an all-party debate on education issues April 6 which I attended. IN general, there was little disagreement between the parties as to what should be done, though there were some points of contention regarding how fast things would be done. Full video recording of the debate can be seen here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lon8bVprk8&feature=youtu.be>
2. The VSB preliminary budget can be found here:
http://www.vsb.bc.ca/sites/default/files/17Apr19_op_plen%20comm%20iii%20v_op_agenda_item1.pdf Unlike past years, the VSB opened an on-line public survey for anyone to fill in as to what priorities they wanted to see. Currently the shortfall is 2.13 million due primarily to the previous board spending accumulated surpluses of about 12 million in the prior year. This year there are very few cuts, and some could be brought back as budget uncertainty is removed. Few of these cuts would affect Byng directly, though the board will be returning funds borrowed last year from the school flex accounts.

One issue brought forward to the Byng PAC is the elimination of Career Information Advisors. (CIAs) The short explanation provided in the budget is, “Many of the supports that CIAs offer to students will now be covered in the new career education courses.” From this it appears that rather than withdrawing these services from students, they are going to be provided in a different way. See proposal E4 in the proposed budget as per the link above for details.

The final budget deliberations are the same night as our PAC meeting.

3. BCCPAC will have at least five resolutions to vote on and elections to conduct at their 2017 AGM being held in Surrey on May 6 & 7. The titles of the resolutions are as follows:
 - a. Life Membership for John Bird
 - b. Advocacy for Single Stall Inclusive Washrooms
 - c. Advocacy for Single Stall Inclusive Change Rooms
 - d. Development, Adoption & Implementation of a Provincial Poverty Reduction Plan
 - e. Installation of Automated External Defibrillators in School Facilities

There may be further resolutions that come from the floor at the meeting and the above resolutions may be amended.

I will be staying after the PAC meeting to discuss the above resolutions with anyone interested and to get input on these measures for the debate at the AGM.

In order for our PAC to vote at this meeting, we must appoint someone to hold Byng’s proxy (Vote) I will be attending and can carry the proxy. We should pass a motion to appoint this proxy holder and an alternate.

Questions? Further questions after the meeting or to the e-mail above. pac@puddifoot.com