A joint York Catholic District School Board and York Region District School Board public meeting for the review of the Education Development Charge Policies was held in the Board Room at the Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario, on Wednesday, May 13, 2009.

PRESENT

York Catholic District School Board:
Members: M. Carnovale, T. Ciaravella, C. Cotton, E. Crowe, D. Giuliani, M. Mogado, M. Rizzi, V. Schiralli, A. Stong
Administration: A. Chan, R. Dooley, B. Eldridge, S. LaRosa, T. Pechkovsky, P. Preston, J. Sabo
Absent with Notice: T. McNicol
Recording Officer: F. Smith, York Catholic District School Board
Presiding (YCDSB): E. Crowe, Chair of the Board

York Region District School Board:
Members: A. DeBartolo, N. Elgie, D. Giangrande, J. Hertz, G. Kerr, P. Luchowski, E. Richardson
Administration: R. Benson, B. Richardson, J. Ross
Absent with Notice: L. Carruthers, B. Crothers, S. Geller, N. Shan, M. Van Beek
Recording Officer: F. Smith, York Catholic District School Board
Presiding (YRDSB): D. Giangrande, Chair of the Board

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION, AND CALL TO ORDER

York Catholic District School Board Chair, E. Crowe, called the Special Meeting of the Board to order at 7:05 p.m. Chair Crowe welcomed everyone and introduced York Catholic Trustees present at the Board table.
York Region District School Board Chair, D. Giangrande, expressed appreciation to the York Catholic Board for hosting the evening’s meeting, and introduced trustees present at the Board table from the York Region District School Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND WAIVING OF DELEGATION REQUIREMENTS – YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Prior to approval of the agenda, York Catholic District School Board Chair E. Crowe led the assembly in prayer.

(*)1. Moved by C. Cotton, seconded by A. Stong:

That the agenda be approved as presented.

- Carried -

(*)2. Moved by M. Ciavavella, seconded by A. Stong:

That the normal requirement for delegations to have filed a copy of their presentation in advance be waived.

- Carried -

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FROM YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES

No trustees from the York Catholic District School Board declared a conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND WAIVING OF DELEGATION REQUIREMENTS – YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

(*)3. Moved by P. Luchowski, seconded by E. Richardson:

That the agenda be approved as presented.

- Carried -

(*)4. Moved by P. Luchowski, seconded by E. Richardson:

That the normal requirement for delegations to have filed a copy of their presentation in advance be waived.

- Carried -
DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FROM YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES

No trustees from the York Region District School Board declared a conflict of interest.

OPENING REMARKS

York Catholic District School Board Chair E. Crowe explained that the Boards are proposing to enact new Education Development Charge By-Laws and as part of that process, are conducting a review of their Education Development Charge policies. As per Section 257.60 of the Education Act, a formal public meeting is required. The Boards are seeking input from the public, and will give consideration to the submissions received prior to passing Education Development Charge By-Laws. Chair Crowe further explained that the primary purpose of any Board in implementing education development charges is to provide a source of funding for new school sites, and noted that these are not funded by a per pupil grant under the Province’s “Student Focussed Funding Model”.

York Catholic District School Board Chair E. Crowe continued by explaining that Education Development Charges (EDCs) may be set at any level, provided that:

- the procedures set out in the Regulation made under the Education Act and required by the Ministry are followed and only growth-related net education land costs are recovered; and
- no more than 40% of the applicable costs is financed via non-residential development.

Chair E. Crowe further explained that the Education Development Charge (EDC) calculation is based on new pupils generated by housing units within the by-law area, for which building permits will be issued over the next fifteen-year period and for which additional school accommodation is required.

York Region District School Board Chair D. Giangrande explained that the co-terminous Boards have worked in close cooperation in developing the proposed education development charges. The Boards coordinated their efforts in carrying out the background analysis respecting growth projections, pupil enrolment forecasts, determination of growth-related pupil place requirements, site costing, and in completing their respective EDC forms, through continuing discussions.

Chair D. Giangrande also explained that, like the Catholic Board, the York Region District School Board is seeking input from the public and will give consideration to the submissions prior to the passage of a new education development charge by-law. Chair Giangrande noted that the Boards intend to give final consideration to the passage of EDC By-Laws on June 2, 2009, unless there is good reason to delay further, and also noted that the Boards welcome public input today as well as any input that might be given at a later time, either in writing or orally.
Chair D. Giangrande outlined the evening’s agenda explaining that once the consultants have provided the assembly with an overview of the Boards’ existing policies, and the lawyers have provided a brief explanation of how those policies are reflected in the Boards’ existing by-laws, then members of the public will be invited to address the Boards. After everyone has been given an opportunity to speak, the meeting will be adjourned, to be followed by a second meeting scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on this same evening to consider the proposed new charges and by-laws.

PRESENTATION REGARDING PROPOSED NEW EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT CHARGES POLICIES

York Region District School Board Chair D. Giangrande introduced Cynthia Clarke and Daniel Del Bianco of C.N. Watson and Associates Economists Ltd., who provided a brief overview of the Background Document Pertaining to the Review of the Education Development Charges Policies for the York Catholic District School Board and the York Region District School Board. Trustees from both Boards received a copy of the documents which have been prepared to ensure that adequate information is made available to the public, and to assist in each Board’s review of its Education Development Charges policies.

C. Clarke highlighted the policies and components underlying the existing EDC by-laws, including Recovery of Growth-related Net Education Land Costs; Non-Statutory Residential Exemptions; Non-Statutory Non-Residential Exemptions; Percentage of Net Education Land Costs Borne by Residential and Non-residential Development; Demolition/Conversion Credits; By-Law Term; Operating Surpluses; and alternative Accommodation Arrangements. Ms. Clarke also reviewed the By-Law Structure that deals with the adoption of jurisdiction-wide versus area municipal (or Sub-area) charges. The policy perspectives and any input received in respect of all EDC by-laws since by-law inception on July 5, 2004, have been included in the document.

Following the presentation, trustees took the opportunity to ask questions of clarification.

PRESENTATION REGARDING EXISTING BY-LAW TEXT

York Catholic District School Board Chair, E. Crowe, introduced Steven O’Melia, of Miller Thomson LLP, who provided an overview of the existing text of the by-laws for each Board.

Mr. O’Melia noted that the current by-laws expire July 4, 2009, and to avoid a period of non-collection, it is expected the by-laws will be passed on June 2, 2009. The existing by-laws comply with legislation, and since things have not changed, the new by-laws will be in a similar format.
PUBLIC INPUT

York Catholic District School Board Chair E. Crowe invited members of the public who wish to speak to come forward in turn and present their views. There were no oral or written submissions presented at this time.

MOTIONS TO RECEIVE PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

There being no written or oral submissions on the matter of Education Development Charge policies, the following motions to receive the reports and presentations of the consultants and legal counsel were introduced.

York Region District School Board

(*5) Moved by G. Kerr, seconded by A. DeBartolo:

That the reports and presentations of the consultants and legal counsel regarding the Education Development Charge Policies, be received by the York Region District School Board.

- Carried -

York Catholic District School Board

(*6) Moved by A. Stong, seconded by T. Ciavavella:

That the reports and presentations of the consultants and legal counsel regarding the Education Development Charge Policies, be received by the York Catholic District School Board.

- Carried -

CLOSING REMARKS

York Catholic District School Board Chair E. Crowe noted once again that this evening’s meeting was a public meeting held for the purposes of reviewing the York Catholic and York Region District School Boards’ EDC policies. Chair Crowe reiterated that the meeting was held as required under Section 257.60 of the Education Act, and that both Boards will take any views presented this evening into consideration as the process moves forward.
York Region District School Board Chair D. Giangrande issued a reminder that at the conclusion of this meeting a second formal public meeting will be held in this room this evening to consider the proposed new charges and by-laws, and a further public meeting will be held on June 2, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the offices of the York Region District School Board at 60 Wellington Street, West, in Aurora. Chair Giangrande also noted that the Boards anticipate considering passage of by-laws at that time, and that submissions will be welcome at any time.

MOTIONS TO ADJOURN

York Region District School Board

(*)7 Moved by E. Richardson, seconded by N. Elgie:

That the Special Board Meeting regarding the review of the Education Development Charge Policies be adjourned at 7:25 p.m. by the York Region District School Board.

- Carried -

York Catholic District School Board

(*)8 Moved by V. Schiralli, seconded by C. Cotton:

That the Special Board Meeting regarding the review of the Education Development Charge Policies be adjourned at 7:25 p.m. by the York Catholic District School Board.

- Carried -