

DATE: June 17, 2014

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Nathan Ip

SUBJECT: Motion re Child Care

REFERENCE: [Trustees' Handbook – Meetings of the Board \(Notices of Motion\)](#)
– Section 5.2.2

ISSUE

Notice of motion was served at the June 10, 2014 board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Board join the Edmonton Catholic School Board in endorsing the following resolution: The Provincial Government should fund child care space in new school buildings and develop a cohesive child care strategy.**
- 2. That the Board develop key actions to advocate this position to the Province.**

RELATED FACTS

The Edmonton Catholic School Board approved the following recommendation at their May 20, 2014 board meeting:

*That the Board of Trustees submits the following policy resolution to the Alberta School Board Association for their 2014 Fall General Meeting: **Creating Child Care Space in New Schools** – The provincial government should fund child care space in new school buildings and develop a cohesive child care strategy.*

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I May 20, 2014 Report to the Edmonton Catholic School Board

NI:mmf

May 20, 2014 Public Board Meeting 3.2B(iii)

To: The Board of Trustees

From: Marilyn Bergstra
Trustees

Originators: Joan Carr, Superintendent
Boris Radyo, Assistant Superintendent

Re: ASBA Policy Resolution, Creating Child Care Space in New Schools

Child care space in Alberta urban school facilities normally operates in school buildings with surplus space. As Alberta's urban centres continue to grow rapidly and expand outward into suburban communities childcare opportunities are not aligning with where most children reside. The greatest demand for child care is in suburban communities but the availability of excess space is in mature communities.

In 2008-2009 Alberta Children and Youth Services, as part of the Creating Child Care Choices program, partnered with the ministries of infrastructure and education to provide modular classroom units for use as child care facilities in areas where additional childcare was needed. The units were located on school sites, connected to active schools. There was no cost to the school boards for these modular classrooms and no cost to install them. School boards had to apply for this program and meet defined criteria. However, this program was discontinued after 2011.

Given the lack of a cohesive child care strategy in Alberta, and the lack of child care in Alberta's growing suburban communities, funding for construction of child care space in new schools is recommended. The creation of a cohesive child care strategy for the Province of Alberta is also recommended.

We believe this is something that should be lobbied provincially by the Alberta School Boards Association as lack of child care space in new schools affects all boards in the province.

Recommendation

That the Board of Trustees submits the following policy resolution to the Alberta School Board Association for their 2014 Fall General Meeting.

Creating Child Care Space in New Schools – The provincial government should fund child care space in new school buildings and develop a cohesive child care strategy.