



# BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

## EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, April 13, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.  
Boardroom, Administration Office

Trustees Present: L. Ross D. Ross  
C. Ekenna K. Carr  
K. Fallis L. McConnell  
S. Mozdzen

Also Present: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer  
M. Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO  
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services  
J. Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR  
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant

Regrets: J. Murray, B. Sieklicki

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### 1. COMMITTEE ITEMS

#### A. BRANDON URBAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' COUNCIL

Mr. Gustafson spoke to the joint media release with the City of Brandon regarding the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council and City of Brandon remaining committed to the Indigenous Community.

### 2. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

#### A. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Mr. Zilkey spoke to the correspondence received from Kassy Assié, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Bureau de l'éducation française Division, regarding call for complementary projects in education.
- Ms. Gilleshammer reviewed the correspondence received from Richard Baydack, PhD, Executive Director, and Santina Lee, MD, FRCPC, Medical Officer of Health, Communicable Disease Prevention & Control, Public Health, regarding the current measles situation in Manitoba. She indicated the letter was intended to raise awareness and provide prevention information in advance of spring break travel or holiday celebrations.
- Ms. Gilleshammer spoke to the correspondence received from United Way West Central Manitoba regarding the decision to discontinue the Tools for School Program. She indicated that over time, the program has required a significant increase in staff and volunteer capacity to administer. At the same time, the rising cost of school supplies has outpaced the donations received to support the program, which has impacted its overall effectiveness. Additionally, the growing variation in supply lists across schools, grades, and classrooms has

made it increasingly complex to deliver support in a consistent and meaningful way. As a result, a decision was made to redirect youth-focused funding and efforts into other initiatives that can have a greater and more sustainable impact. Ms. Gilleshammer answered Trustee questions for clarification.

- Mr. Zilkey spoke to the correspondence received from Jackie Connell, Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Excellence in Education, Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning, regarding the Manitoba Aboriginal Languages Strategy (MALS) Annual Language Symposium, scheduled for May 27-28, 2026, in Thompson, Manitoba.
- Mr. Zilkey reviewed the correspondence received from Janet Tomy, Assistant Deputy Minister, Student Achievement and Inclusion Division, Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning, regarding AI in Education – PD for senior administrators.

Respectfully submitted,

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C. Ekenna