

**MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.
WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE**

Present: C. Broady, Chair; D. Stevenson, Vice-Chair; Trustees: N. Brown, P. Dorsman, S. Donahue; C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; D. Eberwein, Deputy Superintendent of Schools; S. Nosek, Director of Instruction; L. Tomlinson, Director of Instruction; D. Nelson, Director of Instruction; K. Martin, Director of Human Resources; J. Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer; B. Pausche, Manager of Communications

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Secretary Treasurer (in the Chair) called the inaugural meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation and, on behalf of the district, extended thanks to the Nation for their cooperation and friendship, and raised her hands to Sahplek.

The Secretary Treasurer then recognized the new Board of Education and introduced Judge Judi Gedye and thanked her for attending to swear in the new Board.

B. SWEARING-IN OF NEW BOARD

Judge Judi Gedye

Judge Gedye read aloud the Oath of Office and Oath of Allegiance for each trustee in turn. The five trustees signed the individual oaths and were officially sworn in as School Trustees for a term of four years.

C. SQUAMISH NATION BLESSING

Sahplek

Director of Instruction Lynne Tomlinson introduced Sahplek, an integral part of the Aboriginal Education team, in his role as Cultural Advisor to the district.

Sahplek began by acknowledging distinguished family, elders, leaders, future leaders and new board members, saying that it was an honour for him to be able to give the blessing. He recounted the metaphor of the canoe, noting that the blessing song brings together many different canoes, uniting and strengthening them for a journey that will foster understanding and teaching. The journey will bring wonderful experiences and together we will be prepared to navigate unforeseeable conditions.

Sahplek then performed a traditional Squamish blessing and prayer song.

D. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The Secretary Treasurer (in the Chair) called for nominations for Board Chair and Carolyn Broady was nominated.

Nominations were called for a second and third time. There being no further nominations, Trustee Broady was declared Chair by acclamation.

Newly-elected Chair Broady called for nominations for Board Vice-Chair and Dave Stevenson was nominated.

Nominations were called for a second and third time. There being no further nominations, Trustee Stevenson was declared Vice-Chair by acclamation.

E. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#1122	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Inaugural Meeting December 9, 2014 be adopted.	<u>Carried.</u>
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F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting November 18, 2014

#1123	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 18, 2014 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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G. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Chair Broady thanked her fellow trustees and said she was excited to have the opportunity to work the board for the next four years as they continue to find ways to support and enhance opportunities for student success in West Vancouver School District. She thanked former trustees Cindy Dekker, Jane Kellett and Reema Faris for their service and advocacy for public education. She went on to list various successes in the district during the last three years, including IB authorization at Rockridge, IB candidacy at Ecole Cedardale, expanding programs of choice and increased academy offerings. Of particular note was the signing of the first Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement and the close working relationship with the Squamish Nation.

The Chair also noted the difficulties associated with job action and said that one of the first priorities of the new board will be to focus on continuing to rebuild relationships with teachers, staff, parents and students, so that public education in our community will continue to flourish. She noted that in the New Year, the board will begin an intensive orientation process, leading to the creation of a new Board Strategic Plan, creating a vision for the next four years.

The complete text of the Chair's report will be available on the district website.

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF COMMITTEES, ORGANIZATIONS AND LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

A list of representatives to committees and organizations, as well as school liaison assignments, was reviewed and will be available on the district website at www.sd45.bc.ca

I. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Rob Millard, President – WVTA

- On behalf of all WVTA members, welcomed the new board
- Said they were looking forward to working productively together for the next four years

Chair Broady thanked Mr. Millard and wished everyone Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and All the Best for 2015.

J. ADJOURNMENT

7:25

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER