



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TREASURER

601-1st Avenue S.W.

Medicine Hat Alberta T1A 4Y7

Phone – (403) 528-6728

Email – jerry.labossiere@sd76.ab.ca

October 5, 2016

Jeremy Williamson

601 – 1 Ave, SW

Medicine Hat, Alberta

T1A 4Y7

RE: Petition on the Districts "Safe Learning Environment Policy" - Received September 19, 2016

Dear Mr. Williamson:

As Secretary to the Board it is my responsibility to review any and all petitions. I have reviewed the above petition and regret to inform you that I have found that the petition does not comply with Section 269 of the School Act and that it is insufficient to warrant the calling of a public meeting.

In my review of the petition I found that there were 2,030 signatures. Of those one hundred and ten (110) were people who do not qualify as electors of the Medicine Hat Board of Trustees. They do not qualify because either their self-identified addresses are outside of the Medicine Hat District Boundaries or they identified themselves as Catholic School supporters. As such, that leaves one thousand nine hundred and twenty names (1,920).

To qualify under Section 269 the petition must have two thousand (2,000) valid electors - duly signed, name identified, address identified and whose signatures are duly witnessed. The petition that you provided also had two hundred and fifty nine (259) names with either no address or only a postal code. I would also consider these names to be non-compliant. That would leave only one thousand six hundred and sixty one (1,661) valid names. In any case, the minimum threshold was not met.

You should be aware that we have chosen to consult with legal counsel, in order to determine what types of factors would disqualify a signatory to the petition. We are confident that we have made our determination based on that advice.

Under Section 266 of the School Act "If a petition is found to be insufficient, the Board shall proceed as if the petition had not been presented". As such, from the District's perspective, we consider this matter closed.

Under Section 267 of the School Act you have a right to appeal this decision to the Court of Queen's Bench. I leave that decision to you and your legal counsel.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jerry Labossiere', is written over the typed name and title.

Jerry Labossiere, CA
Secretary Treasurer



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October 5, 2016

Sheldon Johnston
50 South Ridge Drive, SW
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1B 2N6

RE: Petition on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity – Received September 20, 2016

Dear Mr. Johnston:

As secretary to the Board it is my responsibility to review any and all petitions. I have reviewed the above petition and regret to inform you that I have found that the petition does not comply with Section 269 of the School Act and that it is insufficient to warrant the calling of a public meeting.

In my review of the Christian School there are three hundred and one (301) parents on record. Of those 301 parents forty six (46) do not qualify as electors of the Medicine Hat Board of Trustees. They do not qualify because their registered addresses are outside of Medicine Hat or at least outside of the boundaries of Medicine Hat School District No.76. As such, that leaves two hundred and fifty five (255) parents that are electors of the School District Board.

To qualify under Section 269 the petition must have 25% or sixty four (64) valid electors - duly signed, name identified, address identified and whose signatures are duly witnessed. The petition that you provided had fifty one (51) witnessed signatures, which does not meet the threshold. As well, there are eight (8) names with addresses outside of the school district boundaries and four (4) names that I could not match up to my list of parents. In any case the minimum threshold was not met.

You should be aware that we have chosen to consult with legal counsel, in order to determine what types of factors would disqualify a signatory to the petition. We are confident that we have made our determination based on that advice.

Under Section 266 of the School Act "If a petition is found to be insufficient, the Board shall proceed as if the petition had not been presented". As such, from the District's perspective, we consider this matter closed.

Under Section 267 of the School Act you have a right to appeal this decision to the Court of Queen's Bench. I leave that decision to you and your legal counsel.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Labossiere'.

Jerry Labossiere, CA
Secretary Treasurer