

Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.
Minutes (Draft) of the 72nd Annual General Meeting
Saturday, April 12, 2025
Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI

1. Welcome/Call to Order

President David Schult called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m., welcoming everyone to the 72nd Annual Meeting of the PEI Home and School Federation. David introduced the head table: Bill Whelan, Parliamentarian; Bev Campbell, Secretary and Craig Goodick, Treasurer. He welcomed over 100 delegates representing 37 Home and School Associations and guests.

Adoption of Agenda 2025

MOTION: To adopt the 72nd Annual General Meeting's agenda, April 12, 2025, as circulated.

Moved by Leanne Feehan (Mt. Stewart)

Seconded by Amanda Doherty-Kirby (Bluefield)

Motion Carried.

2. Adoption of AGM Minutes, April 23, 2024

MOTION: To adopt the minutes of the 71st Annual General Meeting, April 13, 2024.

Moved by John Munro (Belfast)

Seconded by Dionne Tuplin (Westisle/Ellerslie)

Motion Carried.

3. President's Report

David presented highlights from his report. Refer to the Book of Reports (pgs. 18-26). He thanked the retiring board members. Thank you to Jeana and Shirley, office staff. His report is accepted as circulated.

4. Financial Report

Craig Goodick, Treasurer presented the report on the financial position of the PEIHSF fiscal year 2023, referencing the Book of Reports (pgs. 27-36).

MOTION: To adopt the presented 2024 Fiscal Year Financial Review and report.

Moved by Coreen Pickering (Queen Elizabeth)

Seconded by Jannett Jones (Three Oaks)

Motion Carried. One abstention.

5. Other Reports

Local Association Annual Reports are submitted by Association presidents (pages 37-107). David urged delegates to review reports to learn more about Home and School activities in other school communities across the island. Local Association annual reports are accepted as circulated.

6. Resolutions

Tom Deelstra chaired the resolution portion of the meeting. The following Proposed Resolutions were presented for consideration.

RESOLUTION 2025-01 ADD MILK PRODUCTS TO PEI SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM **Submitted By: Englewood Home and School Association**

WHEREAS white milk, subsidized through the PEI School Milk Foundation, and chocolate milk are available for purchase through many Island-based schools, and

WHEREAS families wishing to order milk need to navigate multiple ordering systems and/or processes, often with unique scheduling deadlines

WHEREAS schools and/or home and school associations on Prince Edward Island wishing to provide milk or chocolate milk for purchase for their students are required to purchase and maintain individual software solutions and/or spend a significant amount of time managing orders on a recurring basis, and

WHEREAS lower-fat milk products are identified as a positive source of protein on Canada's Food Guide (Canada's Food Guide), and

WHEREAS white milk, though subsidized through the PEI School Milk Foundation, still has a fixed cost for families, often with associated administrative fees that can be prohibitive for low-income families navigating food insecurities, and

WHEREAS liquid milk products are not currently available through the PEI School Food Program's Pay-What-You-Can model, and

WHEREAS child food insecurity on Prince Edward Island remains among the worst in the country (CBC News, 2024), and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Prince Edward Island Public Schools Branch work with the PEI Department of Education and Early Years, PEI School Milk Foundation, and PEI School Food Program Inc. to initiate a study to determine the feasibility of incorporating white milk and/or chocolate milk into the Pay-What-You-Can model offerings within the PEI School Food program.

DESTINATIONS: PEI School Food Program Inc.
PEI School Milk Foundation
Department of Education and Early Years
Public Schools Branch

REFERENCES:

1. Campbell, Kerry. "2 in 5 Island children living with food insecurity, says Statistics Canada report." *CBC*, 23 May 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-pol-food-insecurity-1.7211554>. Accessed 9 August 2024.
2. "Eat protein foods - Canada's Food Guide." *Canada's Food Guide*, <https://food-guide.canada.ca/en/healthy-eating-recommendations/make-it-a-habit-to-eat-vegetables-fruit-whole-grains-and-protein-foods/eat-protein-foods/>. Accessed 9 August 2024.

MOTION: To move the adoption of Resolution 2025-1.

Moved by Kyle Ferguson (Englewood). Seconded by Rachel Cameron (Englewood).

Discussion points:

- Queen Elizabeth proposed an amendment to consider adding non-dairy products.
- Englewood Home and School is in full support of the amendment.
- Stratford Home and School raised the issue of logistics for the distribution of milk products.
- David confirmed that distribution will be included as part of the study.

After discussion and amendment, the following resolution was adopted:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Prince Edward Island Public Schools Branch work with the PEI Department of Education and Early Years, PEI School Milk Foundation, and PEI School Food Program Inc. to initiate a study to determine the feasibility of incorporating white milk and/or chocolate milk and non-dairy products into the Pay-What-You-Can model offerings within the PEI School Food program.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution 2025-01 as amended.

Moved by Kyle Ferguson (Englewood). Seconded by Rachel Cameron (Englewood).

In favour = 67

Against = 0

Abstentions = 0

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-02 BEHAVIOUR RESOURCE SUPPORT IN ISLAND SCHOOLS
Submitted by Somerset Home and School Association

WHEREAS there is a recognized need for additional support in managing student behaviour in schools across Prince Edward Island, and

WHEREAS Behaviour Resource positions are not currently included in the Minister of Education and Early Year's (DEEY) staffing allocations, and

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has implemented Positive Behaviour Intervention Supports (PBIS) in 64 schools with positive outcomes; and

WHEREAS the Department of Education and Early Years and the Public Schools Branch (PSB) has acknowledged the increasing demand by piloting PBIS in the 2024-2025 school year, and

WHEREAS the presence of dedicated behaviour resources in schools is essential for students with behavioural challenges and improving the overall learning environment, and

WHEREAS PBIS has been shown to improve school climate, reduce exclusionary discipline, increase opportunities for positive interactions and relationships between school staff and students, and create learning environments that support both social development and academic growth;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests that the Department of Education and Early Years and the Public Schools Branch consider adding student behavior intervention resource positions in consultation with principals for future staffing allocations by the Minister of Education, wherever there is a need in island schools.

DESTINATION: Department of Education and Early Years
Public Schools Branch

REFERENCES:

1. Positive Behaviour Intervention Supports, https://pbis.nbed.ca/roles_responsibilities/
2. Response to Intervention for Behaviour, NB August 2017
<https://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/ed/pdf/K12/Inclusion/ResponseToInterventionForBehaviour.pdf>

MOTION: To move the adoption of Resolution 2025-02.

Moved by Rachel Waugh (Somerset). Seconded by Nicole Doucette (Somerset).

Discussion: Somerset proposed an amendment to improve the wording of the resolution.

After discussion and amendment, the following resolution was adopted:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Department of Education and Early Years (DEEY) and the Public Schools Branch (PSB) to add a minimum of 0.5FTE student behavior intervention resource positions to future staffing allocations by the Minister of Education, in all island schools.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution 2025-02 as amended.

Moved by Rachel Waugh (Somerset). Seconded by Nicole Doucette (Somerset).

In favour = 55

Against = 1

Abstentions = 7

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-03 SUPPORT FOR CANADA'S ONLINE HARMS ACT TO PROTECT CHILDREN IN DIGITAL SPACES

Submitted by Souris Home and School Association

WHEREAS the digital world poses significant risks to children, including sexual exploitation, promotion of self-harm, bullying, and exposure to hateful content, and

WHEREAS Bill C-63, introduced to the House of Commons on February 26, 2024 by Justice Minister Arif Virani, proposes a **new Online Harms Act** to create regulations that hold social media services accountable for reducing exposure to harmful content on their platforms, and

WHEREAS on December 4, 2024 Virani announced the Liberals' online harms legislation will now proceed on two different tracks with **one bill** to tackle protections for children, combating online child sex predators and policing revenge porn and the **second bill** to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act and Criminal Code to deal with inciting violence, terrorism or engaging in hate speech (1.), and

WHEREAS the Online Harms Act specifically targets seven types of harmful content, including content that sexually victimizes children, content used to bully children, and content that induces children to harm themselves, and

WHEREAS the proposed legislation aims to promote online safety for all Canadians, with a specific emphasis on children's physical and mental health

WHEREAS the Act would establish a Digital Safety Commission of Canada to administer the framework and a Digital Safety Ombudsperson of Canada to be a resource for users and victims, and

WHEREAS the implementation of an Online Harms Act in Canada is a critical step in protecting children in digital spaces and promoting their safety, health, and well-being online;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation requests the Government of Canada to enact the Online Harms Act, with a focus on measures that protect children from online exploitation, bullying, and harmful content; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation calls upon social media platforms and online service providers to fully comply with the requirements of the Online Harms Act, implementing comprehensive safety measures to protect children and youth using their services.

DESTINATION: Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of PEI
Premier of Prince Edward Island

BACKGROUND:

1. Liberals split online harms bill to postpone debate over policing hate speech Minister says protecting kids from violent threats, child sex predators, revenge porn will be a priority CBC Dec. 4, 2024
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/liberal-government-split-online-harms-bill-1.7400882>

MOTION: To move the adoption of Resolution 2025-03.
Moved by Kelly Steele (Souris). Seconded by Marla Townshend (Souris).
In favour = 65
Against = 0
Abstentions = 0
Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2025-04 PROTECTING STUDENT, PARENT, AND TEACHER
PERSONAL DATA**

Submitted by Queen Elizabeth Elementary Home and School Association

WHEREAS on January 7, 2025, a cybersecurity incident involving PowerSchool, the student information system used by Prince Edward Island schools resulted in unauthorized access to personal data of past and present Island school members, including names, dates of birth, addresses, phone numbers, and other sensitive information, and

WHEREAS the breach exposed highly sensitive records spanning decades, including medical information, custody arrangements, and disciplinary notes, impacting over 70,000 individuals in PEI alone, with similar incidents affecting schools nationwide;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation calls upon the federal government to:

1. Enact comprehensive legislation to strengthen data protection measures for educational institutions and third-party service providers, requiring encryption, multi-factor authentication, and annual cybersecurity audits.
2. Establish clear guidelines for the retention and deletion of outdated personal information, ensuring data minimization and prohibiting indefinite storage beyond operational necessity.
3. Mandate strict penalties for non-compliance with privacy laws, including fines for failure to implement safeguards or promptly disclose breaches.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PEI Home and School Federation urges the provincial government to:

1. Conduct a thorough review of all third-party educational technology providers, requiring proof of compliance with federal privacy standards (e.g., PIPEDA) before contract renewal.
2. Implement mandatory cybersecurity training for school staff and administrators, emphasizing secure data handling and phishing threat recognition.
3. Adopt data minimization policies to limit the collection of non-essential personal information, particularly for historical records.
4. Require transparent reporting of breaches within 72 hours of discovery, with detailed public disclosures and individualized notifications.

DESTINATIONS: Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of PEI
Premier of Prince Edward Island
Minister of Education and Early Years, PEI

BACKGROUND:

1. PowerSchool Cybersecurity Event, The Guardian, Feb. 7, 2025
<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-early-years/powerschool-cybersecurity-event>
2. Cybersecurity breach exposes data of more than 70,000 P.E.I. students, teachers, Public Schools Branch
<https://www.saltwire.com/prince-edward-island/cybersecurity-breach-exposes-data-70000-pej-students-teachers>
3. Personal data of 70,000 Island students stolen in PowerSchool breach, CBC Jan 31, 2025
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-powerschool-data-breach-update-1.7447385>

MOTION: To move the adoption of Resolution 2025-04.

Moved by Coreen Pickering (Queen Elizabeth). Seconded by Bev Campbell (KISH).

In favour = 62

Against = 0

Abstentions = 0

Motion carried.

President David discussed a recent resolution from the Westwood Home and School Association regarding the important issue of kindergarten classroom size and composition. Further research is needed on this resolution.

Tom called on Dionne to present the proposed by-law revisions.

P.E.I. Home and School Federation Proposed By-Law Revisions

ARTICLE II – DEFINITIONS

ADD: (7) Member Emeritus means any provincial board member in good standing who has reached their board term limit in the PEIHSF.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

ADD: Member Emeritus (non-voting) status shall be open to provincial board members in good standing who have reached their board term limit in the PEIHSF. They may attend meetings by invitation, offer advice and support, and otherwise contribute to the organization's success. Persons are to be appointed by the PEIHSF board with timeframes and decisions governed by the same.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

(7) A quorum ... Meetings of the Corporation shall be a simple majority of all Local Associations whose Fees for the preceding year have been paid in full at the time of the Annual Meeting...

Change: a simple majority (50%+1) to one-third majority

ARTICLE XVI - REMUNERATION

(1) No director, officer or Member of the Corporation shall receive any honorarium for their services; but may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses approved by the Executive Committee.

ADD: One exception applies: The president shall be entitled to receive an honorarium for their services with an amount determined by the Corporation's board of directors.

ARTICLE XX - SIGNING OFFICERS

(1) All cheques, drafts, and orders for the payment of money and all notes and acceptances and bills of exchange shall be signed by any two of the President, the Vice-President, the Executive Director, and the Treasurer.

ADD: any two of the following: President, Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Director

MOTION: To adopt PEIHSF By-Law revisions as circulated.

Moved by Kelly Steele (Souris)

Seconded by Coreen Pickering (Queen Elizabeth).

Motion Carried.

7. Nominating Report/Elections

Dionne Tuplin, Chair of the Nominations, presented the Slate of Officers and called for further nominations three times from the floor to fill vacant positions. The slate of officers was nominated as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominees</u>	<u>Two Year Term Expires</u>
Executive:		
Secretary	Bev Campbell	AGM 2027
Treasurer	Craig Goodick	AGM 2027
Regional Directors:		
Bluefield	Andrea Kelly	AGM 2027

Kensington	Coreen Pickering	AGM 2027
Souris	Kelly Steele	AGM 2027
Three Oaks	Michelle Dunn	AGM 2027
Westisle	Christine Sidwell	AGM 2027

MOTION: To call for nominations to cease and approve the P.E.I. Home and School Federation board of directors for 2025-2026 as presented.

Moved by Marla Townsend (Souris).

Seconded by Nichole Doucette (Somerset)

Voting results:

In favour: Majority

Against = 2

Abstentions = 0

Motion Carried.

Other one-year vacant positions are filled by the Federation Board.

Installation of Officers:

Bill Whelan, the Parliamentarian, installed the 2025-2026 PEI Home and School Federation Board.

Outgoing board members Shannon Bruyneel, Jannett Jones, Mikayla Paynter, and Erin Veale were thanked for their contributions to the Federation during their terms of office.

8. New Business

There is no new business.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the 72nd Annual Business Meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Moved by Katie Beck (Sherwood).

Announcement: David asked Bill to make seven draws for \$1000 in-store gift cards from The Bookmark. Winning Home and School Associations include Bluefield High, Charlottetown Rural High, Colonel Gray High, Elm Street, Kinkora High, Morell Consolidated, and Vernon River Consolidated. Thank you to The Bookmark Bookstore for the generous donation.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Campbell, Recording Secretary
PEI Home and School Federation