



**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE NOTES**

Held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 9:30-11:30 p.m.

At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.

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**PRESENT:** TRUSTEES: Pammila Ruth (Committee Chair), Tonya Ste. Marie, Samantha Haines, Maria Hampvent, Sue Girard, Stacia Leech

STAFF/OTHERS: Patrick Bocking, Superintendent; Paul Bishop, Director of Instruction; Nicholas Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer; Melissa Bell, SOGI District Lead, Jacquie Shelemey, SCTA President; Erica Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

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The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.

1. Safe and Healthy Schools (Cultural)

Melissa Bell, Aboriginal Education Counselor and District Sexual Orientation and Gender Identify (SOGI) Lead, shared information on the district's SOGI model and supports. Ms. Bell spoke to protective factors for trans youth, noting that mental health is best supported when students are able to express who they are. The district SOGI committee has been formed to review policy relating to gender issues, to identify and train SOGI school leads, to help schools build inclusive school environments and develop student leadership.

SOGI resources kits are available to each school lead and the <https://www.sogieducation.org/> website provides excellent resources for parents and educators. *Pride: Celebrating Diversity and Community*, by Robin Stevenson, is included in the SOGI resource kits.

Additional information is available in the agenda package at [http://www.sd46.bc.ca/files/18-19\\_BoardMeetings/cmtes/20181127-COW\\_Agenda.pdf](http://www.sd46.bc.ca/files/18-19_BoardMeetings/cmtes/20181127-COW_Agenda.pdf).

2. Communication (standing item)

The committee reviewed the communication plan. There were no changes or additions.

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.