



School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS BYLAW

Bylaw No. B2705

Effective: March 2012

Adopted: June 2009

BYLAW

WHEREAS under section 67(5) of the *School Act* a board of education must establish procedures governing the conduct of its meetings and must permit any person to inspect those procedures.

AND WHEREAS under section 65(4) of the *School Act* unless expressly required to be exercised by bylaw, all powers of the board may be exercised by bylaw or resolution.

AND WHEREAS the Board of Education of School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin) believes that communication with the public is extremely important. However, the public board meeting is the formally designated means of transacting board business and as such is not the appropriate setting for general discussion, questioning or comment by the public. The public participation period is, therefore, provided solely as a means for ensuring that residents who are present in the audience have an opportunity to obtain clarification or make a statement concerning the board meeting proceedings.

Pursuant to 67(5) of the *School Act* public participation at Board meetings will be as follows:

A. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. The Board of Education will set aside two regular sessions of the agenda, one near the start of the agenda and the second near the conclusion of the meeting, to allow public participation.
 - a. **First Session for Public Participation** (beginning of meeting)
 - i. Will generally not exceed 30 minutes in duration.
 - ii. Individual speakers will not exceed 5 minutes each and time may be reduced to ensure all speakers have an opportunity to speak.
 - iii. Any person wishing to make comment to the Board on a particular agenda item shall provide to the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the start of the meeting (to allow scheduling for all speakers) the following:
 - a. Name of Speaker
 - b. Contact Information: address, e-mail, phone number
 - c. Agenda Item to be addressed
 - iv. Although written statements are not required, they will be given priority on the speakers' list.

2. The Board Chair may refer a delegation to the Board's communication process or suggest that an alternate venue may be more appropriate (i.e. committee meeting, closed board meeting) to hear the delegation.
3. Delegations may make a presentation at either a closed or open Board meeting. The decision as to where the presentation will be made will be determined by the Board Chair in consultation with District Staff.
4. Responses or commitments by the Board will not usually be made at the same meeting where a delegation raises a new issue or issues.
5. Board members will not enter into debate with members of a delegation but may seek clarification of issues raised.

Read a first time this 28th day of February 2012.

Read a second time this 28th day of February 2012.

Read a third time and passed, this 27th day of March 2012.

William VanOsch
Chair

Bonnie J. Roller
Secretary Treasurer