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David Thompson, Chairperson

Jackie Young, Director of Education

To: Trustees
From: Jackie Young, Director of Education
Date: December 20, 2016
Topic: Honoraria for Board Members

Background:

Ontario Regulation 357/06 Honoraria for Board Members was issued in 2006, outlining the process through which school boards shall calculate honoraria for Trustees. Consequently, the first Trustee Honoraria Policy was approved in the fall of 2006. Ontario Regulation 357/06 is attached for your reference (Appendix A).

At the regular board meeting of Trustees on September 23, 2014 a report was prepared for the Board given that an outgoing board must set the trustee remuneration policy for the next term of office. The Board accepted the report entitled “Amended Honoraria for Board Members” which outlined the necessary calculations for Trustee honoraria to be paid for the next incoming board.

Honoraria is calculated taking into consideration the following components as defined by Ontario Regulation 357/06:

1. Base Amount
2. Enrolment Amount
3. Attendance Amount, and
4. Distance Amount.

At the January 22nd, 2008 Regular Board Meeting, trustees passed a motion to discontinue the \$50.00 per meeting compensation for trustees attending SALEP and SEAC meetings, however approved the \$50.00 distance allowance per board meeting for each member eligible. The distance allowance only applies where distance travelled from a member’s residence and where the meeting is held is more than 200 km or more one way.

The Honoraria rates established by the policy are subject to the provisions of Bill 16, the *Public Sector Compensation Restraint to Protect Public Services Act, 2010* (the “*Restraint Act*”). The effect of the legislation on Trustee honoraria was to prevent boards from increasing honoraria for the period from March 25, 2010 to March 31, 2012 which was subsequently extended until March 31, 2014 as a result of amendments made to the legislation.

A further letter from the Minister of Education which was sent to school boards in March 2014 indicating that the government has extended the restraint period which prohibits school boards from increasing Trustee honoraria to November 30, 2014.

Per communication received from the Ministry of Education September 23, 2014, the Ministry has amended Ontario Regulation 357/06 to restrain the base amount limit of Trustee honoraria at \$5,900 per year for the 2014-2018 term of office. The effect of the *Restraint Act* on Trustee honorarium is restricted to the loss of the amount of any increase in the Consumer Price Index which may have applied to the base amount during the period of restraint.

Discussion:

Trustee honoraria is calculated as follows, effective December 1, 2016:

Member:	Base Amount:	Enrolment Amount:	Attendance Amount:	Total Amount:
Trustee	5,900.00	1,917.32	NIL	7,817.32
Chair	10,900.00	2,417.32	NIL	13,317.32
Vice-Chair	8,400.00	2,167.32	NIL	10,567.32
TOTAL				\$78,605.32

** The \$50 distance amount per board meeting for each member eligible is paid separately. Given the distance amount may be paid to the member for attending any meeting of the Board or a Committee of the Board that is required to be established by an Act or a Regulation under an Act a list of actual meetings that this distance amount is calculated on should be settled upon.

Amounts for distance component paid separately.

Recommendation:

That the Near North District School Board approves the revised Trustee Honoraria Policy for December 2016 and beyond as follows:

- a) Annual honorarium for trustee (excluding Chair and Vice-Chair) for December 1, 2016 onwards \$7,817.32;
- b) Chair \$13,317.32 and Vice-Chair \$10,567.32;
- c) \$50.00 distance allowance per board meeting for each member eligible.