

**Report to Committee of the Whole
December 8, 2014**



**Waterloo Region
District School Board**

Inspired Learners – Tomorrow's Leaders

SUBJECT: Motion - Trustee C. Watson motion re Webcasting

ORIGINATOR: This report was prepared by Jayne Herring, Manager of Corporate Services, on behalf of Trustee C. Watson and in consultation with Executive Committee.

PURPOSE/STRATEGIC PLAN:

The purpose of the report is to provide the wording of a motion that Trustee C. Watson intends to introduce at the December 8, 2014, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

This motion, if approved by the Board, would relate specifically to the Waterloo Region District School Board's strategic directions, particularly in the areas of engaging students, families, staff and communities, promoting forward-thinking and championing quality public education.

BACKGROUND:

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 16, 2014, Trustee C. Watson presented a motion, as supported by Trustees C. Harrington and K. Woodcock, recommending that the Board explore webcasting and the financial implications associated with running a live-feed for all public meetings.

STATUS:

Members of the Agenda Development Committee determined the motion would be scheduled for consideration at the December 8, 2014, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

If the motion was approved, a communication plan and a schedule of meetings to be covered would be developed for implementation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Financial implications have not been identified at this time, but further investigation of the costs associated with the implementation of this initiative would need to be determined.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended:

Whereas the Waterloo Region District School Board is determined to engage students, parents, staff and the community at large through effective and timely communication,

Whereas the Waterloo Region District School Board promotes progressive, forward-thinking engagement strategies,

Whereas webcasting technology would allow the community at large to view the public meetings from their home, or wherever there is an internet connection,

Therefore be it resolved that the Waterloo Region District School Board explore webcasting which is defined as a 'video broadcast of an event transmitted across the internet' and the financial implications associated with running a live feed for all public meetings including archiving for future rebroadcast available to the public; and

That the Waterloo Region District School Board write a letter to the Ministry of Education requesting they explore webcasting initiatives for all boards as well as providing webcasting funding; and

That the Waterloo Region District School Board write a letter to the Ontario Public School Board Association requesting they lobby the Ministry of Education concerning webcasting initiatives and funding for all boards.

 **Director of Education**