

**Alexander Ferguson Elementary School Society
February 22, 2024, Meeting Minutes Society**

Members: Membership is optional.
One Society membership per household.

2023-24 Board of Directors

President	Natasha Vallee
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Lindsey Pashniak
Treasurer	Chad Lemke
Fundraising Director	Vacant
AGLC Director	Vacant
Casino Coordinator	Anabel Dias
Director Appointment	Christine Jackson (Council)

In attendance: 1) Matthw Littel, 2) Helen Sharpe, 3) Natasha Vallee, 4) Ashley Bagg, 5) Christine Jackson 6) Jody Sekias 7) Jennifer Douglas 8) Scott Brooks 9) Eduardo Fernandez

1. Call to order: 8:50pm

2. Agenda and Minutes

- a) Approval of Agenda- Approval of Feb 22 agenda by Jody, second Christine
- b) Approval of Nov 30th meeting minutes- Approval by Christine, second Natasha

3. Financials and Fundraising update-

a) Account Summaries

- Casino-Casino brought in over \$80k. Last casino brought in ~\$60k
 - Next casino scheduled for spring of 2025 at Elbow River Casino.
 - Time of AGLC money allocation has increased to 3 years after allotment.
- Fundraising- Currently sitting at \$66,863.72
 - Reminder the Society donated \$50k last year from School Lunch Program closure.
 - The AFS School bank account needs to be under \$20k at the end of the school year before carry forward into next school year. We need to redistribute spend of the \$50k donation to the learning commons work to avoid the CBE withdrawing from the donation funds.
 - From recent learning commons bills, \$21k of the \$50K donation is paying for the updates to learning commons.
 - Basketball hoops may or may not happen this year. If they do it will be paid out of fundraising money in the future. Originally this was premised out of the \$50k donation. The estimate based on infrastructure upgrades and a similar job at another school was \$25k.
- OSC account sits at \$113,324.81

b) Fundraising Updates

- Ongoing (skip the depot, Mabels Labels, Fundscript)
- Fun lunch update- currently raised \$689.00. This considers paying for the upcoming Booster Juice snack and the Holiday Lunch
 - We hope to have raised \$1000 out of our Fun Lunch Fundraiser by the end of year.
- We need volunteers to run our fundraising campaigns.

c) Casino Update- Next casino Scheduled for Spring 2025 (April, May or June) at Elbow River Casino

- Sunmi has volunteered to take on Casino Chair for the 2024/25 school year.

d) Funding Requests

Funding request for grade 6 farewell and yearbook- Request \$1500

Natasha makes motion for may \$1500 spend. Approved by Edoardo
all in favour- pass

NOTE: Post meeting the Society Board rescinded this approval after reviewing the current year fundraising financials (outside of Casino funding). Given the Society is expected to run a fundraising deficit for 2023-24 without the funding requests from Feb 22, 2024 meeting, the approved Grade 6 farewell funding request has been decreased to \$500. Decision was voted by the Society Board on Feb 26, 2024. The \$500 will be allocated to a Grade 6 Farewell parent committee to determine how it is to be spent inside or outside of school hours. The board will also allocate some AGLC funding towards the Grade 5/6 camp costs, this amount be determined at a later date.

Natasha put forward a funding request motion for \$500 for the year end event. We will be providing popsicles for the kids and coffee for the Stampede Breakfast. Motion was seconded by Jody. All in favour yes. Motion is granted.

NOTE: Post meeting the Society Board rescinded this approval after reviewing the current year fundraising financials (outside of Casino funding). Given the Society is expected to run a fundraising deficit for 2023-24 without the funding requests from Feb 22, 2024 meeting, the approved year end events funding request has been decreased to \$250 (the board will no longer provide coffee at the stampede breakfast). Decision was voted by the Society Board on Feb 26, 2024.

Natasha put forward a funding request motion for \$250 for staff appreciation event. Motion was seconded by Ashley. All in favour yes. Motion is granted. Helen will email last years volunteer to coordinate this event.

Next year the AGLC spending and fundraising spending will be marked to make for easy tracking and better transparency on projected spend.

4. 2023/2024 Priority List Funding

Helen- List of \$50k Donation Spending

- Water Fountains~\$3,000
- Gaga Pit~\$5,000

\$40,000 will go to Learning Commons update.

- "Billed" ~\$19,000 for furniture to date
- Labour ~\$2,000 to date

\$35k wish list (2023/24 RFF)

Lacrosse (AGLC Money)
Agendas
Speakerphone (AGLC Money)
Elder Kerrie (AGLC Money)
Math (AGLC Money)
Circus (AGLC Money)
Gully Day (AGLC Money)
Dance Residency (AGLC Money)
Books (AGLC Money)
Total

What was spent

~\$2,200
~\$1,400
~\$250
~\$2,000 (500x4 visits)
~\$75
~\$1,900
~\$535
~\$13,000
~\$16,00
~\$38,000

Remaining spending for 2023/24 school year: scooter rack, rocking chair, bookshelves, book bin, basketball hoops, storage cabinet (\$3k), orienteering, speaker system (\$10k), \$6K in ULS books, field trips (\$2k), 3D printer.

- Anything eligible for AGLC funding will be paid by recent Casino funds. Remaining infrastructure upgrades (i.e. scooter rack), and furniture (i.e. rocking chairs) will be paid out of the \$50,000 donation from 2022/23.

Detailed discussion on next year's Casino spending. Would parents rather save AGLC money or put money toward field trips. Consensus was that we don't need anything large for the school in the immediate future so we should put more AGLC money towards field trips to help people and students in the school community. It will need to be made very clear, to parents/families, that casino money is paying for the field trips, and we cannot guarantee that this will continue indefinitely.

Helen will put next school year's priority list together for the next meeting and will capture an estimate of all needs for the school with a break down of where money is being sourced from (fundraising or AGLC). After the priority list is created, the council will look at how much remaining Casino money can be put forward for funding field trips.

Open discussion on lack of volunteering support and discussing if the school is asking too much of parent volunteers and providing too many enrichment activities? We are noticing a decrease in people stepping up to cover volunteer positions.

Going forward we need to streamline meeting agendas to keep meetings shorter. Target will be to release society meeting Agenda a week in advance of the meetings for parent review.

5. Out of School Care Update (OSC)

Everything is going well and staff are happy. Staff will have a meeting at the end of February to discuss planning and positions for next year. 2024/25 Kindergarten OSC is almost full for next year.

6. 2024/25 Open Board Positions- Vice Chair & AGLC.

7. New Business/Open Dialogue- nothing to report

Action: Natasha sends out position descriptions to people on society email list

8. Next Meeting Date: May 16, 2024

Next meeting (AGM) will be Hybrid

Meeting Adjourned-9:31pm