

TEACHER'S ATTIRE SPURS DRESS CODE REVIEW

KATHY YANCHUS
kyanchus@metroland.com

The controversial classroom attire of a transgender teacher, which has created a local and global media storm and flooded the inboxes of Halton District School Board staff and trustees, has now prompted a review of the board's dress code.

For the past several days as photos of the Oakville Trafalgar High School tech teacher wearing overly large prosthetic breasts went viral, the board stood by its position of recognizing "the rights of students, staff, parents/guardians and community members to equitable treatment without discrimination based upon gender identity and gender expression."

At a Sept. 21 meeting, however, HDSB trustees voted to request Director of Education Curtis Ennis return to the board before the end of November with a report addressing "the various considerations regarding dress codes," a motion that carried unanimously.

"I read each and every email that I receive; some of them have been quite nasty from groups far beyond the borders of Canada, described as hate groups," said Oakville trustee Tracey Ehl Harrison, who brought the motion forward.

As many questions from the public are human resources related issues, trustees are restricted in what they are able to say at this time, but all "courteous and respectful" inquiries received by trustees on this issue are forwarded to senior staff, said board chair Margo Shuttleworth.

Ennis said the board aims to handle the "significant attention" the board is receiving "in a way that stays true to our values, respects the privacy and dignity of our students and staff and with the safety and well-being of students and staff as our highest priority."

Staff is guided by legislation and also fundamentally by the privacy and confidentiality of each of HDSB's 10,000 employees, he added.

"While I understand the desire for information by the public, we will not and cannot publicly discuss any matter that identifies our staff directly or indirectly. I trust the public will understand the parameters that guide us," said Ennis.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE

Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied for approval of a natural gas franchise agreement with the Regional Municipality of Halton.

Learn more. Have your say.

Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied to the Ontario Energy Board for:

1. An order approving the renewal of a natural gas franchise agreement with the Regional Municipality of Halton which would grant to Enbridge Gas Inc. the right to construct, operate and add to the natural gas distribution system and to distribute, store and transmit natural gas in and through the Regional Municipality of Halton and to the inhabitants of those local or lower tier municipalities within the Regional Municipality of Halton with which Enbridge Gas has a valid franchise agreement for that purpose for a period of 20 years.
2. An order directing and declaring that the assent of the municipal electors of the Regional Municipality of Halton is not required in relation to the by-law approving the natural gas franchise agreement.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will hold a public hearing to consider Enbridge Gas's application. At the end of this hearing, the OEB will decide whether to grant Enbridge Gas's requests.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

In order to construct any works to distribute natural gas in Ontario, a person must comply with the requirements of the *Municipal Franchises Act* (Act). This Act requires that a person that intends to construct any works to supply natural gas within a municipality must first receive approval from the OEB, in the form of a certificate of public convenience and necessity (certificate). Where the OEB has issued a certificate for an area within which there is currently no natural gas distribution service, another person can apply for a certificate to construct works to supply that area.

BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding this application and to be involved in the process.

- You can review the application filed by Enbridge Gas on the OEB's website now
- You can file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing
- You can become an active participant (called an intervenor). Apply by **October 10, 2022**, or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding
- At the end of the process, you can review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website

The OEB does not intend to provide for an award of costs for this hearing.

LEARN MORE

Our file number for this application is **EB-2022-0238**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file a letter with your comments or become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case, please enter the file number **EB-2022-0238** on the OEB website: www.oeb.ca/participate. You can also phone our Public Information Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings— oral and written. The OEB intends to proceed with this application by way of a written hearing. If you think an oral hearing is needed, you can write to the OEB to explain why by **October 10, 2022**.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and e-mail address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.

This hearing will be held under section 9(4) and 10 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55.



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario