

Stanley Elementary/Senior High
School Complex Sustainability
Study

PRESENTATION TO
DISTRICT EDUCATION
COUNCIL

Stanley Village Council

February 26, 2015

Overview

- Presentation Breakdown
 - Background
 - Village Council Concerns
 - Recommendation to DEC
 - Conclusion

Background

- Letter dated October 29, 2014 sent home to parents, outlining the process of the study.
- Village Council sends letter to Superintendent dated December 2, 2014 expressing concerns. This letter was promptly replied to, explaining that Council could get more information on the website and by attending the next meeting (December 4).
- Village Council attends the meeting and asks questions on the structure. Attendees are assured that all of their questions will be answered, along with supporting documentation on the website.

Background (continued)

- January 15, 2015: Unsatisfied with the information provided, Village Council addresses a letter directly to the DEC, requesting a meeting with a representative to discuss their concerns, and urging the DEC to postpone the next public meeting. This letter goes unanswered.
- The information provided came with no explanation of Appendices and was hard to follow. Hard to support this study when the information is not good.

Village Council Concerns

- Stanley Village Council is concerned about the effect on the community if the 2 schools were to be consolidated for the following reasons:
 - 1) Loss of employment in the community;
 - 2) Negative impact on the learning environment - mixing of younger and older children;
 - 3) Limits future growth of the school and community. We are approaching a time when new life may be brought into our community. We desperately need this; however, by cutting back on the programs that are available to students, this will negatively affect the decisions of parents that may wish to locate to the area. I would suggest that education would be the #1 consideration of these young parents.

Concerns (continued)

- Village Council is also concerned that the Provincial Government is contradicting itself by proposing this consolidation. Quotes from Premier Gallant's State of the Province address on January 28, 2015:
 1. "I want New Brunswick to be the best place to raise a family. I want us to be able to have the communities, the programs, the opportunity, so that people say, "That's where I want to have my family. That's where I want to raise my family, to stay, and to retire."
 2. We need to develop our economy in a smart way. We need to understand that government does not create jobs. Government creates the conditions for job creation. We need to create the conditions; we need to create the environment for jobs to be created by entrepreneurs, by New Brunswickers, by businesses, by their ideas, by their entrepreneurial spirit and by their hard work.
 3. "Education is so important and we're not where we need to be. So we're going to make some changes. We're going to shake things up and get it done the right way." It's coming from a good place. But I understand the systems, the teachers, the parents, the administrators, even the students themselves, want more stability.

Sisson Project Highlights

- The Project will generate considerable benefits to local, regional, and provincial economies through the generation of employment, incomes, taxes, and GDP. These benefits result directly from the Project, while indirect and induced benefits will accrue through economic spin-off related to the Project
- An estimate of the economic benefits generated by the Project was made using an economic model that predicts Project expenditures throughout the regional, provincial, and national economies.
- Based on this model, it is estimated that direct employment for Construction (2 years) and Operation (27 years) will reach 9,826 person-years over its lifetime, over 90% of which will be created in New Brunswick.
- Including direct, indirect, and induced employment, the Project will support an estimated 32,619 person-years of employment, with 16,406 person-years of that employment directly within New Brunswick.
- **Direct economic benefits** are the employment and expenditures related to activities at the Project site, e.g., the employment of workers during Construction and employees during Operation, and capital and operating expenditures associated with the Project.
- **Indirect economic benefits** are the employment and expenditures that result from contracts awarded to supplier companies who do not work at the Project site. This represents the total economic benefits of business-to-business purchases.
- **Induced economic benefits** are generated by the consumer expenditures of employees of all of the firms that benefited from the direct and indirect economic benefits of the Project.

Recommendation to DEC

- Stanley Village Council strongly encourages the District Education Council to vote in favour of either of the following recommendations to the Minister:
 - 1) Maintain the status quo at Stanley Elementary and High School Complex
 - 2) Invest dollars into the infrastructure/programming at Stanley Elementary and High School Complex
- Say “NO” to the consolidation of our schools!