

RESOLUTION TITLE

Provincial Support for Political Literacy Programs in schools

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, literacy is a basic building block of personal, family, and community well-being; and

WHEREAS, Health Accord NL and Well-Being NL are informed by a framework that depends upon engaged, collaborative governance to foster improved well-being outcomes for residents,

WHEREAS, early education on political literacy empowers people in understanding our democratic systems and in better understanding the various orders of governments, systems, and resources.

WHEREAS, the Newfoundland and Labrador Education Accord, announced on January 25, 2024, is mandated to improve educational outcomes, and improve curriculum, and the Minister of Education stated that “The current education system needs to evolve to ensure we are best preparing our students and our province for success. The Education Accord will contribute to improved educational outcomes and support the well-being of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians now and into the future.”

WHEREAS, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is currently updating secondary school curricula.

WHEREAS, voter turnout in Newfoundland and Labrador is low;

WHEREAS, it is increasingly difficult to encourage candidates to run for political office, particularly those of diverse backgrounds.

WHEREAS, municipalities in Newfoundland and Labrador have identified the challenges in political literacy in community and Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador has identified curriculum change and civic engagement as necessary to successful governance.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of St. John’s call upon on the Provincial Department of Education to include political literacy education in secondary school curriculum, especially curriculum specific to Newfoundland and Labrador.