

Town of Riverview

COUNCIL REPORT FORM



Presented to: Mayor & Council

Department: Economic Development

Date: February 9, 2026

Subject: Advocacy Letter Requesting Capital Funding for French-Language School and Early Learning Centre in Riverview

BACKGROUND

On January 13, 2026, the Town's Mayor, Chief Administrative Officer, and Economic Development Manager met with representatives of the District scolaire francophone Sud (DSFS) to discuss shared priorities related to education and infrastructure. Through these discussions, the establishment of a French-language elementary school, including integrated French-language early learning and childcare facilities in Riverview, was identified as a key priority in advancing a shared vision for equitable and accessible French-language education.

Accordingly, an advocacy letter was drafted to the provincial Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development requesting a meeting to discuss the educational needs of the community and opportunities for collaborative next steps. The letter also seeks capital funding for the development of a French-language kindergarten to Grade 8 school and early learning centre in Riverview.

This evening, the Town is being represented at a meeting on education infrastructure in Moncton and Riverview, with the goal of highlighting the need to construct a French-language kindergarten to Grade 8 school in Riverview and a Grade 9 through 12 francophone high school in Moncton as urgent priorities.

Mayor Andrew J. LeBlanc will present the advocacy letter to Town Council to seek alignment in support of advocating for further discussions and capital funding for Riverview's first francophone school. This initiative aligns with and advances the Community Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan.

CONSIDERATIONS

Financial:

If the request for capital funding is well received, the municipality would benefit financially over the long run through increases to the institutional tax base. Additionally, the project would strengthen Riverview's position as a welcoming and inclusive community for francophone newcomers.

Policy:

This item supports the objectives of the Community Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan. The advocacy letter for a French-language school was identified as a key action item through informative Council and public consultations. Advancing this initiative aligns with the Strategy's goals of fostering inclusive growth, enhancing community services, and strengthening Riverview's position as a welcoming and accessible community for all residents.

Shareholders:

- **Town Council:** As representatives of Riverview, Council plays a key role in considering the town's needs for enhanced educational offerings for francophone families and advocating for the interests of a diverse resident base.
- **Town Administration:** Responsible for leading initiatives as part of the Community Economic Development Strategy that support the varied needs of residents, Town staff helps foster the long-term vitality and sustainability of the community through advocacy efforts and more.
- **Riverview Community:** Residents benefit directly from expanded educational opportunities, reinforcing Riverview as a premier place to live, play, and raise families.

Strategic Plan:

- Under the "**Building a Sustainable Community**" theme; Riverview establishes policies, practices and programs that focus on the sustainability of the community and environment we operate in.
- Under the "**Thriving Community**" theme; Riverview creates a supportive and attractive environment where local businesses, developers, entrepreneurs and residents can thrive. Furthermore, Riverview is a desirable place to live, shop, visit and play.
- Under the "**Service Excellence**" theme; Riverview remains a community of choice because of its continued excellence in the delivery of municipal services as well as its fiscally responsible approach to growth and sustainability.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

Collaboration took place across Administration, Economic Development, and the Mayor's Office to draft this letter, aiming to strengthen partnerships with the District scolaire francophone Sud, the provincial Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, key shareholders, and other partners.

Communication Plan:

Communications regarding this initiative will be coordinated through the Town's Communications department and official channels to keep Council, key shareholders, partners, and the community informed as needed.

OPTIONS

- Agree to submit an advocacy letter to the Provincial Government requesting funding for the construction of a French-language K-8 school with integrated early learning and childcare facilities in Riverview

- Decline the opportunity submit an advocacy letter to the Provincial Government at this time requesting funding for the construction of a French-language K-8 school with integrated early learning and childcare facilities in Riverview

RECOMMENDATION FROM STAFF

Riverview Town Council agree to submit an advocacy letter to the Provincial Government requesting funding for the construction of a French-language K-8 school with integrated early learning and childcare facilities in Riverview.

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