

https://www.thesuburban.com/news/city_news/emsb-council-will-add-committees-but-no-cash-for-new-hires/article_af3ee474-44fd-54c9-bb58-a64807d51c8e.html

EMSB Council will add committees, but no cash for new hires

By Joel Ceausu The Suburban

Mar 3, 2021



The English Montreal School Board will be adding more committees to its council.

At a virtual town hall meeting, council chair Joe Ortona said that a transformation plan adopted while the board was under trusteeship had many good elements but needs “tweaking.”

Ortona says the limit of three council committees — executive, human resources and audit, needs to be enlarged to include at least two more, for financing and education.

The plan was adopted by trustee Marlene Jennings, who was appointed to oversee the board following repeated calls for investigations into contract mishandling, over-politicization of the board, interference with administration and allegations of nepotism by then-opposition members.

The plan calls for the hiring of 25-30 people over three years mostly to enhance the board's Material Resources and Information Technology departments, at an annual cost of \$3 million with expectations of long-term savings. The board says it has no money for that expense and will seek government financing "while exploring structural cost saving measures which will increase the efficiency of the administrative services."

Ortona added that the transformation plan was adopted by the trustee, but not budgeted. "We are determined to be fiscally responsible."

Joel Ceausu