



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

School District 5 Welcomes New Secretary Treasurer

Media Release
February 6th, 2019

The School District 5 (SD5) Board of Education has hired a new secretary-treasurer, Alan Rice, following the retirement of long-serving Secretary-Treasurer, Rob Norum, which was announced earlier this week.

According to Frank Lento, Board Chair, the secretary-treasurer is responsible for SD5's annual budget of just under \$75 million, ensuring there is adequate educational space in well-maintained facilities for over 5500 students, transportation, payroll and other accounting duties.

Given the magnitude of the position, the Board retained the services of Dr. Leroy Sloan, (PhD) President of Sloan Consultants, to assist them in their search for a new secretary-treasurer. Sloan is a former educator, BC school superintendent and Alberta Deputy Minister and Senior Education Advisor to the Alberta School Boards' Association.

Born in Lethbridge, Alberta, Rice is currently a Senior Manager with BDO Canada LLP. He has over fifteen (15) years' experience in the field of accounting and is an accredited Certified Public Accountant (CPA, CA) previously obtaining the Chartered Accountant (CA) designation in both Alberta and BC.

Rice completed his Chartered Director (C.Dir.) designation from McMaster University in 2010 his Master of Professional Accounting (M.PAcc.) degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 2005 and his Bachelors of Management (BMgt) degree from the University of Lethbridge in 2003.

Rice moved from Calgary, Alberta, to Kimberley, BC, in 2012 with his wife, Lindsay, and two children who currently attend school in Kimberley. Since moving to BC, Rice has been active in the community as a minor hockey coach, has recently served on the Kimberley/Cranbrook 2018 55+ BC Games and numerous other not-for-profit Boards in both Alberta and BC and spends time with his family enjoying the great East Kootenay lifestyle.

According to Lento, it was a very tight competition for the secretary-treasurer position, due to the caliber of the candidates the District received. “We need someone with a broad education and varied professional experience to draw on,” says Lento. “Equally important is the ability for that person to form honest, respectful relationships with the Board, staff and stakeholders of SD5. Given these needs, the Board felt that Alan would be the best fit for the District.”

Rice, a self-proclaimed life-learner, says he has always been passionate about education and he intends to be a strong advocate for both operating and capital funding for the District.

“I hope to be as strong an advocate as my predecessor, Mr. [Rob] Norum and to continue the legacy of financial stability and taxpayer accountability the District has enjoyed under his leadership,” says Rice. “I realize I have extremely large boots to fill, but I’m up for the challenge.”

Rice will begin work with the District as of April 1st, 2019. Outgoing Secretary-Treasurer, Rob Norum, has agreed to continue on with the District in a consulting/mentoring role for the foreseeable future to ensure a smooth transition.

Contact:

Frank Lento, Chairperson, SD5 Board of Education
Trina Ayling, SD5 Media/Communications Committee

250-430-7175
250-489-1006