

RULES FOR A REFERENDUM: A BRIEF BREAKDOWN

After adopting the resolution finding a need for the operating referendum, a school corporation may **not promote** a position by:

- Using school facilities & equipment (*including mail, e-mail, or messaging systems*) unless equal access is given to the opposition;
- Using school money (*from any fund controlled by the school corporation*);
- Using a school employee during school hours or paid overtime (*exceptions for School Board members, superintendent, assistant superintendent, and chief business official*);
- Sending materials with students to homes or including a statement in other materials sent home; or
- Initiating discussion at a meeting between parent and teacher (*However: If a parent initiates the question, the teacher may acknowledge the issue and direct the parent to a source of factual information*).

The following rules apply **any time**:

- School employees cannot identify a student as the child of someone who supports or opposes the referendum.
- A person/organization that has a contract or arrangement with the school corporation to provide goods or services to the school corporation may not spend any money to promote a position.
- Elected or appointed public officials of the political subdivision (including school board members) and the superintendent, assistant superintendent and chief business official may personally advocate for a position on the local public question so long as it is not done by using public funds.
- A student may use school equipment or facilities to report or editorialize about a local public question as part of the news coverage of the referendum by student newspaper or broadcast.