



Aboriginal Education Council

Minutes

December 14, 2017

White Spot meeting room 9:00 am

In Attendance: Bruce Carlos, District Principal of Aboriginal Education; Sue Cambrey, Administrative Assistant; Charlene Everson, K'ómoks First Nation, Fernanda Pare, K'ómoks First Nation; Bryce Mercredi, Miki'siw Association; Sandra Ryan, Wachiay Friendship Centre; Lisa Iverson, UIWONA; Lou-Ann Neel, NIC; Linda Walton, Aboriginal Headstart; Kathleen Hawksby, UIWONA; Nicole Gagnon, Parent Rep; Mark Peill, Parent Rep, Chettie MacDonald, Parent Rep; Janice Caton, Trustee; Nick Moore, CDTA; Denise Bullock, CUPE; Dean Lindquist, Superintendent

Regrets: Sarah McGill, Nicole Gagnon

Meeting began at 9:20am

1. Welcome and acknowledgement of the K'ómoks First Nation Territory

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2. Agenda additions and priorities

3. Adoption of meeting minutes of November 9, 2017

Consensus

4. Reports from:

- **Superintendent**

- Review of AbEd programming will be in February or March
- 1 or 2 AEC reps will be requested to participate in this review
- Looking for a lead for the program review
- Approx. 30-40 hour time commitment towards review
- All reviews will be presented to Board, recommendations will be presented, decisions will be made and then made public via the SD71 website
- Other Program Reviews include → Student Services, High School programming, Early learning, Elementary Programming, Distance Learning,
- This process is to help review programs with an evidence based lens looking for alignment with District goals.
- We are blessed with the support from the Community with our work in schools.
- Our school programs must engage with children and youth. We need to help our students be prepared to be successful beyond grade 12.

- **Trustee/AEC Liaison – written report**

- There is a clearly laid out process for all Program Reviews. No decisions will be made until a public Board meeting.
- Provide feedback on 3-year Calendar discussion. Link on SD71 website.
- Board had elections last month. Janice remains Board Chair and Ian Hargraves is Vice Chair
- Ministry of Education is performing a funding review and SD71 is participating -- will be looking for input from the community on funding priorities for Education in BC.

- **CDTA Representative – rep absent & no report provided**

- **CUPE Representative – report provided**
- **DPAC Representative –**
 - Discussion around communications between schools and homes
 - SD71 staff presented on how to engage with parents – making our schools more accessible
 - Some teachers prefer ‘closed door’ to parent volunteers while others are quite open
 - Attended Fall Summit for BCCPAP to represent IPAC. We were one of 2 districts represented at this meeting (5 were invited)
- **District Principal Report – written report presented and highlights shared**
- **NEW → Reports from AEC members from their organizations**

Chettie - Children attend Brooklyn. Banners being made to put above each classroom door (AEC Cultural Grant)

Wachiay – nothing new to report.

Barb – nothing to report. Being new

MIKI'SIW – CAI project reports wrapping up

Kathleen – looking forward to Christmas concerts

Lisa – thank you for patience as UIWANA settles and am looking forward to future work together.

Komoks FN – Treaty is in final stages...lots of meetings. Education is going well..pleased with progress of students.

5. Old Business:

- **Subcommittee for AEC Cultural Grants – KHawksby, SMcGill, NGagnon, FPare, CMacDonald**
 - Meeting will be scheduled for early in January.
 - Only a few grants (8?) and not the best quality. Suggesting a call for new applications in January.
 - Feedback from AbEd staff – need more time to submit grants
- ACTION ITEMS**
 1. *Re-post AEC cultural grant opportunity in mid January*
 2. *Provide a 2 week window to accept applications*
 3. *Provide examples of past successful grants*
 4. *Provide a sample of a correctly filled in application*
- **FNESC conference – report from Kathleen Hawksby (Nicole Gagnon sends regrets)**
 - Excellent conference! Focus around Reconciliation
 - First Voices app will be re-released in January (First Nation languages)
 - Thomas King was keynote
 - Dawson Creek workshop – uses a model of providing Life Coaches for all Aboriginal students
- **Elders in Residence program update**
 - Elder Advisory has met 3 times now.
 - Working on protocols around choosing Elders and role in schools
 - Expect to see Elders in host pilot schools in the early spring
- **Parent rep (0-5 years) -- no incumbent**
 - No rep has come forward yet.
 - Bruce will re-send out info to AEC members to share with their contacts
- **IPAC Parent Rep BCCPAC meeting**
 - Kathleen attended Fall Summit to represent our local Indigenous Parents Advocacy Club (IPAC) by invitation from FNESC

6. New Business:

- **4th Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement – formal letter to Board of Trustees**

- Board requires a formal request from AEC to move ahead on 4th AEEA
- Charlene to draft letter
- Dean supports hiring a 3rd party to provide a different perspective on educational opportunities for our students

- **Reflections on AEC / Board Dinner Meeting held December 12th**

- Remain impressed with Marcia's support with Strategic plan
- Well timed, well done. Captured our work thus far.
- Appreciated the opportunity to be social as well as discuss some business with the Board
- The evening was well run...Nice to meet the whole Board and get to know them
- Remain excited with the passion of everyone involved....it is going in the right direction
- Happy to see all of us in one room together! I met all the Trustees for the first time! Feld the Board has a better understanding of the AEC role and desire with plan to move forward
- Pleased to see receptiveness of all people in the room.
- Good start of building bridges between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community / school district
- Unsure of how meeting would turn out...Marcia laid out presentation very well...and pleased she is working with us to guide our work
- Realized importance of understanding on what is happening in the school district as a whole...and to build a culture of understanding in every school
- This whole process is helping us, as a council, be more connected to our work by being knowledgeable in school district programs.

- **VI Parents Conference (Saturday, March 3)**

- Put a call out to AEC reps to attend (decide at January AEC meeting).
- We will hold 3 seats for AEC members
- AEC members interested – Chettie, Barb, Kathleen,

- **AEC Capacity Building**

(Charlene)

- Looking at an Orientation Package for new AEC members
- Consider moving Capacity Building to fall instead of in spring
- Aboriginal Governance and Leadership package was sent out to all AEC members to review (homework)
- Topic will be carried over to January meeting to further discuss.

- **UMISTA Residential School exhibit**

- Bruce shared photos of the Project of Memory and Project of Hearts exhibit currently being prepared to travel the District in the New Year.
- The AEC, Trustees, Senior Management and PVP's will be invited to visit the exhibit at Brooklyn in January.

- **Staffing positions – ASW's / Administrative Assistant / return of AbEd teacher**

Bruce shared 3 new ASW's beginning this week or next week, a 20 hour/week Admin Assistant posting to support AbEd work, and Gail Martindale has returned to AbEd.

Next meeting – January 11, 2018 at the SBO