



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (AEC)



Wednesday, January 20, 2016
 Hollywood Road Education Services – Room 2
 1040 Hollywood Road

MINUTES

Council Members:	Wilfred Barnes Westbank First Nation Elder	Moyra Baxter Board of Education	Ann Bell Lake Country Native Association
	Deb Butler Board of Education	Denise Clough Westbank First Nation	Chris Derickson Westbank First Nation
	Roberta Robin Dods Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society	Kelly L'Hirondelle Kelowna Métis Association	Michelle Price Aboriginal Parent & Family Education Council
	Dan Wilson Okanagan Indian Band		
School District Staff:	Terry-Lee Beaudry Central Okanagan School District	Joanne De Guevara Central Okanagan School District	Kevin Kaardal Central Okanagan School District
Guests:	Mike Gawliuk Canadian Mental Health Association	Dr. Karen Ragoonaden University of British Columbia	Shelagh Turner Canadian Mental Health Association
Regrets:	Raf De Guevara Westbank First Nation	Greg Mazur Kelowna Métis Association	Lee Mossman Board of Education
	Edna Terbasket Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society		

1. Opening Prayer

Wilfred Barnes led the opening prayer.

2. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting and introduced Wilfred Barnes as the newly appointed Westbank First Nations Elder AEC representative. The Council and guests introduced themselves and the organization they represent.

For Discussion / Decision

3. Adoption of the January 20, 2016 Agenda

M75-16 MOVED by Ann Bell, SECONDED by Denise Clough
THAT: The Agenda for January 20, 2016 be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Review and Approval of the December 9, 2015 Aboriginal Education Council Minutes

M76-16 MOVED by Roberta Robin Dods, SECONDED by Kelly L'Hirondelle
THAT: The Minutes of the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting for December 9, 2015 be adopted.
CARRIED

5. Westbank First Nation – Board Motion

M77-16 MOVED by Dan Wilson, SECONDED by Ann Bell
THAT: The Westbank First Nation Board Motion be accepted as presented.
ABSTAINED: Wilfred Barnes
CARRIED

6. Presentation: Central Okanagan Proposal for BC Integrated Youth Services Initiative

Shelagh Turner, Executive Director of the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Kelowna, and Mike Gawliuk, Director of Service Delivery and Program Innovation of the CMHA Kelowna, presented on a proposal they are preparing to participate in a 36-month province-wide initiative (BC-IYSI) to support

youth and young adults aged 12-24 in the Central Okanagan. If successful, this initiative would provide easy access to integrated services including primary care, mental health, substance use, and social services for Central Okanagan children and families. The Canadian Mental Health Association Kelowna will prepare an Expression of Interest (EOI) submission by January 29, 2016. Up to three communities from each Health Authority that submit an EOI response will be selected to move to phase 2, which includes \$5,000 for convening, and creation of a full proposal.

The Aboriginal Education Council supported the concept of a BC Integrated Youth Services Initiative in the Central Okanagan and will provide a Letter of Support for the concept.

ACTION ITEM: *To write a Letter of Support for the concept of a BC Integrated Youth Services Initiative in the Central Okanagan. (Chris Derickson)*

7. Review of Action Items

7.1 ACTION ITEM: *To provide the AEC with preliminary transition rates of Aboriginal students attending post-secondary schools for a future AEC meeting. (Joanne De Guevara)*

This Action Item will be discussed at the May 2016 AEC meeting.

7.2 ACTION ITEM: *To provide a re-appointment letter as required and to send the Letters of Re-appointment to the Assistant Superintendent's office. (AEC)*

This Action Item will be actioned as necessary by the Assistant Superintendent's office.

7.3 ACTION ITEM: *To provide the AEC with a breakdown of targeted funds allocated to cultural programs in classrooms at the next AEC budget meeting. (Joanne De Guevara)*

This Action Item was discussed during the Budget Update.

7.4 ACTION ITEM: *To provide the AEC with a report on how the \$1,500 was utilized to support the Lake Country Nation Association's Youth Group Sessions. (Ann Bell)*

This Action Item will be discussed at the May 2016 AEC meeting.

7.5 ACTION ITEM: *To provide the AEC with a breakdown of how many students represent each band at a future AEC meeting. (Joanne De Guevara)*

The District Principal provided the AEC with the District's Summary of students with Aboriginal Ancestry.

7.6 ACTION ITEM: *To provide the AEC with a report on student trends at a future AEC meeting. (Joanne De Guevara)*

The District Principal advised that student trends are included in the Aboriginal Education Program Annual Report.

7.7 ACTION ITEM: *To send out copies of the First Peoples Principles of Learning poster to all Council members. (Michelle DesRochers)*

Michelle provided copies of the First Peoples Principles of Learning.

7.8 ACTION ITEM: *To provide the Assistant Superintendent's office with any necessary contact information updates as soon as possible. (AEC)*

The AEC was reminded to inform the Assistant Superintendent's office if their contact information requires updating.

New Business

8. Aboriginal Worldviews and Perspectives in the Classroom – Moving Forward

This agenda item was tabled as Elder Delphine Derickson was unable to attend the meeting.

9. District Principal's Administration Update

Staffing Update

The District Principal advised that there are currently forty Aboriginal Advocates. The Aboriginal Department has added an additional Advocate from January 2016 to June 2016 at George Elliot Secondary School.

The District Principal shared that the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal Exemptions for the Aboriginal Youth and Family Support Workers/Aboriginal Clinical Supervisor Positions were approved. The Aboriginal Clinical Supervisor position has been filled and the Aboriginal Youth and Family Support Worker position will be posted and filled as soon as possible.

Upcoming Cultural and Language Events/Initiatives

The District Principal shared that the Primary Winter Gathering is happening from Wednesday, January 20, 2016 to Friday, January 22, 2016.

The District Principal advised that the District's Okanagan Language teacher is attending the Syilx Learning House to increase his proficiency and fluency. The Central Okanagan Teachers' Association is in support of this professional development opportunity.

Professional Development – Update

The District Principal shared that Starleigh Grass will be a keynote speaker at the District's Non-Instructional Day on February 9, 2016. On the District's February 19th Professional Development day, the Aboriginal Department will be offering 3-4 Aboriginal Education Workshops, supporting the First Peoples Principles of Learning. The District Principal and the District's Aboriginal Resource Support Teacher K-12 are on a Provincial Working Committee, developing online resources which will be available to everyone in the province.

Michelle Price arrived at 9:42 am.

10. Aboriginal Curricular Development

This agenda item has been deferred to a future AEC meeting as Edna Terbasket was unable to attend the meeting.

Kevin Kaardal arrived at 9:47 am.

11. Aboriginal Education Council – Review of Mandate, Purpose, and Function (Attachment)

The AEC affirmed the Aboriginal Education Council's Terms of Reference and requested to review the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference at a future AEC meeting.

12. Correspondence Protocols (i.e., AEC Letterhead)

The AEC decided that the AEC should have personalized letterhead. The Assistant Superintendent's office will create AEC Letterhead.

ACTION ITEM: *To create AEC Letterhead to be used on all future Aboriginal Education Council outgoing correspondence. (Michelle DesRochers)*

Updates

1. Squamish 24-Hour Drum-a-Thon

The Assistant Superintendent shared that the 'news maker' of the year in Squamish was the Squamish 24-hour drum-a-thon. The District Principal advised that the District's Drum-a-Thon date needs to be confirmed, but will advise the AEC once a date has been confirmed.

AEC recessed at 10:08 am

Participation in Opening Ceremonies of the Primary Winter Gathering

The AEC participated in the Opening Ceremonies of the Primary Winter Gathering.

AEC reconvened at 10:43 am

New Business - Continued

13. Preliminary Budget Discussions

Budget Update

The District Principal provided an update on the 2015/2016 school year budget. Since the positions for the Aboriginal Youth and Family Support Worker and Aboriginal Clinical Supervisor have not been

filled, the savings have been used to increase tutorial support. The District Principal also explained the cost sharing with schools for cultural performances.

ONA Presentation to Regional Liberal Caucus

The Chairperson shared that the Assistant Superintendent, Board of Education Chair, and himself presented the Central Okanagan School District's focus on Aboriginal Education at the Chief Executive Council and Okanagan MLA Caucus Meeting on December 11, 2015. The MLAs encourages the presenters to consider providing a proposal to support unique educational programs/special projects for Aboriginal students.

Budget Discussion

The AEC decided to table the Budget Discussion to the February 18, 2016 AEC meeting and to schedule the meeting from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. In order for staff to be prepared, Council members are to forward specific budget questions to the Assistant Superintendent's office. The AEC also agreed to bring their ideas with solutions to the table.

Updates

1. Round Table Discussions

Round Table Discussions occurred. Council members shared personal and organizational updates.

New Business – Continued

14. Ministry of Education Review of Enhancement Agreements

Dr. Karen Ragoonaden, University of British Columbia Okanagan, provided an overview of a BC Ministry of Education funded research study she is conducting regarding Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreements. The research study aims to better understand the impact of Aboriginal Enhancement Agreements in BC with a particular focus on the history and current state of Enhancement Agreements in BC; the role they play in system change; any noted improvements in Aboriginal student performance; any successful innovative and interdisciplinary practices in BC schools; and, the school district-community relationships. The Research Team will use the following four methods to conduct their study: Qualitative Content Analysis, Focus Groups, Interviews, and a Survey. Dr. Ragoonaden is seeking voluntary participation in this research study and will randomly contact AEC members and community members to participate.

Future Agenda Items

- After School Programs
- Aboriginal Curricular Development
- Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee – Review of Terms of Reference
- Presentation – Aboriginal Early Literacy Pilot Project
- **Budget Line Item: Community Initiatives (February 2016)**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Future AEC meeting dates:

February 18, 2016 at WFN Gov't Offices – Council Chambers (3rd Floor)

May 25, 2016 at Hollywood Road Education Services – Room 3