



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (AEC)



10:15 am Wednesday, December 9, 2015
 WFN Gov't Offices – Council Chambers
 301 – 515 Hwy 97

MINUTES

Council Members:	Ann Bell Lake Country Native Association	Deb Butler Board of Education	Denise Clough Westbank First Nation
	Chris Derickson Westbank First Nation	Delphine Derickson Westbank First Nation Elder	Roberta Robin Dods Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
	Kelly L'Hirondelle Kelowna Métis Association	Greg Mazur Kelowna Métis Association	Lee Mossman Board of Education
	Edna Terbasket Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society	Dan Wilson Okanagan Indian Band	
School District Staff:	Terry-Lee Beaudry Central Okanagan School District	Hugh Gloster Central Okanagan School District	Kevin Kaardal Central Okanagan School District
Guests:	Kevin Kaiser Aboriginal Resource Support Teacher K-12 Central Okanagan School District	Raquel Michaud Aboriginal Student Advocate Central Okanagan School District	
Regrets:	Raf De Guevara Westbank First Nation	Joanne De Guevara Central Okanagan School District	Michelle Price Aboriginal Parent & Family Education Council

1. Opening Prayer

Edna Terbasket led the opening prayer.

2. Welcome

The Vice-Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting. The Council and guests introduced themselves and the organization they represent.

On behalf of the AEC, Chris Derickson, Chairperson, recognized Hugh Gloster for his leadership and support of Aboriginal students and families over several decades. During Hugh's tenure as Superintendent, Aboriginal graduation rates have increased significantly and the number of vulnerable, at-risk Aboriginal students have decreased significantly. On behalf of the AEC and the District's students, the Chairperson presented Hugh with a Westbank First Nation gourd and wished him luck on his upcoming retirement.

Hugh Gloster thanked the Aboriginal Education Council for all their hard work, advocating on behalf of Aboriginal students, and recognized that there is still a lot of work to do. He stated that, "It has been a great honour to be a part of this work."

10:28 am – Chris Derickson left the meeting.

For Discussion / Decision

3. Adoption of the December 9, 2015 Agenda

Move: Agenda Item 12: Presentation – New Data Reporting Program to Agenda Item 5.

Add: Under New Business Item 10: Lake Country Native Association – Letter of Appointment

Add: Under New Business Item 11: Ki-low-na Friendship Society – Letter of Appointment

M68-15 MOVED by Greg Mazur , SECONDED by Edna Terbasket
THAT: The Agenda for December 9, 2015 be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

4. Review and Approval of the September 17, 2015 Aboriginal Education Council Minutes

M69-15 MOVED by Ann Bell, SECONDED by Deb Butler

THAT: The Minutes of the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting for September 17, 2015 be adopted.

ABSTAINED: Roberta Robin Dods and Dan Wilson

CARRIED

5. Presentation – New Data Reporting Program

The Assistant Superintendent shared that the Aboriginal Education Department switched to a new electronic data reporting program in September 2015.

Kevin Kaiser, Aboriginal Resource Support Teacher K-12, shared that the old Aboriginal Education Program's reporting system was not meeting the program's needs and required updating. After seeking out help from the District's technology department, one of the technicians created a new software program. The new data reporting program allows all staff the opportunity to log contact with the students, describe the support provided and other pertinent information.

Raquel Michaud, Aboriginal Student Advocate, provided an overview of the new data reporting program and outlined tools used to assess student achievement and progress in meeting the goals of the enhancement agreement.

The District Principal and the Assistant Superintendent use the data reporting program to determine programming, resources, and staffing needs.

The AEC requested information on how many students represent each band and a report on student trends at a future AEC meeting.

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

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

11:03 am – Kevin Kaiser and Raquel Michaud left the meeting.

6. Review of Action Items

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

On behalf of the District Principal, the Assistant Superintendent advised that the District Principal will provide preliminary transition rates in May 2016.

6.2 ACTION ITEM: *To write and send a letter to the Board of Education, thanking them for their support. (Chris Derickson)*

This Action Item has been completed.

6.3 ACTION ITEM: *To send an inquiry to Michele Johnson, Syilx Language House Association, regarding potential professional development and the possibility of attending an AEC meeting to discuss the mentorship of Okanagan Language learners. (Joanne De Guevara)*

On behalf of the District Principal, the Assistant Superintendent shared that the District Principal met with Michele Johnson and they agreed to explore mentorship opportunities with the District's Okanagan Language Teacher.

6.4 ACTION ITEM: *To make a recommendation at the next Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee meeting to create an Okanagan Language Program Sub-committee. (Joanne De Guevara)*

Ann Bell shared that the sub-committee has been renamed the *Okanagan Language and Culture Class Sub-Committee*. Edna Terbasket was asked to chair this sub-committee and agreed to chair the *Okanagan Language and Culture Class Sub-Committee*. The Assistant Superintendent will advise the District Principal accordingly.

ACTION ITEM: *To advise the District Principal that Edna Terbasket has agreed to Chair the Okanagan Language and Culture Class Sub-Committee. (Terry Beaudry)*

6.5 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)*

The Assistant Superintendent's office requires Letters of Re-appointment from the Aboriginal Parent and Family Education Council and WFN for an Elder representative.

6.6 ACTION ITEM: *To provide the AEC a demonstration of the new data reporting program at a future AEC meeting in the new year. (Joanne De Guevara)*

A demonstration was provided at the December 9, 2015 AEC meeting.

6.7 ACTION ITEM: *To draft a letter to the Board of Education asking them to inquire with the Ministry of Education regarding funding the Okanagan Language Program through local funding, not targeted funds. (Ann Bell)*

The AEC decided to place this item on hold until after the Okanagan Language and Culture Class Sub-Committee has reviewed the program recommendations.

6.8 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)*

The Assistant Superintendent advised the AEC that the District Principal will provide a report in early 2016.

6.9 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)*

The AEC agreed that a report is not required until the end of the school year. This agenda item will be added as an agenda item to the May 2016 AEC meeting.

Old Business

7. Okanagan Language - Update

The AEC agreed to defer this agenda item pending a formal review of the program.

New Business

8. Westbank First Nation – Letter of Appointment

M70-15 MOVED by Dan Wilson, SECONDED by Lee Mossman

THAT: The Westbank First Nation Letter of Appointment be accepted as attached.

ABSTAINED: Denise Clough

CARRIED

9. Okanagan Indian Band – Letter of Appointment (attachment)

M71-15 MOVED by Ann Bell, SECONDED by Edna Terbasket

THAT: The Okanagan Indian Band Letter of Appointment be accepted as attached.

ABSTAINED: Dan Wilson

CARRIED

10. Lake Country Native Association – Letter of Appointment

- M72-15 MOVED by Roberta Robin Dods, SECONDED by Dan Wilson
THAT: The Lake Country Nation Association Letter of Appointment be accepted as attached.
ABSTAINED: Ann Bell
CARRIED

11. KI-low-na Friendship Society – Letter of Appointment

- M73-15 MOVED by Dan Wilson, SECONDED by Greg Mazur
THAT: The KI-low-na Friendship Society Letter of Appointment be accepted as attached.
ABSTAINED: Edna Terbasket and Roberta Robin Dods
CARRIED

12. siya? Celebration 2015 Final Report

- M74-15 MOVED by Greg Mazur, SECONDED by Edna Terbasket
THAT: The AEC acknowledge receipt of the siya? Celebration 2015 Final Report.
CARRIED

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

This agenda item has been deferred to a future AEC meeting as Elder Delphine Derickson was unable to attend the meeting.

The Assistant Superintendent advised the AEC that copies of the First Peoples Principles of Learning poster will be sent out to all Council members.

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

14. AEC Membership Information

The Assistant Superintendent distributed the current AEC contact information listing and asked Council members to provide any necessary updates. Upon ensuring all information is accurate, the AEC contact information will be uploaded to the Aboriginal Education website.

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

15. District Principal's Administration Update

Staffing Update

On behalf of the District Principal, the Assistant Superintendent advised that the District currently has 39 Aboriginal Student Advocates. The District is waiting to hear back from the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal regarding its request for preferential hiring for the Aboriginal Youth and Family Support Worker and the Aboriginal Clinical Supervisor positions. The positions will be posted once the District receives the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal's decision regarding the current application for the aforementioned hiring exemption.

Family Fun Night – Update

On behalf of the District Principal, the Assistant Superintendent shared that the Family Fun Nights held this fall were a huge success. Over 200 family members were in attendance at Constable Neil Bruce Middle School. Over 400 family members came out to Hollywood Road Education Services.

The AEC recommended that compensation or an alternate start time be provided for Aboriginal Student Advocates required to attend evening events.

Roy Henry Vickers Visit

On behalf of the District Principal, the Assistant Superintendent shared that Roy Henry Vickers is coming February 29 – March 4, 2016. Through the Central Okanagan Teacher-Librarian Association (COTLA), there is an opportunity to offer a community event.

The AEC requested that correspondence be sent via email advising the Council of upcoming Aboriginal Cultural Performances. The Assistant Superintendent will forward the AEC's request to the District Principal.

Professional Development - Update

The District Principal will provide an update at the next AEC meeting.

The AEC suggested a tour for Aboriginal Student Advocates to visit each organization represented on the Council. This could potentially happen during the District's Non-Instructional Days in February and May 2016.

Updates

16. BC Human Rights Tribunal – Annual Report October 2015

The AEC acknowledged receipt of the BC Human Rights Tribunal – Annual Report October 2015.

12:02 pm – *The Aboriginal Education Council recessed.*

12:16 pm – *The Aboriginal Education Council reconvened.*

Round Table Discussions

Round Table Discussions occurred. Council members shared personal and organizational updates. The AEC agreed to add Round Table Discussions to the end of all future AEC meetings.

12:31 pm – *Roberta Robin Dods left the meeting.*

12:54 pm – *Lee Mossman left the meeting.*

Future Meeting Dates

The AEC requested to reconvene in mid-January and to reschedule the February and May meeting dates.

ACTION ITEM: *To send the AEC potential 2016 dates for meetings in mid-January, February, and May.*
(Michelle DesRochers)

Future Agenda Items

- **After School Programs**
- **Presentation – Aboriginal Early Literacy Pilot Project (February 2016)**
- **Budget Line Item: Community Initiatives (February 2016)**

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm.