



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (AEC)



Monday, October 3, 2016
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Okanagan Nation Alliance
(#101 – 3535 Old Okanagan Hwy)

MINUTES

Council Members:	Fernanda Alexander Westbank First Nation	Wilfred Barnes Westbank First Nation Elder	Ann Bell Lake Country Native Association
	Deb Butler Board of Education	Chris Derickson Westbank First Nation	Kelly L'Hirondelle Kelowna Métis Association
	Greg Mazur Kelowna Métis Association	Lee Mossman Board of Education	Allan Louis Okanagan Indian Band
Guest:	Sheila Lewis Okanagan Nation Alliance		
School District Staff:	Terry-Lee Beaudry Central Okanagan School District	Joanne De Guevara Central Okanagan School District	Kevin Kaardal Central Okanagan School District
Regrets:	Denise Clough Westbank First Nation	Raf De Guevara Westbank First Nation	Roberta Robin Dods Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
	Jennifer Houde Okanagan Nation Alliance	Michelle Price Aboriginal Parent & Family Education Council	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. Since the WFN election, Chief and Council has appointed Fernanda Alexander as the WFN Council representative and Chair on the AEC.

For Discussion / Decision

3. Adoption of the October 3, 2016 Agenda

M98-16 MOVED Ann Bell by, SECONDED by Allan Louis
THAT: The Agenda for October 3, 2016 be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Review and Approval of the August 31, 2016 Aboriginal Education Council Minutes

M99-16 MOVED by Greg Mazur , SECONDED by Lee Mossman
THAT: The Minutes of the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting for August 31, 2016 be adopted.
CARRIED

5. Westbank First Nation – Letter of Appointment (attachment)

M100-16 MOVED by Ann Bell, SECONDED by Kelly L'Hirondelle
THAT: The Westbank First Nation Letter of Appointment be accepted as attached to the agenda.
CARRIED

6. Review of Action Items

6.1 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 item will be discussed in the Spring of 2017.

6.2 ACTION ITEM: *To draft a template with key messaging that AEC members can forward to their local MLAs requesting additional funds be allocated to education. (Deb Butler)*

Deb Butler and Terry Beaudry committed to drafting letter and will send out to the Council.

6.3 ACTION ITEM: *To explore best practices for a sustainable Elder in Residence program during the 2016-2017 school year. (Terry Beaudry)*

The District Principal advised that an update will be provided in the Spring of 2017 and invited the AEC to send recommendations for the Elder in Residence program to her.

6.4 ACTION ITEM: *To provide a detailed report on what percentage of resources and staffing budget are being used for Aboriginal students versus non-Aboriginal students. (Joanne De Guevara)*

This item will be discussed in the Spring of 2017.

6.5 ACTION ITEM: *To identify areas in need and the potential increase in resource budget that is required to cover the identified needs. (Joanne De Guevara)*

The District Principal shared that she attended the BC Aboriginal Funding Conference on September 21-23, 2016 with 3 advocates. The Aboriginal Department is looking at applying for Aboriginal Recreation and Sport grants as well as funding for elementary, middle, and secondary school curriculum. Depending on application deadlines, funding will either be for the 2016-2017 or 2017-2018 school year.

6.6 ACTION ITEM: *To confirm whether or not there is an Aboriginal voice on the Safe Schools Committee and the Health Promoting Schools Committee. (Terry Beaudry)*

The Deputy Superintendent shared that the Safe Schools Committee and the Health Promoting Schools Committee currently do not have Aboriginal representatives. Either an interested AEC member or an Aboriginal Education Department staff member will be appointed as a representative.

ACTION ITEM: *To send out meeting dates for the Safe Schools Committee and the Health Promoting Schools Committee to the AEC, inviting members to express their interest in being the Aboriginal representative on one or both of the committees. (Terry Beaudry)*

6.7 ACTION ITEM: *To relay to the Language and Cultural Program Sub-Committee Motion M91-16 (THAT: A review process to evaluate the efficacy of the Language and Cultural Program be created) at the first Language and Cultural Program Sub-Committee meeting. (Terry Beaudry)*

The District Principal advised that the first meeting for Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee is at the end of October. At that time, the committee will establish sub-committees and update accordingly.

6.8 ACTION ITEM: *To collate after school programming information from each agency for a future AEC meeting. (Michelle DesRochers)*

Michelle advised that she is waiting on information from Okanagan Nation Alliance and the Kelowna Métis Association. Once received, collated information will be shared.

The AEC requested information on the 2015-2016 after school program at George Pringle Elementary and why it is not running this year.

ACTION ITEM: *To provide information regarding the 2015-2016 after school program at George Pringle and why it is not running this year. (Joanne De Guevara)*

After the collated data is reviewed, further discussion on next steps for after school programming will be discussed.

6.9 ACTION ITEM: *To research the reason the Ministry decided to no longer be involved in the development of Enhancement Agreements and update the AEC with any additional information.*

(Kevin Kaardal and the AEC)

The Superintendent shared that the Ministry sent out the letter that was attached to the agenda. The letter states that the Ministry is refocusing their resources in response to the Auditor General's recommendations. AEC members are encouraged to visit the link included in the letter for more information.

The AEC decided to keep this item on future agendas for further updates/discussion.

6.10 ACTION ITEM: *To design a two day workshop to train the Aboriginal Education Council on the principles of the Four Vital Voices of Community Enowkinwixw: A Syilx (Okanagan) Protocol of Respect. (Jennifer Houde)*

As Jennifer wasn't able to attend the meeting, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

New Business

7. Aboriginal Student Awards Selection Panel

The District Principal will confirm the names on the Aboriginal Student Awards Selection Panel based on the list provided at the August 31, 2016 AEC meeting and provide an update at the November 2016 AEC meeting.

ACTION ITEM: *To provide the list of representatives on the Aboriginal Student Awards Selection Panel at the November 2016 AEC meeting. (Joanne De Guevara)*

8. Aboriginal Student Award Funding – Draft Letter

Chris Derickson presented the draft Aboriginal Education Council fundraiser letter. If the goal is to raise \$100,000, 1000 people have to be contacted.

The AEC discussed how to move forward and decided to establish a sub-committee. The Aboriginal Student Award Bursary Sub-Committee will include council members Ann Bell, Deb Butler and Fernanda Alexander as well as District staff members Terry Beaudry and Eileen Sadlowski. An update to the AEC will be provided once the sub-committee has determined the best way to move forward.

The AEC decided to keep this item on future agendas for further updates/discussion.

9. Aboriginal Education Program - Administration Updates

Staffing Update

The District Principal shared that two additional advocates have been hired and the Youth and Family Workers positions have been posted.

Indigenizing the Re-designed Curriculum

Jordan Coble presented at the September 20, 2016 Central Okanagan Leadership Team meeting on the beliefs of the Okanagan People who reside on the Okanagan Territory. At the Aboriginal Culture Day at Ellison Elementary on September 28, 2016, Grouse and Pamela Barnes shared the story of the Four Food Chiefs. The District Principal is currently collaborating with ONA to develop a visual showing how the Four Food Chief story is connected to the Medicine Wheel teaching and the First Peoples Principles of Learning.

Kevin Kaardal left the meeting at 2:07 pm

The District Principal also shared that a list of several Okanagan words was created and a sound bite goes out every week to all District/School Admin and Advocates. Schools are also starting to add signage using the list of Okanagan words provided.

Members of the AEC questioned the amount of targeted funding being used to support the implementation of the redesigned curriculum. The AEC requested a report outlining how targeted funding is currently being allocated.

ACTION ITEM: *To forward to the District Finance and Legal Committee a request for a report outlining how targeted funding is currently being allocated. (Lee Mossman)*

AEC School Tour – November 4, 2016

The Deputy Superintendent and District Principal will be attending the Provincial Gathering on November 3rd in Vancouver and would consider planning the tour on an alternate date.

The AEC requested that a couple options be sent out (including November 4, 2016).

ACTION ITEM: To send the AEC a few potential dates for the AEC School Tour and determine which date works best for everyone. (Michelle DesRochers)

The Deputy Superintendent shared an email received from the Principal at Pearson Road Elementary regarding an Advocate going 'above and beyond'. The AEC decided to send the Advocate a thank-you.

ACTION ITEM: To send a thank you on behalf of the AEC to the Pearson Road Elementary advocate for her service and support of a family. (Terry Beaudry)

10. Policy 621 – Protocol for Flying Flags at Half-Mast

Terry shared the District Policy 621 – Protocol for Flying Flags at Half-Mast and asked the AEC if any amendments are required to recognize either national, provincial, and/or local Chiefs.

The AEC decided that Wilfred Barnes and Dan Wilson should discuss flag protocols and report back to Council.

ACTION ITEM: To determine whether or not national, provincial, and/or local Chiefs should be recognized in the District Policy 621 – Protocol for Flying Flags at Half-Mast. (Wilfred Barnes)

11. Parent Story – First Days of School

The Deputy Superintendent shared a parent story regarding an Aboriginal student's first days at school. A few quotes may be added to the next Annual Report.

12. Aboriginal Education Council Terms of Reference – Request from Nanaimo Ladysmith School District

The Deputy Superintendent advised that the Nanaimo Ladysmith School District requested to use language from our District's AEC Terms of Reference.

13. AEC Meeting Dates for 2017

The AEC requested that Michelle review possible Monday and Thursday afternoon dates in 2017 and send out possible dates for the AEC to consider.

ACTION ITEM: To send the AEC a few options for 2017 AEC Meeting dates on Monday and/or Thursday afternoons. (Michelle)

Information Item

14. BC Ministry of Education Update Letter

The BC Ministry of Education update letter was provided.

Future Agenda Items

- Language Teacher's Involvement with the Syilx Language House (November 2016)
 - Presentation – Central Okanagan Gang Activity Data (RCMP)
 - Principles of the Four Vital Voices of Community Enowkinwixw: A Syilx (Okanagan) Protocol of Respect
 - Aboriginal Recreational Teams
 - Language and Cultural Review
 - Elder in Residence Programs
 - Aboriginal Student Supports
 - Aboriginal Student Award Funding
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Future AEC meeting date:

Monday, November 28, 2016 (WFN Gov't Offices – Council Chambers)