



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (AEC)

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Foundry Kelowna

(100 – 1815 Kirschner Road)

SUMMARY NOTES

Council Members:	Fernanda Alexander Westbank First Nation Deb Butler Board of Education Kelly L'Hirondelle Kelowna Métis Association	Wilfred Barnes Westbank First Nation Elder Chantelle Colthorp Kelowna Métis Association	Ann Bell Lake Country Native Association Julia Fraser Board of Education
School District Staff:	Terry-Lee Beaudry Central Okanagan Public Schools	Joanne De Guevara Central Okanagan Public Schools	Kevin Kaardal Central Okanagan Public Schools
Guests:	Moyra Baxter Board of Education	Delta Carmichael Central Okanagan Public Schools	
Regrets	Denise Clough Westbank First Nation Jennifer Lewis Okanagan Nation Alliance	Raf De Guevara Westbank First Nation Sheldon Louis Okanagan Indian Band	Roberta Robin Dods Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society Edna Terbasket Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society

As there was no quorum for the meeting, the attending council members discussed information items and updates.

Tour of Foundry Kelowna

Melissa Feddersen, Foundry Kelowna Centre Manager, led the group on a tour of Foundry Kelowna. Foundry Kelowna is a wellness centre for young people 12-24 years of age. Foundry Kelowna offers youth and family navigation, family support, health care, sexual health care, mental health support and counselling, substance use support and counselling, housing support, groups and courses, and specialized services. All services are free and confidential.

1. Opening Prayer

Elder Wilfred Barnes led the opening prayer.

2. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Aboriginal Education Council meeting and reminded the Aboriginal Education Council that the needs of our students is Council's first priority.

Presentations

3. Aboriginal Education 14th Annual Report

The District Principal of Aboriginal Education presented the Draft Aboriginal Education Program 14th Annual Report. One of the areas highlighted was the fact that the Aboriginal Information Management System (AIMS), a tracking system for Aboriginal student contact and program delivery, recorded 174,445 contacts over the 2016-2017 school year. Central Okanagan Public Schools continues to focus on meeting the goals of the Enhancement Agreement, resulting in a positive impact on the District's six-year completion rate. In the 2016-2017 school year, 76.9% of Aboriginal students graduated with a Dogwood Diploma.

Kevin Kaardal joined the meeting at 9:59 am.

Ann Bell requested that the Ministry of Education's 'How Are We Doing?' report be circulated to the Aboriginal Education Council.

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO cautioned the AEC regarding data represented in the 'How Are We Doing?' report. For example, the Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) data is based on voluntary student participation. The BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) distributed literature to parents each year discouraging student participation which has resulted in lower participation rates in grade 4 and grade 7.

Action Item: To send out the Ministry of Education's 'How Are We Doing?' report to the Aboriginal Education Council. (Michelle DesRochers)

The Deputy Superintendent thanked Ann Bell for volunteering to edit the Aboriginal Education 14th Annual Report and shared that the draft report was presented to the Education and Student Services Committee on February 7, 2018. She requested feedback from the Aboriginal Education Council by Friday, March 2, 2018 in order to make any necessary revisions prior to sending the Aboriginal Education 14th Annual Report to the Board of Education.

Action Item: To send the Aboriginal Education Council an electronic copy of the Aboriginal Education 14th Annual Report for their review, with a deadline of March 2, 2018 to submit recommended edits or revisions. (Michelle DesRochers)

4. 2017/2018 Amended Aboriginal Education Program Budget

Delta Carmichael, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, presented the 2017/2018 amended Aboriginal Education Program Budget based on the budget additions supported by the AEC at the January 24, 2018 AEC Special Meeting. She advised that since the January 24, 2018 AEC Special Meeting, the Okanagan Language Teacher's allocation has been updated to 0.8 from core funding and 0.2 from targeted funding. A final 2017-2018 Aboriginal Education Program Budget will be provided to the Aboriginal Education Council in the fall of 2018.

The Deputy Superintendent thanked the AEC members that attended the AEC Special Meeting on January 24, 2018 regarding allocation of the 2017-2018 surplus.

5. 2018/2019 Draft Aboriginal Education Program Preliminary Budget

The Deputy Superintendent outlined the draft preliminary 2018/2019 Aboriginal Education Program Budget.

AEC members discussed the draft preliminary 2018/2019 Aboriginal Education Program Budget, expressing concern regarding the cost of tutorial support, the allocation of funding for culture and language as well as the need to explore more opportunities for student exposure to Okanagan language.

Kevin Kaardal left the meeting at 10:49 am.

The Chairperson shared that WFN has an agreement with UBCO to provide tutoring at the WFN Youth Centre and students can attend WFN Youth Centre for tutoring support.

Joanne De Guevara left the meeting at 10:58 am

The AEC members in attendance decided that an additional AEC Budget Meeting be scheduled in March to finalize the Council's budget recommendations. Additionally, the AEC members requested reports outlining the number of students supported by Teacher Tutors and the breakdown of the cultural programming offered to Aboriginal students.

Action Item: To send a doodle poll with potential dates in March for an AEC Budget meeting and schedule the meeting accordingly. (Michelle DesRochers)

Action Item: To provide the AEC with reports, prior to the March AEC Budget Meeting, outlining the number of students supported by Teacher Tutors and the breakdown of the cultural programming offered to Aboriginal students. (Joanne De Guevara)

Old Business

6. Equity Scan Project Update – Proposed Community Forums

This item was not discussed. An update will be provided at a future AEC Meeting.

7. Aboriginal Education Council Parent Representation – Update

The Deputy Superintendent shared that the Equity Scan Project's Community Forums will provide an opportunity to garner parent/family interest in forming an Aboriginal Parent and Family Education Council. The District will then organize a meeting for the interested parents and family members so that they can establish an Aboriginal Parent and Family Education Council and further appoint two representative to the Aboriginal Education Council.

Future Agenda Items

- **23rd Annual Aboriginal Career Fair Final Report**
 - **Aboriginal Student Supports**
 - **Consistent After School Programs**
 - **Aboriginal Early Learning Partnerships** (Presentation by Early Learning Years Team)
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The meeting adjourned at 12:22 pm.

Future AEC Meeting

AEC Budget Meeting (March 2018) – TBD

Thursday, May 31, 2018 at 1:00 pm – Hollywood Road Education Services – Room 3