



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (AEC)



Preliminary Budget Meeting (2016/2017)

9:00 am Thursday, February 18, 2016
 WFN Government Offices – Council Chambers (3rd Floor)
 301 - 515 Hwy 97 South

MINUTES

Council Members:	Ann Bell Lake Country Native Association	Deb Butler Board of Education	Denise Clough Westbank First Nation
	Raf De Guevara Westbank First Nation	Chris Derickson Westbank First Nation	Roberta Robin Dods Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
	Kelly L'Hirondelle Kelowna Métis Association	Greg Mazur Kelowna Métis Association	Edna Terbasket Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
	Dan Wilson Okanagan Indian Band		
School District Staff:	Terry-Lee Beaudry Central Okanagan School District	Kevin Kaardal Central Okanagan School District	Kevin Kaiser Central Okanagan School District
Guest:	Eileen Sadlowski Central Okanagan School District		
Regrets:	Wilfred Barnes Westbank First Nation Elder	Joanne De Guevara Central Okanagan School District	Jennifer Houde Okanagan Nation Alliance
	Lee Mossman Board of Education	Michelle Price Aboriginal Parent & Family Education Council	

1. Opening Prayer

Edna Terbasket led the opening prayer.

2. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting.

For Discussion / Decision

3. Adoption of the February 18, 2016 Agenda

Add: Before Presentations: Request for Funding: 22nd Annual Aboriginal Career Fair (Chairperson)

Add: Before Presentations: Request for Funding: siya? Celebration 2016 (Chairperson)

Add: Before Presentations: Letter of Appointments - Okanagan Nation Alliance, Westbank First Nation, and the Board of Education.

M76-16 MOVED by Greg Mazur , SECONDED by Edna Terbasket
THAT: The Agenda for February 18, 2016 be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

4. Request for Funding – 22nd Annual Aboriginal Career Fair

M77-16 MOVED by Denise Clough, SECONDED by Kelly L'Hirondelle
THAT: The Aboriginal Education Council approves the \$1,000 funding request from Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society for the 22nd Annual Aboriginal Career Fair.
ABSTAINED: Edna Terbasket
CARRIED

The Assistant Superintendent recommended that the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society also request funding from the Vernon, Penticton, Oliver, and Salmon Arm School Districts and that information be provided regarding which Districts provide funding to support the annual Career Fair. Edna Terbasket will forward this recommendation to Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society's Career Fair Committee.

5. Request for Funding – siya? Celebration 2016

M78-16 MOVED by Edna Terbasket, SECONDED by Greg Mazur
THAT: The Aboriginal Education Council approves the \$2,000 funding request from Westbank First Nation for the siya? Celebration 2016.
ABSTAINED: Chris Derickson and Denise Clough
CARRIED

6. Letters of Appointments – Okanagan Nation Alliance, Westbank First Nation, and the Board of Education

M79-16 MOVED by Dan Wilson, SECONDED by Ann Bell
THAT: The Aboriginal Education Council approves the Letter of Appointments for Okanagan Nation Alliance, Westbank First Nation, and the Board of Education, as presented.
ABSTAINED: Deb Butler
CARRIED

Presentations

7. Budget Presentation - Central Okanagan School District

Eileen Sadlowski, Director of Finance, presented the Central Okanagan School District's Preliminary Budget for 2016/2017. The 2016/2017 budget pressures were described. The deadline for request for budget recommendations is March 31, 2016.

The AEC decided to forward letters to their local MLAs, requesting additional funds be allocated to education.

ACTION ITEM: *To draft a letter AEC members can forward to their local MLAs, requesting additional funds be allocated to education. (Deb Butler)*

10:27 am – *The Aboriginal Education Council recessed.*

10:48 am – *The Aboriginal Education Council reconvened.*

10:48 am – *Mike De Guevera, Westbank First Nation Counselor, joined the meeting.*

For Open Discussion

8. 2016/2017 Aboriginal Education Program Budget

The Assistant Superintendent outlined the preliminary 2016/2017 Aboriginal Education Program Budget.

10:58 am – *Raf De Guevara joined the meeting.*

The Assistant Superintendent shared that the District Principal and senior staff is requesting additional administrative support (i.e. Vice-Principal) to manage the complexities of students and families as well as the implementation of the redesigned curriculum and Ministry mandates.

Kevin Kaiser, Principal Designate, shared that the Elder in Residence program requires a re-evaluation after trying three separate models.

11:06 am - *Mike De Guevera left the meeting.*

The AEC discussed the importance of having a sustainable Elder in Residence program and agreed options for cost sharing and delivery models need to be explored.

M80-16 MOVED by Dan Wilson, SECONDED by Roberta Robin Dods
IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT: The Elder in Residence program be reassessed for the next fiscal year and to explore options for cost sharing and delivery models, with an allocation of funds not to exceed \$46,805.
ABSTAINED: Deb Butler
CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: *To bring information on the delivery models from past Elder in Residence programs to a future AEC meeting. (Terry Beaudry)*

12:05 pm – Greg Mazur left the meeting.

12:05 pm - The Aboriginal Education Council recessed.

12:16 pm – The Aboriginal Education Council reconvened.

For Open Discussion

9. 2016/2017 Aboriginal Education Program Budget – Continued

The AEC discussed the modest budget assigned to resources and requested more information on the percentage of resources and staffing funds that are being used for Aboriginal students versus non-Aboriginal students. The AEC recommended that staff identify areas of need and the potential increase in resource budget that is required to cover the identified needs.

M81-16 MOVED by Ann Bell, SECONDED by Raf De Guevara

THAT: District staff provide a report on what percentage of the resource and staffing budget are being used for Aboriginal students versus non-Aboriginal students.
CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: *To provide a report on what percentage of the resource and staffing budget are being used for Aboriginal students versus non-Aboriginal students. (Kevin Kaiser)*

M82-16 MOVED by Roberta Robin Dods, SECONDED by Kelly L'Hirondelle

THAT: District staff identify areas of need and the potential increase in resource budget that is required to cover the identified needs.
CARRIED

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

The Assistant Superintendent requested that the AEC send any specific questions to her office so that staff members have time to prepare answers.

1:06 pm – Kevin Kaiser left the meeting

The AEC discussed the challenges with having one District Principal to serve over 2400 students and the potential need for additional administrative support for the Aboriginal Education Program.

M83-16 MOVED by Ann Bell, SECONDED by Roberta Robin Dods

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT: District staff explore options for additional administrative support for the Aboriginal Education Program and that any additional support be paid out of general District funds, not targeted funding.

ABSTAINED: Deb Butler

CARRIED

The AEC discussed the allocation of Aboriginal Advocates versus tutors in middle school and recommended a review of the current structure.

The AEC requested that the AEC binders be updated. The Assistant Superintendent advised that the binders will be updated over the summer.

ACTION ITEM: *To provide updated binder materials for the AEC. (Michelle DesRochers)*

The AEC recommended a budget line item of \$2,400/year be added to provide a \$200 honorarium/meeting to the WFN Elder AEC representative and the two parent AEC representatives.

M84-16 MOVED by Dan Wilson, SECONDED by Kelly L'Hirondelle

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT: A budget line item be added in the amount of \$2,400 per year to provide a \$200 honorarium per meeting to the WFN Elder AEC representative and the two parent AEC representatives.

ABSTAINED: Deb Butler

CARRIED

The AEC discussed the importance of having a full-time Okanagan Language/Culture Instructor and recommended that this position be increased to full-time.

M85-16 MOVED by Ann Bell, SECONDED by Edna Terbasket
IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT: The Okanagan Language/Culture Instructor position be increased to a full-time position.
ABSTAINED: Deb Butler and Denise Clough
CARRIED

The Chairperson identified that the AEC has two recommendations that need to go forward to the Board of Education during their upcoming budget discussions (M80-16 and M83-16) and that he will present these recommendations on behalf of the Aboriginal Education Council at the Finance and Legal Committee Meeting on April 6, 2016.

Adjourned at 2:17 pm

**Future AEC meeting date:
May 25, 2016 at Hollywood Road Education Services – Room 3**