



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (AEC)



Wednesday, August 31, 2016
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
WFN Gov't Offices – 1st Floor Boardroom
515 Hwy 97

MINUTES

Council Members:	Wilfred Barnes Westbank First Nation Elder	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	Jennifer Houde Okanagan Nation Alliance	Kelly L'Hirondelle Kelowna Métis Association
	Greg Mazur Kelowna Métis Association	Lee Mossman Board of Education	Michelle Price Aboriginal Parent & Family Education Council
	Edna Terbasket Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society	Dan Wilson Okanagan Indian Band	To Be Determined Aboriginal Parent & Family Education Council
School District Staff:	Terry-Lee Beaudry Central Okanagan School District	Joanne De Guevara Central Okanagan School District	Kevin Kaardal Central Okanagan School District

1. Opening Prayer

Wilfred Barnes led the opening prayer.

2. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting.

For Discussion / Decision

3. Adoption of the August 31, 2016 Agenda

Add: After the review and approval of the May 25, 2016 Aboriginal Education Council Minutes: Gathering Our Voices 2017 Aboriginal Youth Conference Information.

Add: Before the Review of Action Items: siya? Celebration 2016 Final Report.

M92-16 MOVED by Edna Terbasket, SECONDED by Kelly L'Hirondelle
THAT: The Agenda for August 31, 2016 be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

4. Review and Approval of the May 25, 2016 Aboriginal Education Council Minutes

M93-16 MOVED by Greg Mazur, SECONDED by Edna Terbasket
THAT: The Minutes of the Aboriginal Education Council Meeting for May 25, 2016 be adopted.
CARRIED

5. Gathering Our Voices 2017 Aboriginal Youth Conference Information

Edna Terbasket shared that the *Gathering Our Voices 2017 Aboriginal Youth Conference* will be held in Kelowna from March 21-24, 2017 at the Delta Grand Hotel. The Conference will host 1,000 Aboriginal delegates from across Canada. A call out for volunteers and students will be forthcoming.

6. siya? Celebration 2016 Final Report

M94-16 MOVED by Edna Terbasket, SECONDED by Ann Bell
THAT: The AEC acknowledge receipt of the siya? Celebration 2016 Final Report.
CARRIED

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)*

The District Principal provided the AEC with BC Ministry of Education data from 2013/14 regarding student transitions to BC Public Post-Secondary Institutions. At this time, the Aboriginal Education department is working on gaining additional information.

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

Ann Bell provided the AEC with the Lake Country Native Association's (LCNA) 2015-2016 Report and outlined how the \$1,500 was utilized to support the LCNA's Youth Group sessions. Ms. Bell also thanked the AEC for allocating funds to the LCNA's Youth Group.

M95-16 MOVED by Kelly L'Hirondelle, SECONDED by Dan Wilson

**THAT: The AEC acknowledge receipt of the Lake Country Native Association's 2015-2016 Report.
CARRIED**

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

The AEC requested that a template with key messaging be drafted to ensure consistency. Deb Butler and the Deputy Superintendent agreed to draft a template. Once the template has been drafted, the Deputy Superintendent's office will send it out to the AEC.

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

The Deputy Superintendent advised that best practices for a sustainable Elder in Residence program will be explored during the 2016-2017 school year with a plan to launch an Elder in Residence during the 2017-2018 school year. The goal is to collaborate with Elders, staff, and community to design a program that best meets the needs of our students.

The Chairperson invited AEC members to send any information on existing Elder in Residence programs to the District Principal.

7.5 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. (Joanne De Guevara)*

The District Principal provided the AEC with a cost share breakdown for the 2015-2016 school year. For the 2016-2017 school year, the Aboriginal Education Program will work towards determining what percentage of resources and staffing are being used for Aboriginal students versus non-Aboriginal students. A detailed report will be provided towards the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

7.6 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 advised that she is taking three advocates to an upcoming funding conference in September where they will explore additional funding options and potential grants available. An update will be provided at the next AEC meeting.

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

Michelle DesRochers provided updated materials for the each AEC member.

7.8 ACTION ITEM: *To add 'Aboriginal Student Awards Selection Panel' to an AEC meeting in the fall of 2016. (Terry Beaudry)*

This item will be added to a fall 2016 AEC meeting.

7.9 ACTION ITEM: *To discuss soliciting local businesses for Aboriginal Student Award funding. (AEC)*

The Chairperson agreed to draft a letter for discussion at the October 3, 2016 AEC meeting.

The AEC agreed to review the draft letter and discuss the target amount for the 2016-2017 school year at the October 3, 2016 AEC meeting.

7.10 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)*

As both these committees have not reconvened for the 2016-2017 school year, this item will be discussed at a future AEC meeting.

7.11 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.** (Terry Beaudry)*

The Deputy Superintendent advised that this item will be shared at the first Language and Cultural Program Sub-Committee meeting.

The District Principal shared that the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee will meet in October. At that time, they will organize all the sub-committees and meeting dates for the year.

7.12 ACTION ITEM: *For AEC members to bring a list of the after school programming their organization currently offers to the next AEC meeting. (AEC)*

After School program information was received from Westbank First Nation and the Lake Country Native Association. Representatives from the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society, Kelowna Métis Association, and Okanagan Nation Alliance advised that they will send Michelle DesRochers after school program information from their agencies.

The AEC requested that the after school programming information from each agency be collated and brought to a future AEC meeting to determine programming gaps in the community.

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

10:44 am – The Aboriginal Education Council recessed.

10:56 am – The Aboriginal Education Council reconvened.

New Business

8. Aboriginal Education Program - Administration Update

Academy of Indigenous Studies – Celebrating Our Students

The District Principal shared that four students completed the Academy of Indigenous Studies and obtained their certificate of completion.

Aboriginal Education Program Goals (2016-2017)

The District Principal shared that the Aboriginal Education Program will be focusing on honouring the Okanagan people and local protocols within the redesigned curriculum for the 2016-2017 school year as well as work on a restorative justice program for Aboriginal students who have been suspended.

Staffing Update

The District Principal advised that she is working on hiring three additional advocates and two Youth and Family Support workers. A Clinical Supervisor will also be hired to work alongside the District Principal to provide support to the two Youth and Family Support workers.

9. Ministry of Education – Enhancement Agreement Update

The Deputy Superintendent shared that the Ministry of Education made an announcement on June 17, 2016 that they will no longer be involved in the development of Enhancement Agreements. As per this announcement, the AEC will need to determine how the next Enhancement Agreement will be developed.

The AEC discussed the Ministry's decision and decided to research the reason the Ministry decided to no longer be involved in the development of Enhancement Agreements.

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).

10. Aboriginal Education Council – Review of Mandate, Purpose, and Function

The AEC reviewed the Aboriginal Education Council's Terms of Reference and made the following recommendation:

- M96-16 MOVED by Edna Terbasket, SECONDED by Kelly L'Hirondelle
THAT: The Aboriginal Education Council's Terms of Reference be amended to increase the number of meetings per year from four to five.
CARRIED

The AEC also discussed the need to learn the principles of the Four Vital Voices of Community Enowkinwixw: A Syilx (Okanagan) Protocol of Respect. Jennifer Houde agreed to teach these principles over a two day workshop.

- M97-16 MOVED by Michelle Price, SECONDED by Greg Mazur
THAT: Jennifer Houde will 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.
CARRIED

11. Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee – Review of Mandate, Purpose, and Function

The AEC reviewed and affirmed the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference.

12. AEC Meeting Dates (October and December) – Reschedule

The AEC decided to reschedule the October 6, 2016 AEC meeting to Monday, October 3rd at 1:00 – 4:00 pm (ONA) and the December 1, 2016 meeting to Tuesday, November 28 at 1:00 – 4:00 pm (location to be determined). A School Tour was also scheduled for Friday, November 4th at 9:00 am.

The Chairperson advised that, due to the upcoming Westbank First Nation elections, this might be his last meeting and thanked everyone for their commitment to Aboriginal education.

Information Item

13. Aboriginal Day – KelownaNow Article

A KelownaNow article regarding Aboriginal Day was provided.

14. BC Human Rights Tribunal – Renewal of Special Program Approval (Preferential Hiring of Teachers)

The BC Human Rights Tribunal – Renewal of Special Program Approval (preferential hiring of teachers) was provided.

Future Agenda Items

- **Aboriginal Student Awards Selection Panel (Fall 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**

Next Meeting:

**Monday, October 3, 2016
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Okanagan Nation Alliance (#101 – 3535 Old Okanagan Hwy)