



Indigenous Education Council Meeting

June 10, 2021

Via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting attendees:

Regrets Kelly Shopland, North Island College / Chair
Regrets Letitia Pokiak – Parent Rep / Vice Chair
Regrets Ashley Wright, K'omoks First Nation
Regrets Fernanda Pare, K'omoks First Nation
Brenda Murray, K'omoks First Nation
Bryce Mercredi, Miki'siw Metis Association
Regrets Sandra Ryan, Wachiyai Friendship Centre
Regrets Tracey Shepherd, CV Aboriginal Head-Start
Regrets Grace Johnson, UIWONA
Regrets Jessica Lanqvist, Parent Rep

Regrets Alex Jules, Parent Rep
Heather Royal-Brant, Parent Rep
Regrets Sherry Dittrick, CDTA and Karla Neufer
Denise Bullock, CUPE439
Regrets Kathleen Hawksby, Trustee
Sheila McDonnell, Trustee
Regrets Jason Cobey, CVPVPA
Tom Demeo, Superintendent
Bruce Carlos, District Principal
Sue Cambrey, Sr. Administrative Assistant

Proposed Meeting Schedule

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| 9:00am | Meeting begins, acknowledgement, priorities, adoption of minutes. |
| 9:20am | Verbal reports and questions from representative submitted written reports. |
| 9:45am | New Business / Unfinished Business |
| 10:15am | Break |
| 10:30am | Presentations / Discussions |
| 11:00am | In Camera Meeting (voting IEC members) |
| 12:00pm | Meeting ends. |

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- Acknowledgement of K'omoks First Nation Territory** **BCarlos** **9:07**
 - Agenda additions and priorities
 - Adoption of meeting minutes of May 13, 2021 **no quorum**
 - Verbal Reports:
 - Superintendent**
 - Happy with the response around the schools regarding the Kamloops tragedy
 - Lot of learning and work for Adults and Children to do to walk along side Indigenous people
 - Thank you, Bruce, for your leadership
 - Hiring process is ongoing, celebrating our students for this past year, and preparing for the new normal eliminating cohorts and going back to more structure
 - A lot of things that came about from Covid may be embraced
 - Ministry guidelines about cleaning, learned a lot, no flu this past year

- Details of the coming school year coming out in August
- Grad, drive by, looking forward to our in person celebrations next year, dates below
- Board passed the budget, we are not cutting programs, balanced budget
money set aside for enhanced cleaning for next school year
- Support for Mental Health was the biggest ask, and budget supports 3 new positions
Including an Indigenous Youth and Family Counselor
- A lot of work socializing our new K's as some may have not had any playdates for 2 years

- **Trustee/IEC Liaison**

- Senior Management has kept us busy
- Difficult time this past 2 week, visited the holding space at InEd centre
- We have to do more than just talk, more needs to be done, national tipping point
- Looking forward to September Pro D, in an energetic way
- Will miss Esther Shatz, Paul Berry and Alan Douglas, but we have excellent up in coming staff for these positions
- A lot of positive work happened this past year

- **Indigenous Education District Principal Report** (highlights of written report)

- Chettie is now a continuing staff member, 12 month employee
- Canoe and paddle gifts to all InEd students was a huge project for Chettie to undertake
- Graduating InEd students are gifted a silver bead
- News from Kamloops, critical response team was activated, counselors check-in with students and InEd Staff
- Ninox'sola were now permitted into schools, they are a great support for our schools
- Holding space, culturally safe space at InEd and some schools provided this too
- Over bought Orange shirts in September, IHos are selling these shirts by donation
- EVoyageur at Vanier on Friday, address residential school recognition and resilience
- Mary Lee contribution in providing pictures of the our holding space

5. Representative Written Reports - questions arising from provided reports:

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|--|---|
| 1. K'omoks First Nation | 7. Comox District Teachers (CDTA) |
| 2. MIKI'SIW Metis Association | 8. Comox Valley Principals Vice Principals - NIA |
| 3. UIWONA – NIA | 9. Canadian Union Public Employees (CUPE Local 439) |
| 4. Wachiay Friendship Centre – NIA | |
| 5. Indigenous Parents Advocacy Club (IPAC) no rep | |
| 6. District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC) no rep | |

- **MIKI'SIW Metis Association - BMercredi**

- Member of a focus group with mental health association created videos about
Various Indigenous families in different communities
- Video will be released in the fall

- **Comox Valley Aboriginal Headstart – GJohnson, report received**
 - Respect to you Bruce for taking care of your staff and elders

- **CDTA – Sherry Dittrick**
 - No celebration for retiring and leaving staff
 - CDTA building committee meeting, deciding on mural/art work, to recognize 215 residential students found in Kamloops and Indigenous missing women

- **CUPE - SBullock**
 - Thank for the holding space at InEd
 - Will be contacting all ISW's, we are here to support them
 - Elections June 19th
 - Spot lights orange and red, over the CUPE building, solar lights

- **HRoyal-Brant – parent rep**
 - Denman asked me to attend the school in light of the Kamloops tragedy
 - Had a dream - children are our gifts of life,
 - Denman students and staff created a beautiful project of planting sunflowers every year, light for past, present and future
A heaviness felt lifted, as they had something tangible to do
 - Gifts of cards and seeds, a heartfelt action that doesn't fade

- **K'omoks First Nation – Brenda Murray**
 - Teddy Bears, out pouring of support from the community
 - Lot of discussions on what to do with the teddy bears
 - Some ideas are - Art gallery display for the summer, school poster as a reminder, gathering teddy bears and returning to the person that donated or donate to the hospital
 - June 17 Grad at the big house
 - Meeting with BCarlos about the LEA

6. SPECIAL GUESTS / Staff Presentations:

Chettie Macdonald, Indigenous Education Liaison Coordinator

- Canoes and paddle are ready for our InEd students to receive, 1600 created
- Schools will distribute as they see fit
- Working on the new website, launching next September
- Holding space again today for our staff at the InEd Centre

7. New Business:

- **District Response** to discovery of 215 bodies of children at the Kamloops Residential School
 - Discussed earlier today
- **Indigenous Education response** to supporting InEd Staff and Indigenous students
 - Discussed earlier today

8. Unfinished Business:

- SD71 Policy 24 and AP170 Committee Rep (non-discrimination policy)
Representative - GJohnson
 - TDemeo – draft sent out and feed back received and now sent out to the committee
 - Final draft will go to the policy committee, then trustees, then public for feedback

9. Standing Items:

- Indigenous Education Cultural Grants
 - Some schools did not use the funds provided
 - IEC Grants are not in next years budget, had to cut to balance the budget
- Upcoming Events – See below
- Indigenous Education Enhancement Agreement (IEEA)
 - On pause, CEverson and WSpeck will assist
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10:15 – meeting adjourned

No In-Camera today

Next Indigenous Education Council (IEC) meeting –

Thursday, September 16, 2021

