



Indigenous Education Council Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2022

Hosted at SD71 School Board Office (Board Room) at 607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting attendees:

Grace Johnson, CV Aboriginal Head Start / Chair	Regrets Terri Hatch, Parent Rep
Kelly Shopland, North Island College / Vice Chair	Heather Royal-Brant, Parent Rep
Brenda Murray, K'ómoks First Nation	Regrets Tracy Richards, VP, CDTA
Bryce Mercredi, MIKI'SIW Metis Association	Regrets Denise Bullock, CUPE439
Darren Patrick, Wachiay Friendship Centre	Kathleen Hawksby, Trustee
Paula Selby, UIWONA	Regrets Janice Caton, Trustee
Letitia Pokiak – Parent Rep	Jason Cobey, CVPVPA
Alex Jules, Parent Rep	Tom Demeo, Superintendent
Meagan Goudreault, Parent Rep	Bruce Carlos, District Principal
Trish McPhail, Parent Rep	Sue Cambrey, Sr. Administrative Assistant
Regrets Malista McIntyre, Parent Rep	

Proposed Meeting Schedule

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 / Staff Updates / Guests
10:15am	Break
10:30am	Presentations / Discussions
11:00am	In Camera Meeting (voting IEC members)
12:00pm	Meeting ends.

1. **Acknowledgement of K'ómoks First Nation Territory** **BMurray 9:05am**
2. **Agenda additions and priorities**
3. **Adoption of meeting minutes of March 10, 2022** **Consensus**
4. **Verbal Reports:**
 - **Superintendent - TDemeo**
 - Preparing for next year, while wrapping up this year, what happens this year affects next year
 - Schools are reviewing next years school staffing
 - Relearn how to come into schools and assemblies, field trips, and protocols around that
 - Review what we did and how we can do it better

- Setting budget, 5 paid sick days (came about because of COVID-19) affects the budget, no extra money came with that decision
 - No budget cuts this year for our district, enrolments continue to grow, schools are bursting
 - City planning granting permits for playground space, grants go to schools, work together to max our resources
- **Trustee/IEC Liaison – KHawsby**
 - Excited for in person meetings
 - Looking forward to Equity in Action next week
 - April 26th board meeting, virtual platform for public
 - Sale closed on the purchase of the new board office, updating sprinkler system, engineer has confirmed stability of the building, it is possible to add a second level if needed
 - Sale of the current school board building and property paid for the new building, SD71 has a 99-year lease for the Cumberland Road Building
 - InEd moving to the Cumberland building next spring?
- **Indigenous Education District Principal Report** (highlights of written report)
 - LEA agreement near completion
 - InEd has 35 staff, 42 staff including Nala’atsi, 2 new positions for next year
 - Attended AGM for Tribune Bay, want to partner with them
 - Credit course requirement for graduation is in consultation
 - \$50,000 left in the budget, last years asks presented to the SD71 budget committee
 - One item received from last years asks, Teacher’s liaison (5-.5 days) committee supported by GManning this year and next year,

Representative Written Reports - questions arising from provided reports:

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| 1. K’omoks First Nation | 8. District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC) - NIA |
| 2. MIKI’SIW Metis Association | 9. Comox District Teachers (CDTA)-NIA |
| 3. UIWONA | 10. Canadian Union Public Employees(CUPELocal439)NIA |
| 4. North Island College | 11. Comox Valley Principals Vice Principals |
| 5. CV Aboriginal Head start | |
| 6. Wachiay Friendship Centre | |
| 7. Indigenous Parents Advocacy Club (IPAC) - NIA | |

- **K’omoks First Nation – BMurray**
 - Discussion on LEA, waiting on reply from TDemeo and GManning
 - KFN received grant for language course, 12 week program, time and location TBD, 2 languages, FPare and PMitchell to teach
 - Still looking for an KFN Elder for IEC, waiting on response and approval from KFN
 - PMitchell and BMurray working together on cultural kits for SD71
 - Royston receive a carved feather

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Comment – JMcCobey, son in Gr5, noted that KFN is not mentioned in the governance lesson, reached out to Indigenous Education and spoke with the teacher and is now added to the lesson

- **MIKI'SIW Metis Association – BMercredi**
 - \$20,000 available to each community for tutoring
 - Offering free archery class, 30 students, Lake Trail Gym
 - Gathering a week later

- **UIWONA**
 - New building is very exciting, proposed date in June
 - Communications and capacity building workshops
 - Glad to get back together in person after COVID
 - GJohnson is now Program Co-ordinator for Aboriginal Head start

- **Comox Valley Aboriginal Head Start – GJohnson**
 - Prepare for grads
 - Classes are smaller, only 2 ECE's at this time
 - Reading and learning the new position of Program Co-ordinator
 - Yard working coming along, more land-based play area

- **Wachiay Friendship Centre – DPatrick (new rep)**
 - Involved in the community, young son is going to Wachiay, proud to part of this community
 - Excited to be involved
 - Board meeting, budget time as it is the end of fiscal year
 - Show and tell, feathers from grandmothers, shared drums and construction of drum
 - Drum making workshop for children
 - Commitment re-create the village project
 - Jordans Principle staff member coming to Wachiay to serve Parksville to Comox Valley

IEC Comments - May 29th fast approaching (date of discovery in Kamloops 2021), anything planned to continue with education on residential schools? Maybe talking circles could be planned in schools or moment of silence on May 27th, anything planned on a Friday should have a check in day on Monday, could be triggering. Elders say Friday's are not the best day to hold an event that may cause triggering. Leave until Truth and Reconciliation week in September. St. Michaels (Alert Bay) is now in the process of a search; many community members will be affected by this search.

- **IPAC – no rep**
 - BCarlos – dormant, applied for grant with KFN from FNEESC, \$4000 granted
 - Restart gym nights in the fall, October start up date
 - Monthly IPAC meetings, first Tuesday of the month

- **North Island College – KShopland**
 - NIC Campbell River gathering place, Elders luncheon planned by students and consider a name for the gathering place within the next 2 week
 - Announcement on Friday, grand opening planned for September

- NIC Navigator Willow Hunt-Scott in communication with Nala'atsi and KFN, timetable as been posted, registrations mid May
- Priority admission for Indigenous students for nursing, ECE, practical nursing or any health care career
- In person grad this year, mid to late June
- Language course in Port Hardy, 15 students going to Hawaii , language revitalization work
- Invited CMacdonald to meet with the WHunt-Scott

- **DPAC – no rep**
- **CDTA – NIA**
- **CUPE – NIA**

- **CPVPA – JCobey**

- Finishing off school year, planning for next school year, staffing and requests
- Coming out of the pandemic, mixed feelings
- Bringing the community back into the schools, encouraging community-based program between classrooms
- More inclusive community within the school

5. **SPECIAL GUESTS / Staff Presentations:**

- **Reports from In Ed District staff**

- Gwen Monnet (InEd Family Support Worker)
 - Warrior program with Daryle Mills – 10 boys
 - Jordans Principle – found a contact for applications, to help with transportation, testing assistance
 - Funding has been received to help students with assessments
 - Therapeutic riding, student assigned based on the needs of the student, 2 year wait, InEd offers this opportunity every year
 - Supporting students and families, we belong program, design and paint rainbow cross walk
- Chettie Macdonald (InEd Community Liaison Coordinator)
 - Video talking circle, LUSH Valley partnership, bannock with SBuchanan, drum awakening
 - Supporting NIDES RFrank carving
 - DMills demo on how to raise our tipi, film the procedure
 - NIC looking for staff, practicum students, handbook created for practicum,
 - Monique Grey Smith guest speaker at Elementary schools, story telling more in depth with Secondary schools
 - PMitchell Cultural kits, core KFN learning
 - Human Resources co-presentations working in the SD71

6. New business

1. Update from Province of BC on commitments to working with Indigenous peoples in BC

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act) Action Plan was released on March 30. This government-wide plan identifies goals and outcomes for the long-term vision of implementing the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) in B.C. under the [Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#). Please see more information below on all the commitments, including 13 education-specific actions; the Ministry will continue to engage with Indigenous Rightsholders and education partners on these actions.

Website -> <https://declaration.gov.bc.ca/>

Link to document DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACT ACTION PLAN-> https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/government/ministries-organizations/ministries/indigenous-relations-reconciliation/declaration_act_action_plan.pdf

4.1 Identify and undertake concrete measures to increase the literacy and numeracy achievement levels of Indigenous students at all levels of the K-12 education system, including the early years. (Ministry of Education and Child Care)

4.2 Develop and implement an effective recruitment and retention strategy to increase the number of Indigenous teachers in the K-12 public education system. (Ministry of Education and Child Care, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training)

4.3 Co-develop and implement a framework for the involvement of Indigenous Education Councils in school district financial planning and reporting. (Ministry of Education and Child Care)

4.4 Identify, develop and implement mechanisms and approaches to enable boards of education to better support Indigenous students, including increasing and ensuring equitable access to education and safe environments. (Ministry of Education and Child Care)

7. Unfinished Business:

1. Equity In Action Orientation meeting

- **Wednesday, April 20th, 2022**
- Meeting at Glacier View Secondary Centre (gymnasium)
- Morning snacks and Lunch provided
- Doors open 8:30am, start 9:00am. Ending at 2:00pm.
- Look for updated invitation from Heidi Bell this week

2. Spring IEC meetings

- **Capacity days, May 11 / 12 hosted at Komoks First Nation**
- **June 9 (hosted lunch at School Board Office)**

3. IEC Capacity Building Days

- Review of Terms of Reference on May 11 (led by facilitator, Stephanie Johnson)
- Regular business on May 12 in the morning and afternoon 'in camera' to follow through from
- May 11 and meeting business

- Morning snacks / drinks and lunch provided both days
- Details on day to follow, planning meeting with Stephanie

4. Follow up Presentation from Professional Development Day (Feb 18th)

- Invited for a follow up re-viewing of Jo Chrona Keynote and discussion hosted by InEd teachers
- Re-broadcast, hosted in the board room for the SBO on Tuesday, April 26th 9am - lunch provided

5. Indigenous Education staffing

- partner with North Island College for Indigenous students on practicums (2 students working alongside ISW's May / June.
- 13 vacant positions, postings sent out yesterday. Hope to have all positions filled by end of June for the 2022-23 school year
- Any interested potential employees can connect with myself or Chettie via our InEd District office

8. Standing Items:

- Upcoming Events – See Principals report
- *SD71 Strategic plan* -- www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/strategic-plan/

Meeting adjourned 11:18

9. In Camera Meeting (voting members)

***Next Indigenous Education Council (IEC) meeting
May 11 & 12 hosted at K'omoks First Nation***

