



Indigenous Education Council Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2023
School Board Office Boardroom
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting attendees:

Regrets Kelly Shopland, North Island College/Chair
Shawn Cary, CV Aboriginal Head Start
Ramona Johnstone, K'omoks First Nation
Bryce Mercredi, MIKI'SIW Metis Association
NIA Wachiay Friendship Centre
Trish McPhail, UIWONA
Letitia Pokiak – Parent Rep
Alex Jules, Parent Rep
Regrets Meagan Goudreault, Parent Rep
Malista McIntyre, Parent Rep (online learners)
Heather Royal-Brant, Parent Rep

Karla Neufer, CDTA
Regrets Denise Bullock, CUPE439
Susan Leslie, Trustee
Felicity Chitty, KFN Education Coordinator
Coral McKay, KFN Counsellor
Regrets Michelle Waite, Trustee
Regrets Jason Cobey, CVPVPA
Geoff Manning, Assist Superintendent
Bruce Carlos, District Principal
Sue Cambrey, Sr. Administrative Assistant

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
10:00am	Break
10:15am	In Camera Meeting (voting IEC members)
12:00pm	Meeting ends.

1. **Acknowledgement of K'omoks First Nation Territory** **9:07 RJohnson**
2. **Agenda additions and priorities** "updates on K/1 and Nala'atsi "
3. **Adoption of meeting minutes of December 15, 2022 & January 12, 2023 (quorum?) consensus**
4. **Verbal Reports:**
 - **Superintendent – NIA – Geoff Manning – Assistant Superintendent**
 - Spending the affordability funds, mostly food for needy students and families
 - Infostructure at schools to store and cook food
 - In the middle of sports season, elementary sports is up and running, jamboree for all schools,
 - girl's and boy's tournament, release time for teachers to coach these team., track and field coming soon

- School Registrations - 563 new students coming next school year
- 508 k's registered, 620 students graduating, 50 to 60 students needed to break even
- Our district is growing district, usually by 200 students, over 10000 students in the district including NIDES
- Next week district will report early projections to ministry
- Funding from ministry for more students comes in January 1st
- InEd K1 program – full for next school year, not a lot of k spots open because Grade 1's stay in the class (previous K's), Indigenous ECE staff member was added to the team
- 9 positions in the district are empty for EA's, consistent issue finding staffing

- ***Trustee/IEC Liaison - Susan Leslie***
 - Continuing orientation of trustees, important in creating a strong committed and focused team
 - Witnessed the Queneesh Montessori program zero waste project, transformed to composting, worm bin, inspiring, created change, big impact was made by senior leadings and community guests attending
 - Trustees came together in their first circle after the Jan 30th board meeting, valuable learning experience, board is leading the way with practices that have not been valued since colonization

- ***Indigenous Education District Principal Report***
 - InEd supported the hiring of the ECE for the K1 program
 - Conversations with parents, staff, students and community members, intense
 - Thinking ahead with the affordability funding, food is big, able to provide for eye tests, hearing tests, access to Jordans Principle is very helpful
 - 45 staff members in the InEd Department - to large a group to meet anywhere in the district, divided department into 3 groups to meet monthly
 - Invite coming to IEC to attend a seasonal meeting, next one is March 15th at KFN hall, lunch will be provided.
 - Pam Moore team from Qualicum first nation, creating culture kits - free kits to our school district, recently dropping off 25 kits, InEd in the process of purchasing 40 kits for this district,
 - SLeslie spent time with PMoore this past summer, going through the kits, amazed with kits, step by step, includes lesson plans, learning outcomes, incredible if all k's had access to these kits.
 - SLeslie - Ministry should know about this, model could be used through out the province
 - SLeslie - This is for all kids, great possibilities for workshops for all communities coming together especially for early years, excited for the district, PMoore has met with all the nations to be sure of their authenticity
 - TMphail - PMoore ran the Headstart program for years, believes strongly in taking down barriers, Pro d day opportunity to showcase these resources,
 - LPokiak... are the SD71 kits being used in the district? BCarlos - no longer restrictions all kits are being used.
 - BCarlos - kits are fully contained, refilled by QFN after use, gift to a teacher to get fully contained kit at no charge
 - Presented at FNEESC, response was tremendous, QFN still wants to own it and to maintain the quality, make sure it is authentic
 - SLeslie - does KFN know of IPAC? BCarlos - FNEESC and IEC support the IPAC, KFN supports with a

- letter to FNEC and now with FCHitty on board... will announce on the KFN newsletter
- AJules is excited for the IPAC community to come together again
- Restorative Justice?? A this time we advocate for the InEd student, iSW in the office with them, still a very colonial process, some PVP's are willing to explore restorative justice, it could work, again...another program that needs some attention, PVP's do not like the time it takes for a healing circle
- LPokiak - IEC's purpose of being here is supporting InEd students and families

Representative Written Reports - questions arising from provided reports:

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

K'omoks First Nation – Felicity Chitty, new Education Coordinator

- Fresh to the position, nothing to report, just listening and learning today

MIKI'SIW Metis Association – Bryce Mercredi

- Luncheons going well, 20 people on average over 50 people at the last luncheon
- Elders need more say
- Hired a consultant, where we want to go as an organization

UIWONA - Trish McPhail

- Working on building on capacity with the community
- Looking for further funding to take down barriers
- Strong board right now, looking for Indigenous staff with ECE training

District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC) - no rep

- In the past an IEC parent attended, would welcome having someone attend

5. SPECIAL GUESTS / Staff Presentations:

- None today

6. New business

- **2023-24 indigenous Education Budget process**
 - Invitation to Secretary Treasurer to discuss InEd budget
 - Brenda Hooker, willing to meet and talk, BCarlos believes she is willing to hear
 - Make a date to meet with the IEC budget committee, pushing harder this

year with the InEd Targeted funding

- IEC budget committee meeting prior to March IEC meeting - TBD
- **IEC Capacity Building (Tuesday / Wednesday → May 17 / 18 book the band hall**
SLeslie and BCarlos plan together for the opportunity,
 - Day 1 – capacity building
 - Ted Cadwalder focusing on districts with systemic change
 - Invite KFN council
 - Denise Augustine willing to come up to meet
 - Day 2 –May 2023 IEC meeting (AM) and follow up from Capacity Day (PM)
- **Updates - Puntledge K/1 and Nala’atsi** - discussed

7. Old Business

- **Professional Development Day** (February 17th).
Sharing Cultural Perspectives: Where Paths Meet hosted at GP Vanier Secondary
- Update on **Equity in Action project** – nothing to report
- **Student Affordability Fund** (update on IEC portion of funds)
5000 IEC gift cards available to families as needed
- **Vacant InEd staff positions** → Indigenous Support Workers
 - (elementary / secondary / Online learning)
 - Airport ISW back full time in April, completed her certificate
***time worked at Airport during her schooling was credited towards her practicum
- **Suggestion to rearrange presentations from Dep Liaison then Superintendent**

8. Action Items for next meeting (Action items are standing items for upcoming meetings)

- Arrange a gathering (dinner) with IEC members and SD Trustees (item December meeting)

*March 15th may be the opportunity for this lunch and then a circle or push ahead for SD71 for a gathering
Meet with all the wealth of that meeting is seen felt and heard, prioritize what the board needs to hear*

9. In Camera Meeting (voting members)

11:30 end



Next Indigenous Education Council (IEC) meeting

March 16, 2023 hosted at School Board Office