



Indigenous Education Council Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2023
School Board Office Boardroom
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting attendees:

Kelly Shopland, North Island College/Chair	Karla Neuffer, CDTA
Shauna Carey, CV Aboriginal Head Start	Denise Bullock, CUPE439
Regrets Ramona Johnstone, K'omoks First Nation	Susan Leslie, Trustee
Chrys Sample, MIKI'SIW Metis Association	Felicity Chitty, KFN Education Coordinator
Wachiay Friendship Centre - NIA	Regrets Coral McKay, KFN Counsellor
Trish McPhail, UIWONA	Shannon Aldinger, Trustee
Regrets Letitia Pokiak – Parent Rep	Regrets Jason Cobey, CVPVPA
Regrets Alex Jules, Parent Rep	Geoff Manning, Assist Superintendent
Meagan Goudreault, Parent Rep	Bruce Carlos, District Principal
Regrets Malista McIntyre, Parent Rep (online learners)	Sue Cambrey, Sr. Administrative Assistant
Heather Royal-Brant, 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
10:00am	Break
10:15am	In Camera Meeting (voting IEC members)
12:00pm	Meeting ends.

1. **Acknowledgement of K'omoks First Nation Territory** **KShopland 9:10 am**

2. **Agenda additions and priorities**

3. **Adoption of meeting minutes of February 9th, 2023** **Consensus**

4. **Verbal Reports:**

Superintendent – NIA – Geoff Manning – Assistant Superintendent

- 563 reported registered last month – now 674 new students 111 more in a month
- 10883 students in the district increase of 1314 in 10 years, 100 per year, thinking 200 could be norm
- Cumberland has surpassed this year numbers, over 700 students next year, ordered 2 brand new modular buildings to accommodate
- Equity in Action Steering committee meeting yesterday, will dive into governance (data already gathered) after spring break

Reply to Equity in Action - SLeslie - need to listen to all the stories, good direction in a good way, structure is vital to the process, be organic, as much voice, as much diversity, different where they come from how they grew up different journey, race gender access and opportunity for all students, cultural ancestry identity are we providing access and opportunity for all

Question – KShopland - IEC sent a letter (pillar meetings), has it been reviewed?yes, 4 pillars are all different so will have different attendees

- Calendar question - Spring break – planned up to 3 years in advance...surveys – all agreed for a 3 year plan, not able to connect with other districts, balancing semesters, spring break and easter stat days combined with Spring Break save 2 instruction days..
- September 2023 will be looking into the next 3 calendar years
- 7 years ago, surveyed the community regarding 2-week spring break
- Strategic plan 4-year plan meeting tonight

Trustee/IEC Liaison - Susan Leslie

- Preliminary budget 2023-24 – solid financial position with enrolment growth
- Projections of all supplies and services, draft by consideration
- More students attending brick and mortar schools
- Lerwick corridor and Cumberland expecting more growth
- Upgrade to Cumberland School

Indigenous Education District Principal Report

- Challenges – Pro D day – a lot of work for our InEd staff, done respectfully
- Celebrate Pro D day 650 attended, DPAC evening successful
- ISW staff are present in schools, committed to their students and school community
- Students and families struggling more than ever
- Elder, program workers, ISWs and district staff wrapped school with support after loss of a parent
- Hiring is looking good, potentially 6 new hires from NIC or community coming forward
- Commitment from community supporting our staff and students is important and appreciated
Kumugwe Big House experience this year, grade 7 this year
- IPAC - 6th anniversary – meetings have returned and gym nights 12+ parents attending meetings, 30-40 kids attending Gym Nights.
 - 60 members on the email list, cultural opportunities being presented in the common area of Lake Trail - beading 6-8 weeks project underway
- VISTA – Speaker Rob Everson in attendance, powerful conversation, Little Bears performed attended with their teacher Brooke Young
- Drum birthing today at Nala’atsi -
- BMercredi - presenting online to online students

Representative Written Reports - questions arising from provided reports:

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

K'omoks First Nation – FChitty

- Focus on building relations, meeting with teachers, ISW's, Principals and students
- Welcoming, interested in K'omoks culture and language,
- InEd and K'omoks meeting their capacity, burn out, reaching out so many different things,
- Campbell River - Homalco on track with a language course 9-12 independent study credit, learning nest for primary's credits in post secondary, like to see it reach this district as well
- Exploring learning nest, afterschool program off the ground
- LEA celebration gathering for KFN community planning,
- LEA action plan underway

North Island College – KShopland

- NIC has started to develop the language – adult learners
- College's InEd met with board of governors, course re: Komoks history
- Mar 22nd 3:30 to 7 pm - NIC Festival open house, full community event, InEd Navigators in attendance

MIKI'SIW Metis Association – CSample – report provided

UIWONA – TMcPhail

- ECE - Training staff needed for fall, networking with other entities beyond the early years

CV Aboriginal Head Start - SCarey

- staff sent to Head Start of BC, network for 3 days,

CDTA – KNeufer

- Working through Equity Scan for CDTA.
- review of February Pro D day

5. SPECIAL GUESTS / Staff Presentations:

- None today

6. NEW BUSINESS

- Targeted funding - \$1585 per student now \$1710 , increase of \$214000,
- Just under \$3,000,000 for 2023-24 budget
- Part of increase to cover wage increases for teachers and ISW's

- BHooker is leaving her position of Secretary Treasurer

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7. Old Business

- **2023-24 indigenous Education Budget process**
- **IEC Capacity Building (Tuesday / Wednesday → May 17 / 18 hosted at KFN Hall)**
 - Day 1 – capacity building
 - Day 2 –May 2023 IEC meeting (AM) and follow up from Capacity Day (PM)
Look at Terms of reference
Big House in the pm on the day 2
- **Professional Development Day** (February 17th).
Sharing Cultural Perspectives: Where Paths Meet hosted at GP Vanier Secondary
- Update on **Equity in Action project** –
Formal letter appreciated in response to the recommendations and questions
- **Student Affordability Fund** (update on IEC portion of funds)
- gift cards available to families as needed
- **Vacant InEd staff positions** → Indigenous Support Workers
 - elementary / secondary / Online learning

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)
- April 11 Committee of the Whole – Lunch – Susan Leslie

10:56 meeting ends

9. In Camera Meeting (voting members)

**Next Indigenous Education Council (IEC) meeting
April 13, 2023 hosted at School Board Office**

