



**Indigenous Education Council Working Session**

January 18, 2024

School District 72 (Comox Valley) Board Office  
607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Meeting attendees:**

Kelly Shopland, North Island College/Chair  
CV Aboriginal Head Start, no rep  
Dana Chapman, K'omoks First Nation,  
Bryce Mercredi, MIKI'SIW Metis Association  
Wachiay Friendship Centre – No rep  
Trish McPhail, UIWONA  
Letitia Pokiak – Parent Rep -  
Regrets Alex Jules, Parent Rep –  
Meagan Goudreault, Parent Rep  
Keisha Everson, Parent Rep – **via zoom**  
Amanda Miller, Parent Rep

Karla Neuffer, CDTA  
Kiyoshi Kosky, CUPE439  
Michelle Waite, Trustee  
Felicity C. KFN Education Coordinator **via zoom**  
Regrets Coral McKay, KFN Counsellor  
Susan Leslie, Trustee  
Jason Cobey, CVPVPA  
Jeremy Morrow, Superintendent  
Bruce Carlos, District Principal  
Sue Cambrey, Sr. Administrative Assistant

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|---|-----------------------|
| 1. <b>Welcome and acknowledgement of K'omoks First Nation Territory</b> | <b>JCobey 9:11 am</b> |
| 2. <b>Adoption of meeting minutes of December 14, 2023</b>              | <b>Consensus</b>      |

LP - Comment on previous minutes LP would appreciate a written report from Nala'atsi  
If teacher cannot attend to report in person.

Discussion – Comments

Hiring panel for Secretary Treasurer

**AMiller** – attended hiring panel for new Secretary treasure, enjoyed the experience, highly recommends other IEC members to attend any future hiring panels or ask IEC what questions to be put forward.

Questions asked of candidates

- Can you share your experiences and engagements with Indigenous communities?
- Do you feel comfortable acting on, or do you plan to address the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) call to action, specifically in the areas of:
  - a) Providing funding to utilize Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods in the classroom?
  - b) To provide age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, treaties, and Indigenous peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada?

### **Superintendent - JMorrow**

- Wants to amplify the IEC, meaningful dialogue, intention of generative dialogue, new ideas, new possibilities, absorb the wisdom around this room
- Acting Secretary Treasurer attended all 3 interviews and was able to hear and pass along all the Feedback
- Meetings to attend, IEC needs to be provided the opportunity in advance

### **Trustee – Mwaite, SLeslie**

- Mwaite reaffirmed as Board Chair, SLeslie reaffirmed as Vice Chair and Liaison to IEC with rotating Trustees
- All parties were able to hear all feedback
- SLeslie – tasked to contact Ted Cadwallader, awaiting response regarding co-governance and policy at the board level

### **Comments:**

**MG** – notes maybe downplayed, or members may not feel comfortable to express their opinions, everybody in the room is more truthful than having separated meetings

**JCobey** - I prefer one on one, as I am more open and truthful

**LP** - both have their pros and cons, conversation for another panel, short list process. Is there space for IEC to attend or privy to that information?

**TP** – individual feels like tokenism, indigenous lens lost

**JMorrow** - interview is a part of the hiring process, confidentiality is a component, HR practice is the bigger question, growing legislative

**KN** – difference of reporting to or experiencing

### **3. Proposed working session plan**

9:00am	Meeting begins, acknowledgement, adoption of minutes.
9:20am	Priorities of discussion items
9:30am	<b>Work Session #1 (all IEC members)</b>
10:45am	Break
11:00am	<b>Work Session #2 (all IEC members)</b>
12:00am	Lunch break
12:30pm	<b>Work Session #3 (In Camera with ‘Governors’)</b>
2:30pm	Planning for future ‘work sessions’ and closing circle

### **4. List of current discussion on important updates from Ministry of Education and Childcare and outstanding IEC tabled items.**

- **Ministry of Education & Child Care and Indigenous Education Councils** (PowerPoint update)

**BC** - Providing direction to all IEC a ministerial mandate – purpose to elevate the role of IEC's

**JCAM** – Superintendent, BCarlos and IEC Chair in attendance, direction may come in May for the next school year

**JC** – all changes implemented next year?

**BC** - some changes are immediate. Status quo for this upcoming years budget process

**JM** – IEC has full authority to designate targeted funding. Legislation is the lowest form, maybe totally different that what is already happening in SD71. Discussion with trustees is not waiting for legislation but doing it now.

- **Jointly Convened Annual Meeting (JCAM) coming up in near future** (sharing, date TBA)

- **Annual indigenous Education Recognition Ceremony**

**ISW's** - move ahead, bring it back – suggestion form a Recognition Ceremony Committee

**MG** - recommends committee meeting come together at the IPAC night at Lake Trail

**LP** - who decides to go forward?

**TM** - come together in a fun way, at Vanier rather than Sid, Capacity day

**JM** – is a separate celebration a failure....if this is necessary it is because InEd is invisible, different conversation, if this is a plan b, needs to be improved

**KK** – the ceremony provides a beautiful piece of strength, reply to JM the system should be recognizing

**MG** - are we failing as a whole, walking in 2 worlds, the measures are a colonized structure, measures are very different. Missing targets will be invisible. Students being recognized is important. We see you and honour you.

**LP** – once a year ceremony, nice to honor,

**BC** – will call a committee together to discuss further, IEC and Staff

**JC** – Sid Williams was special and had more meaning than added to a school grad. It is stale needs to be updated

**TP** - Maybe high school could do drumming by the river have a BBQ

- **Student voice - strategize how to make this happen**

**KS** – monthly lunches invite IEC member to attend rather than have students come to IEC meeting

**SL** - Ask them about how they want to be recognized, graduation or celebrated

**BC** – Secondary Student with ISW coming to an IEC meeting

**SL** – when students lead, educators and senior leaders are the learners

**BC** – students have little time to connect with staff as they are in their classes. Challenge to get students together

**JC** – all high schools have flex days

**MG** – talked about this a long time. Not capturing all voices when meeting with leadership groups. Meeting kids are where they are at. They know what does not work for them. Open to listening and ideas.

**BC** - research the BA courses, JC will research as well, leadership course

**JM** – a type of student’s voice is brought forward, not all voices

**LP** – what is student voice? So many ways to capture that voice. Are voices/comments being captured?

- **Roaming IEC reps (school visits)** formalizing a process

**BC** – Pre-Covid we did hold IEC meetings in schools, ask for student voice input here

**BC** - IEC reps could attend the lunches that ISW’s hold for students

**JM** – proud to share ISW’s and space, could hold the IEC meetings in these spaces

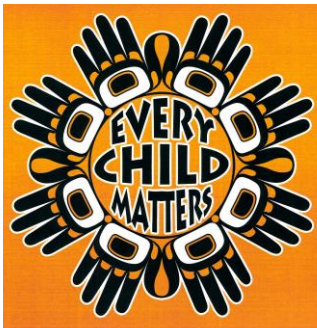
**KS** – ISW rooms, IEC host a lunch for students on that day.

**MG** – meeting students and ISW’s where they are at, sitting in this room we are not doing that.

Important for the IEC and how we move forward.

**BC** – to check with Schools for future meetings and hosting a lunch

Adjourned – 12:15



***Next Indigenous Education Council (IEC) meeting***

***February 8, 2024***

***Meeting hosted at School District 71 Board Office***

***(607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay)***