



Indigenous Education Council Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2023

School District 71 (Comox Valley) Board Office
607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Meeting attendees:

Kelly Shopland, North Island College/Chair	Kiyoshi Kosky, CUPE439
CV Aboriginal Head Start, no rep	Susan Leslie, Trustee
Dana Chapman, K'omoks First Nation, via zoom	Felicity Chitty, KFN Education Coordinator
Bryce Mercredi, MIKI'SIW Metis Association	Regrets Coral McKay, KFN Counsellor
Wachiay Friendship Centre - NIA	Chelsea McCannel-Keene, Trustee
Regrets Trish McPhail, UIWONA	Regrets Jason Cobey, CVPVPA
Letitia Pokiak – Parent Rep	Regrets Jeremy Morrow, Superintendent
Regrets Alex Jules, Parent Rep	Bruce Carlos, District Principal
Meagan Goudreault, Parent Rep	Sue Cambrey, Sr. Administrative Assistant
Regrets Karla Neufer, CDTA	

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
10:00am	Break
10:15am	Guest speakers
12:00pm	Meeting ends.

1. **Acknowledgement of K'omoks First Nation Territory** **FChitty 9:17**
2. **Agenda additions and priorities**
3. **Adoption of meeting minutes of September 14, 2023** **(tabled)**
4. **Verbal Reports:**
 - **Superintendent** - offers his regrets (Director, Jay Dixon standing in for today's meeting)
 - Positive and optimistic feeling in the district, growing
 - Strategy on how does the district consult with community school families for input and advice
 - SLeslie - timeline is short in regards to community engagement
 - Create a time to gather without an agenda from the board
 - District needs to hear stories from the community

- History of consultation has not been a good one
- As a member of the board, this is a top priority, this is the focus
- Humbly invites community to lead this process, here to listen, it takes as much time as it takes

Comments and Questions:

JD - Page 3 of the Strategic Plan - the questions are prompts, are we missing anything?

KK – ISW’s have the opportunity to be involved on the frontline, allow them the time with out adding to their already busy schedules

BM – invite stake holders – have individual meetings with each of the stakeholders

FC – Gather in community with food, reaching out to stake holders individually, no agenda, hear stories, most members of the community are more comfortable on a one-to-one basis, include ISW’s, Elders and KFN Councillor

LP – how is the strategic plan connect to the previous plan and how is it connected to the Equity in Action?

JD – existing plan has been carried over and extended 1 year, to bring in more input to create an update plan

CMK – specifically extended to give it the appropriate time, slow it down to give it the time it needs, do not rush the relationship building

SL – its all connected, and this process is part of the Equity in Action, the board is dismantling the silos, in the journey we need community consultation on how to do this, its for relationship, spot at the table for community, the board sets our direction and superintendent is working at designing what the pieces are to implement, nothing set in stone, put on paper to guide us, the path is being built as we walk together, any direction, stake holders and community to lead us in this work. Current structure is not working well for us, cognizant of time, need to put it into action, has to be actionable

KS – consultation and engagement, singular engagement is not consultation, ensuring timelines has the ability to bring voices forward and are they well represented, multiple engagements, not check boxing

KK – how will the the ISW’s be honored in the process?

LP – planning stages, K’omoks person involved in the process

SL – InEd teachers, InEd team, IPAC all need to be involved in the process

FC – CMacKay will meet with JDixon

- **Trustee/IEC Liaison - CMcCannel-Keene**

- Strategic Plan ended in June, motion to extend, create a mini focus time period where we are transitioning where we are doing the work with community listen gather, data can be many things, looking at where we are now, tell us what is not working, what are the gaps, where have we fallen, connecting those places and learning more on how to support every learning, to feel safe, equitable and in relationship
- Enrolment is up, we have a surplus, how best to support learning

- Consultation has been too formal, need more balance with soft and formal
- Focus on fixing the gaps
- Listen to understand and to understand through action
- Focus on what we can do, finding actional opportunities
- Closed committee of the whole, agenda item 2 hours of discussion
- LP – no action at Vanier regarding Truth and Reconciliation – stat is a holiday, on the ground in the schools, no action is happening
- SL – community consultation will bring this forward, district culture, TR is not one week it is every day

- **Indigenous Education District Principal (written report)**

- Williams Lake 10th Anniversary of Orange Shirt Day
- Staff changes, educational leaves and new hirings
- IEC AGM October 25th

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 (Local439) |
| 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) | |

- **K'omoks First Nation – FChitty - written report**

- Strong Start at the KFN Band hall starting Sept 2024

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

- Written report

- **North Island College - KShopland**

- Hosted the ground-breaking ceremony for the student housing
- 75 childcare spaces, 2 major construction projects on the go
- 28 students registered for the lyajuthem classes

- **Canadian Union Public Employees (Local439) – Kkosky**

- Bylaw review – no ISW rep, looking at indigenous perspective in terms of bargaining
- Challenge of filling the ISW position with staff that have Indigenous ancestry
- Collaborative relationship between CUPE, SBO and NIC

- ISW pay grade level lower than EA's, a lot of responsibility in their roles,
- no direct relationship between the work and the monetary value

KS – practicum students with NIC is now established

SL – EA increase, took many years for ISW's to come to any parity, looked at as a type of an EA but not quite

BC – New ISW position at Hornby and Denman Island schools, 15 hours a week minimum, 9 students at
Between both schools,

LP – why was the EA wage increase?

KK – SD71 increased the EA wage

5. SPECIAL GUESTS / Staff Presentations: (joining at 10:15am during break):

	Lelaina Jules,	Indigenous Education Support Teacher (Secondary)
	Lynn Swift,	Indigenous Education Support Teacher (Elementary)
	Gail Martindale,	Indigenous Education Support Teacher (Elementary)
	Chettie Macdonald,	Indigenous Education Community Liaison Coordinator
	Richard Turenne	Online indigenous Support Teacher
Regrets	Gwen Monnet,	Indigenous Education Child Family Program Worker (Elementary)
	Natasha Rainkie,	KFN / SD71 Success Teacher

Meeting adjourned at 12 pm

6. NEW BUSINESS

- **Cards to be signed (gifts)**
Geoff Manning (Acting Superintendent), Ramona Johnson (KFN Elder),
Heather Royal Brant (Parent Rep), Malista McIntyre (Parent Rep - online)
- **Annual General Meeting**
- **IEC Terms of Reference** (in preparation for AGM)
- **Update on 2023-24 Indigenous Education Budget**

7. Old Business (all items coming from Capacity building and June IEC meeting)

- **Update on Equity in Action project**
- **IEC related business/functions/conferences that Elders and parent reps attend (tabled)**
 - Discussion forwarded to a fall IEC meeting
 - Clarity on IEC related business – compensation discussion

- **Annual indigenous Education Recognition Ceremony (tabled)**
 - Discussion moved forward to fall IEC meeting - revisit what we are going to be doing moving forward
- **Draft Motion to School Board**

That the School District 71 (Comox Valley) Board of Education directs the Superintendent to work in collaboration with the Indigenous Education Council (IEC) to establish a policy development working group before June 30, 2023 to create an Indigenous Education co-governance policy.

The development committee would include K'ómoks First Nation, MIKI'SIW Metis Association, Indigenous Education Council, School District 71 senior leaders, and Trustees.
- **Student voice (opportunity to share their experience)** strategize how to make this happen
 - 7th Generation clubs (elementary)
 - Leadership groups (secondary)
 - Indigenous K/1 program
 - Nala'atsi School

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

Action item - what is the process to enter a school?

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

- October meeting invite InEd District teachers to share their 2022-23 year end reports?
- InEd District Staff invited in December meeting to share updates and take questions

9. **Standing Items**

- Komoks First Nation – School District 71 Local Education Agreement
- Data review



Next Indigenous Education Council (IEC)
November 9, 2023
Hosted at the School District 71 Board Office