



Indigenous Education Council Meeting Minutes

September 14, 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 via zoom
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 - no rep	Michelle Waite, Trustee
Trish McPhail, UIWONA	Jason Cobey, CVPVPA, via zoom
Regrets Letitia Pokiak – Parent Rep	Jeremy Morrow, Superintendent
Alex Jules, Parent Rep	Bruce Carlos, District Principal
Meagan Goudreault, Parent Rep	Sue Cambrey, Sr. Administrative Assistant
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 / Guests
10:00am	Break
10:15am	In Camera Meeting (voting IEC members)
12:00pm	Meeting ends.

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1. **Acknowledgement of K'ómoks First Nation Territory** **KShopland 9:09 am**
 2. **Agenda additions and priorities**
 3. **Adoption of meeting minutes of June 15, 2023**
 4. **Verbal Reports:**
 - **Superintendent - JMorrow - introduction**
 - InEd outcomes and achievement, deep belief of the gifts, attributes and strengths, data does not reflect that, area of passion and concern
 - Grateful for the passionate educators, met with BCarlos,
 - KN – how do we define achievement?
 - JM – they come to us with strengths, we find them, and gifts uncovered, achievements not all academic

- MG – hoping for a shift in the structure
- JM – yes, transforming the system, things we already know but we need to improve on them
- SL – Meeting children where they are at, once in relationship you see them rise
- AJ – celebrating success no matter how big or how small
- KS – IEC...are we doing meaningful work, hope to look at the data and support change, advocate for those students that get trapped in the cracks
- JM – the word council means guidance, Indigenous Education is not solely to teach Indigenous Education
- KS - Dive into data at each meeting - Add to the agenda as a standing item
- JM – Pro D would be open to all staff – would welcome input into developing the InEd Pro D day

- **Trustee/IEC Liaison - M Waite, S Leslie**

- MW - 1 trustee that is a constant, grounding piece, 2023 is S Leslie
- Alternate other trustees each month, 2 trustees attending at all times
- Welcome to our new Superintendent
- Board received the motion from the IEC, apologize due to the transition, needed more time to navigate it, it is a priority
- SL – the motion does need attention and time and not to be rushed
- Our board is working, 2 days - looking at our direction with the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer
- TM – is there a seat for a KFN member to attend all board meetings?
- MW – no...there is not
- BC – IEC member in the past has been assigned to attend regular meetings as a member of the public
- MW – what does co-governance mean?
- JC – I attend those meetings, so there is someone there to witness
- KS – discussion about asking someone from the IEC to attend the monthly public board meeting

- **Indigenous Education District Principal**

- Written report shared

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 | 12. Island Health HR Recruitment and Retention |
| 6. Wachiay Friendship Centre | |
| 7. Indigenous Parents Advocacy Club (IPAC) | |

- **K'omoks First Nation – FChitty - written report**
 - Nod to the conversation today around data, and the LEA
 - Focus on data, grad rates and attendance, not necessarily and indicator of success
 - Want to encourage everyone but data is quite colonial not get lost in the numbers, jump off point for collaborative systemic change
- **MIKI'SIW Metis Association - BMercredi**
 - Monthly luncheons are successful – 20 -30 attending, many personal conversations
 - Planning budget for the next year
 - Workshops are planned, very ambitious
 - AGM in October - 6 directors
- **UIWONA/ CV Aboriginal Head Start - TMcPhail**
 - Call out for a coordinator with ECE certified for Head Start
 - Big changes, Cultural kits from PMoore QFN, PMoore has strong ties to the Comox Valley
 - Orange shirt day and PWebstad, fund raised for every division to have a shirt the first year
 - 3 years to get a scheduled day for orange shirt day
 - Gradual entry, many students with high needs, due to Covid – speech therapy and occupational therapy is needed
- **North Island College - KShopland**
 - Student housing build has started
 - Committee formed to guide the indigenous components of the new housing complex, indigenous gathering place
 - 40 interested in the Ayajuthem classes
 - Kwak'wala class digitally
 - Navigators will come into high schools if students are interested in courses
- **Indigenous Parents Advocacy Club (IPAC) - BCarlos**
 - IPAC approval for Lake trial use of Gym and Library Tuesday nights starting Oct 3, 2023
 - ISPARC grant received for gym equipment
- **Comox District Teachers (CDTA) - KNeufer**
 - Once a month meeting, LJules is now the InEd chair
 - Applied for a grant from the BCTF – InEd Chair to develop as safe space for InEd teachers
- **Canadian Union Public Employees (Local439) – Kkosky – newly elected President of CUPE439**
 - Nothing to report, observing today
 - In consultation with the ISW
 - What the need, wants, aspirations in representation

- **Comox Valley Principals Vice Principals - JCobey**
 - Thankful for JMorrow to let us get schools rolling before any scheduled meetings
 - Start up smooth
 - Pro d day 1st day – valuable for CUPE staff to attend, InEd focus in the am that day, well received
 - Sept is a busy month
- **Island Health HR Indigenous Recruitment and Retention - AJules**
 - Help Indigenous employees set up profile, employee support, career observation
 - Career fair 4 years ago, present to schools careers in health to InEd students

5. SPECIAL GUESTS / Staff Presentations:

- none

6. NEW BUSINESS

- IEC meeting calendar for school year – Calendar invites sent out

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

- **Update on Equity in Action project**
 - JM - Remove the word project – project means in addition to, can also cause initiative fatigue should be the way we do our work – equity is the work
 - BC – Community was not involved in original process of the Equity Scan, they felt they were an after thought,
Refreshed – starting with community
 - SL – and student voice, help us to hear which direction to go
 - JM – acknowledge that there is inequity, need to be prepared on what we hear when we ask the question
 - BC and JM will meet and get up to speed, JHeslip (BC lead for Equity Scans / Indigenous Education) will support and is aware of the changes in senior mgmt. hands
- **Big House Experience discussion**
 - Focused on Grade 7 students last year – debriefed with Kumugwe Society and will go back to Grade 4 students attending this event
 - Next month Kumugwe will host a workshop for Grade 4 teachers, mini experience,
 - Inspire teachers to engage with the content

- **IEC related business/functions/conferences that Elders and parent reps attend - table**
 - Discussion forwarded to a Fall IEC meeting
 - Clarity on IEC related business – compensation discussion

- **Annual indigenous Education Recognition Ceremony - table**
 - Discussion moved forward to fall IEC meeting - revisit what we are going to be doing moving forward

- **Adding Local Education Agreement as ‘standing item’ for future IEC meetings**

- **Data review as a standing item – JMorrow commits to providing this data**

- **Draft Motion to School Board - table**

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 - table

 - 7th Generation clubs (elementary)
 - Leadership groups (secondary)
 - Indigenous K/1 program
 - Nala’atsi School

- **Roaming IEC reps (school visits) formalizing a process**
 - visiting schools to check in with staff and students as well as attend events.
 - ID tags, vest / clothing, Criminal Record Check (CRC) required
 - Start with focus on schools who do not have an Elder in Residence??
 - Extend invitation to the ISW’s at the school, event to invite IEC members to attend
 - JM – what is the role and responsibility of an IEC member, influencing outcomes, growth
 - What is accomplished by visiting a school?
 - KS – may hear from the student voice

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

- **IEC member organization reports (at IEC meetings)**
 - importance of these to keep the meeting open for discussion
 - Remind reps to provide a written report (highlights)
 - Two items you wish to highlight and one item you'd like feedback on –

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? **Done**



Next Indigenous Education Council (IEC)

October 12, 2023

Hosted at the School District 71 Board Office