

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 71 (COMOX VALLEY)

Regular Board Meeting (Public) AGENDA

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

7 pm

Pg

1. **ATTENDANCE**

The Board of Education acknowledges that we are on the traditional territories of the K'ómoks First Nation.

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Circulated earlier in draft form for Board approval.

1. **Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda**

Recommendation:

THAT the Board adopt the December 13, 2016 Agenda.

OR

THAT the Board waive the 48-hour notice period required under the Procedural Bylaw in order to consider additions to the Agenda, and adopt the Agenda as amended, the amendments to consist of ...

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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a. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes – **November 22, 2016**

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b. Human Resources Report, **Retirement**

Recommendation:

THAT the Board approve the Consent Agenda items.

5. **REPORT ON IN-CAMERA MEETING**

In-Camera Minutes of November 22, 2016

School Act Section 72 (3) In-Camera Meeting Record:

1. Personnel

2. Budget

3. Governance

4. Minister of Education Visit to SD 71

6. **PRESENTATION/DELEGATION**

- a. Joanne Schroeder, Executive Director, Comox Valley Child Development Association

Early Child Development Instrument (EDI)

20 minutes

7. **EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Chair: Ian Hargreaves

1. No December Education Committee Meeting.

Next Meeting:

DATE: Tuesday, January 10, 2017

TIME: 6:30 pm

LOCATION: Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School

8. **STRATEGIC DIRECTION**

Strategic Priority 1 - Education Evolution - To Strive for Educational Excellence for All

Strategic Priority 2 - Community Engagement - Cultivate Community Engagement in Public Education

Strategic Priority 3 - Organizational Sustainability - To Ensure that our Financial, Human, Physical Resources Support Student Success

1. **Superintendent's Report**

11 - 12

- a. **District News**, Dean Lindquist, Superintendent

- b. **Alignment and Coherence/Process**, Dean Lindquist, Superintendent

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- c. **Proposed School Board Office Health & Safety Improvements**, Briefing Note, Ian Heselgrave, Director of Operations

2. **Director of Instruction (Elementary)**, Allan Douglas

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- a. **Classroom Learning Strategies Around Inclusion Diversity w/Shelley Moore**

9. **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **Finance Committee**

Committee Chair: Peter Coleman

No December 2016 Finance Committee Meeting.

a. **Rural School Proposal**

Recommendation:

THAT the Finance Committee on behalf of the Board of Education submit a response to the Rural School Proposal.

2. **Community Engagement**

Community Engagement Verbal Report, Cliff Boldt, Trustee (City of Courtenay) and Sheila McDonnell, Trustee (Baynes Sound, Denman and Hornby Islands)

10. **BOARD BUSINESS**

1. **BCSTA Provincial Council Representative and BCPSEA Alternate Designate Representative**

11. **SCHOOL TRUSTEE WRITTEN REPORTS**

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1. **Learning Forward Conference**, Peter Coleman, Trustee, Town of Comox and BCPSEA Trustee Representative

Board Information

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2. **Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Society Annual General Meeting, November 15, 2016**, Briefing Note, Sheila McDonnell, Trustee, Baynes Sound, Hornby and Denman Islands

Board Information

12. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 71 (COMOX VALLEY)**

**Regular Board Meeting—Public
Tuesday, November 22, 2016
7 pm**

Present:

Trustees

Tom Weber, Chair
Janice Caton, Vice-Chair
Peter Coleman
Sheila McDonnell
Ian Hargreaves
Vickey Brown
Cliff Boldt

Staff

Dean Lindquist, Superintendent of Schools
Sheldon Lee, Acting Secretary Treasurer
Tom Demeo, Assistant Superintendent
Candice Hilton, Director of Finance
Lynda-Marie Handfield, Director, Human Resources
Allan Douglas, Director of Instruction (Elementary)
Esther Shatz, Director of Instruction (Student Services)
Debbie Page, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Regrets: Ian Heselgrave, Director of Operations

1. ATTENDANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER – Acting Secretary Treasurer Sheldon Lee called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

The Board of Education acknowledges that we are on the traditional territories of the K'ómoks First Nation.

3. ELECTIONS

a) Election of Chairperson

The Acting Secretary Treasurer called for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the Board for a first time. Trustee Janice Caton was nominated and let her name stand. The Acting Secretary Treasurer called for nominations a second time. Hearing none, the Acting Secretary Treasurer called a third time for nominations. Hearing no further nominations the Acting Secretary Treasurer declared Trustee Janice Caton Chairperson of the Board for the ensuing year.

Trustee Janice Caton assumed the Chair.

b) Election of the Vice-Chairperson

The Board Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Board for a first time. Trustee Ian Hargreaves was nominated and let his name stand. The Board Chair called for nominations a second time. Hearing none, the Board Chair called a third time for nominations. Hearing no further nominations the Board Chair declared Trustee Ian Hargreaves Vice-Chairperson for the ensuing year.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Circulated earlier in draft form for Board approval.

1. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda

Motion:

THAT the Board adopt the November 22, 2016 Agenda. [CARRIED 7/7]

5. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2016

b. Human Resources Report, Retirements / Resignations

Retirement:

Janice Ainsworth, Teacher, Arden Elementary School will retire effective December 31, 2016 after 17 years of service with the district.

Resignations:

Sherri Callaghan, Human Resources Adviser has resigned after 4 years of service.

Marie Brucker, Teacher, Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary School resigned effective October 13, 2016 after 19 years of service with the district.

Motion:

THAT the Board approve the Consent Agenda items. [CARRIED 7/7]

6. REPORT ON IN-CAMERA MEETING

In-Camera Minutes of October 25, 2016

School Act Section 72 (3) In-Camera Meeting Record:

1. Personnel
2. Finance

7. PRESENTATION/DELEGATION – No Presentation or Delegation

8. EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair: Janice Caton

1. Minutes of November 8, 2016 Education Committee Meeting were attached for Board information:

Next Meeting:

DATE: January, 10, 2017

TIME: 6:30 pm

LOCATION: Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School

Motion:

THAT the Board receive the Education Committee Meeting report. [CARRIED 7/7]

9. STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Strategic Priority 1 - Education Evolution - To Strive for Educational Excellence for All

Strategic Priority 2 - Community Engagement - Cultivate Community Engagement in Public Education

Strategic Priority 3 - Organizational Sustainability - To Ensure that our Financial, Human, Physical Resources Support Student Success

1. Superintendent's Report, Dean Lindquist

Superintendent Dean Lindquist acknowledged out-going Board Chair Tom Weber and acknowledged in-coming elected Board Chair Janice Caton and Board Vice Chair Ian Hargreaves.

a. District News

Highlights:

- *2016 Summer Games* -- congratulations to all the students who participated in the event and thank you to everyone who made time to support our athletes.
- *Ready, Set, Learn* -- elementary schools will be holding open houses for parents and their preschool children at their neighbourhood school. For more information: www.sd71.bc.ca.
- *Isfeld Ice Sr. Boys Volleyball Team* -- congratulations for winning the AA North Island Championships held recently on Salt Spring Island.
- *Cumberland Community School* -- new mural at the Egremont entrance on the Strathcona building -- designed by Gillian Brooks and several students from the school.
- *Winter Concert Schedule* -- for more information: www.sd71.bc.ca.
- *BCTF Appeal* -- looking at what the implications of the Supreme Court decision might be.
- *Remembrance Day Services* were held across the district.
- *Minister of Education Mike Bernier* Visit to SD 71 -- meeting with the Board and touring G.P. Vanier Secondary School, Thursday, November 24, 2016.

Esther Shatz, Director of Instruction (Student Services)

- *Mawhinney House Update* -- A commemorative plaque is being designed and will be hung at Mawhinney House in honour of Loch Mawhinney.

Allan Douglas, Director of Instruction (Elementary Curriculum)

- *K-7 Curriculum Redesign* -- Science would not fit into the new curriculum. A team of teachers have been working on its redesign -- 205 kits are now complete. Allan will bring forward for Board information.
- *National Child Day* -- a celebration was held Monday, November 21, 2016 at Queneesh Elementary School.

Tom Demeo, Assistant Superintendent

- *2017/18 Year Calendar* – The District's Calendar Committee will be recommending one of two calendars to the Board for adoption for next school year. We encourage Comox Valley residents to review both options and provide your feedback on both. We ask that you encourage others to visit the site and comment on these two options. The Calendar Committee will review all feedback collected and will then make its recommendation to the Board. It is important to note that the two options presented are for the year-long calendar and not weekly schedules.

10. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance Committee

Committee Chair: Peter Coleman

- a. Minutes of November 14, 2016 Finance Committee meeting were attached for Board information.
- b. **2017-2018 Budget Timeline**, Briefing Note and *PowerPoint* Presentation, Sheldon Lee, Acting Secretary Treasurer

Acting Secretary Treasurer Sheldon Lee spoke to the briefing note he provided for information and presented a *PowerPoint* to the Board.

Motion:

THAT the Board receive the Finance Committee report. [CARRIED 7/7]

2. Policy Review Committee

- a. **Policy Committee Formation**, Briefing Note, Tom Weber, Board Chair; Dean Lindquist, Superintendent of Schools

Board Chair Tom Weber and Superintendent Dean Lindquist spoke to the briefing note/*Terms of Reference* provided for Board information.

Motion:

THAT the Board accept the proposed policy committee structure. [CARRIED 7/7]

11. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Board Appointees to Other Bodies/Committee Structure

Election of Representative -- BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council

The BCSTA Bylaws provide that each member Board shall elect one trustee as representative and one trustee alternate representative to the Provincial Council.

a) **Nominations for representative to the BCSTA Provincial Council called by Chairperson**

The Chairperson called for nominations for the position of *representative* to the BCSTA Provincial Council a first time. Trustee Janice Caton was nominated and let her name stand. The Chairperson called for nominations a second time. Hearing none, the Chairperson called for nominations a third time. Hearing no further nominations Trustee Janice Caton was declared *representative* to the BC School Trustees Association Provincial Council for the 2017 calendar year.

b) **Nominations for alternate representative to the BCSTA Provincial Council called by Chairperson**

The Chairperson called for nominations for the position of *alternate representative* to the BCSTA Provincial Council a first time. Trustee Vickey Brown was nominated and let her name stand. The Chairperson called for nominations a second time. Hearing none, the Chairperson called for nominations a third time. Hearing no further nominations the Chairperson declared Trustee Vickey Brown as the *alternate representative* to the BC School Trustees Association Provincial Council for the 2017 calendar year.

2. *Election of Representative -- BC Public School Employers' Association (BPSEA) Representative Council*

The BCPSEA Bylaws provide that each member Board shall elect one trustee as representative designate and one trustee as alternate designate to the BCPSEA Representative Council

a) **Nominations for representative designate to the BCPSEA Representative Council by Chairperson**

The Chairperson called for nominations for the position of *representative designate* to the BCPSEA Representative Council, a first time. Trustee Peter Coleman was nominated and let his name stand. The Chairperson called for nominations a second time. Hearing none, the Chairperson called for nominations a third time. Hearing no further nominations the Chairperson declared Trustee Peter Coleman as the *representative designate* to the BC Public School Employers' Association Council for the 2017 calendar year.

b) **Nominations for alternate designate to the BCPSEA Representative Council called by Chairperson**

The Chairperson called for nominations for the position of *alternate designate* to the BCPSEA Representative Council, a first time. Trustee Ian Hargreaves was nominated and let his name stand. The Chairperson called for nominations a second time. Hearing none, the Chairperson called for nominations a third time. Hearing no further nominations the Chairperson declared

Trustee Ian Hargreaves as the *alternate designate* to the BC Public School Employers' Association Representative Council for the 2017 calendar year.

3. **Communication Plan**, Briefing Note, Janice Caton, Vice-Chair/Trustee (City of Courtenay)

Motion:

THAT the Board direct senior staff to develop a communication plan and bring back to the Board. [CARRIED 7/7]

4. **Comox Valley Regional District, Go Smart Integrated Transportation Committee**

Motion:

THAT the Board nominate Trustee Sheila McDonnell as representative to the Comox Valley Regional District Go Smart Integrated Transportation Committee. [CARRIED 7/7]

THAT the Board nominate Trustee Vickey Brown as alternate representative to the Comox Valley Regional District Go Smart Integrated Transportation Committee. [CARRIED 7/7]

5. **Signing Authority**

Motion:

THAT the Board:

delete Tom Weber as signatory for School District No. 71 (Comox Valley); and authorize Janice Caton signing authority for School District No. 71 (Comox Valley). [CARRIED 7/7]

12. SCHOOL TRUSTEE WRITTEN REPORTS

1. Janice Caton, Vice-Chair and BCSTA Provincial Council Trustee Representative, **Written Report**

Board Chair Janice Caton spoke to the briefing that she provided for Board information.

13. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

14. ADJOURNMENT -- 8 PM

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer

Retirements:

Donna May, Teacher, Courtenay Elementary School will retire effective December 31, 2016 after 25 years of service with the district.

School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

District News

There are many, many things to celebrate daily in our schools. We encourage anyone with news to send items to debra.page@sd71.bc.ca so that monthly we can honour all that our schools do to support the community and world.



2016 Winter Concert Schedule

Wednesday, December 14

- *Airport Elementary School (1:00 & 6:30)
- *Denman Island Elementary (TBA)
- *École Puntledge Park Intermediate (1:00 & 6:30)
- *Cumberland Community School (TBA)
- *G.P. Vanier Secondary (6:30)

Thursday, December 15

- *Miracle Beach Elementary (1:00 & 7:00)
- *Queneesh Elementary (1:00 & 6:30)

Monday, December 19

- *Arden Elementary (1:00 & 6:30)
- *Hornby Island "Mug Up" (6:00)
- *Royston Elementary (12:30 & 1:30)

Launch of ACT High School CPR and Defibrillator Program in School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)

The Advanced Coronary Treatment (ACT) Foundation is a charitable organization that is working in partnership with BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) to establish the lifesaving CPR and defibrillator training programs in BC public secondary schools. On Monday, November 28, 2016



the ACT Foundation held their launch to a class of students at Highland Secondary School, the latest in Canada to be trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and how to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The event featured dynamic demonstrations of students taking action in cardiac arrest emergencies. To date, 3.6 million students across Canada have been trained by their teachers in CPR so they now know how to save lives.

This is a play

Highland Secondary Schools production of *This is a Play* has been awarded alternate production (2nd place) at this year's North Island Zone Theatre Festival. They hope to attend the provincial drama festival in Vancouver, Spring of 2017.

Grade 12 Actors pictured: Tess Forsyth, Mac Christison, Helaina Baker.



School District No.71 (Comox Valley)

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Office of the Director of Operations

Briefing Note Proposed School Board Office Renovations

November 29th 2016

Backgrounder

The School Board Office, located at 607 Cumberland Road in Courtenay, was constructed in 1960. The building underwent a significant addition in 1980 and has had very little further work carried out in the intervening years.

Local municipal/government administration buildings have undergone significant changes to the pattern of use, design layout and the separation between staff and public spaces.

The main intent of the work is to improve the safety and security of SBO employees and to create a more efficient work environment.

Recommended renovations

Preliminary design work has been conducted with a local architect to review the SBO entrance, security and Board Room layout. Proposed work includes:

1. Partial window replacement to include opening windows in select offices;
2. Improved HVAC in the payroll “bullpen” area;
3. Reconfiguration of the reception desk area to allow for increased space for both the admin assistant and the public;
4. Addition of a panic alarm button at the main reception desk;
5. Installation of an access control half-gate beside the reception desk area to control public access to the staff area of the SBO;
6. Reconfiguration of the front entrance to better allow the public to complete forms or wait to meet with SBO staff; and
7. The addition of a rear exit out of the Board Room.

The recommended renovations will address a few of the present deficiencies in the design and layout of the School Board Office.

Ian Heselgrave



Come and Join Us for a 3-Part Educational Series with Shelley Moore

Classroom LEARNING STRATEGIES around INCLUSION DIVERSITY



SHELLEY MOORE
Special Educator and
Inclusion Advocate
& Consultant

Shelley Moore: Transforming Inclusive Education



<https://youtu.be/RytUIU8MjIY>



Based in Vancouver, British Columbia Canada, self-proclaimed "Inclusion Geek" Shelley Moore consults locally, provincially and beyond. Her presentations include school, district and provincial professional development days throughout British Columbia, as well as various leading conferences throughout North America, including CEC, IRA and NCTE.

Her interactive presentations are constructed based on contexts of classroom, schools and communities and integrate theory and effective practices of inclusion, special education, curriculum and technology. She completed an undergraduate degree in Special Education at the University of Alberta, her masters at Simon Fraser University, and is currently a PhD student at the University of British Columbia.

DATES

Session 1...
Dec. 1, 2016

Session 2...
Jan. 26, 2017

Session 3...
Feb. 23, 2017

TIME

3:30-4:00pm ... Snacks/Refreshments/Networking
4:00-5:30pm ... Presentation

PLACE

Glacier View Gym
241 Beecher Place, Courtenay

REGISTER

✉ ... **teacherprod@sd71.bc.ca**
☎ ... Michelle Prior **250-338-1461 Ext.3**

1 Session 1...
Inclusive Education and the BC's Redesigned Curriculum

Has Inclusive Education become contaminated? Come deconstruct the philosophy and practice behind what inclusion means in our schools and who it is actually designed to support and how it connects to, and is embedded in BC's new redesigned curriculum. Come explore how can we weave these core competencies into our already existing teaching practices from K-12, to help us respond to the ever changing diversity in our classrooms.

2 Session 2...
Inclusive Planning Frameworks

Continuing building on Session 1, we will start to look at how planning frameworks including Universal Design, RTI and others help us differentiate and plan goals to support the diversity of students in our classrooms. We will also look at how content area classrooms can be meaningful for students with the most significant disabilities, regardless of grade or subject area. Examples of curricular goals and activities designed at varying cognitive levels will be shown, as well as how including students with developmental disabilities can help in the learning for everyone in the class. Come and learn some practical strategies that are applicable to your classroom and daily work with students.

3 Session 3...
Inclusive Assessment

This workshop will explore how to design classroom assessments that provide feedback to students in strength based rather than deficit based model. We will also consider multiple points of access and success levels while considering rubrics and learning maps as way to both formatively and summatively assess students of all abilities using the planning pyramid framework of design. IEPs and modified goals will be included in assessment design. Come and learn some practical strategies on classroom based assessments that will help you as a teacher know your learners.....

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Board of Education

LEARNING FORWARD CONFERENCE

VANCOUVER, Dec., 2016

Peter Coleman

The Conference was enormous – over three thousand delegates from all over the world. Many attendees were from the US.

My first day was spent in an all-day workshop on professional learning for teachers, led by a BCTF PD leader and an administrator from the Sunshine Coast, who were skilled facilitators, and the workshop was successful. Some general information on Professional Learning (the preferred label of the conference):

The responsibility for PL remains contested: the profession believes that their continued learning is the (financial) responsibility of employers, who feel otherwise. This standoff is at least 50 years old.

Similarly, the balance between personal vs system needs-related PL is contested.

Job-related and collaborative PL is strongly preferred by most teachers.

Michael Fullan and Andy Hargreaves gave a talk at lunchtime. They continue to emphasize the same themes first elucidated in Fullan's book 'The Meaning of Educational Change' (1985).

The keynote lecture on Tuesday was given by Pasi Sahlberg, and featured the newly announced OECD Pisa test scores for 2015, (in reading, math, and science). He gave the conference sub-sets of data/analyses not yet available on-line. In particular he showed that Canada (and in particular B.C., top in excellence overall, and Quebec, top in equity) lead the world in achieving both excellence and equity (ie serving the needs of both the talented and of the struggling students). This combination of outcomes is very rare – few other countries come close, even the very high-spending Scandinavian countries. (Canada is middle of the pack for per-student spending.)

Peter Coleman, Trustee (Town of Comox) and BCPSEA Trustee Representative

These outcomes for Canada and for B.C. exceed even the 2012 results. Given our struggles in B.C. for the last several years, the student outcomes are a very pleasant surprise. In my opinion they must be the result of very fine teachers and teaching practices, with superior leadership by administrators, and great support for needy students from our EAs; no other explanatory variables could possibly account for the excellent outcomes for ALL students. The Sahlberg presentation was first-class in every respect.

((Other Pisa analyses available on-line: A. support the school district system of educational management; B. strongly support school-based management of staff, curriculum, and resources; and C. find that when the results are controlled for SES public schools out-perform private schools everywhere.))

I also attended a very good workshop ('Beyond Test Scores') on evaluation of programs, which elaborated on a Sahlberg recommendation to look for "tiny clues" in doing evaluation work. Other sessions were less successful.

School District No.71 (Comox Valley)

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Board of Education

Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Society Annual General Meeting, November 15, 2016

The Society is a charitable non-profit that was established to provide hands-on management of the Centre through an agreement with the Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Centre Governing Committee that represents the interests of SD71 (Comox Valley) and SD69 (Parksville/Qualicum) who jointly hold the Park Use Permit from BC Parks for the site. I have been participating as your appointed representative to the Governing Committee and as an interested member of the Society.

The Executive Director reported on a successful year and on plans for the coming year. There has been considerable progress made on getting the Society on a sustainable financial footing and on upgrading the facility. Amendments to the Park Use permit have allowed us to provide outdoor experiences to families and adult groups as well as children and possibilities are being explored for the summer months. Several Yurts have been installed and upgrades to the cabins, cook-shacks and Lodge have made the camping experience more comfortable for all ages, year-round. Educational leaders from both districts have worked hard over the past few years to increase the scope of programming at the centre and offer credit-courses as well as exceptional outdoor/ leadership experiences for our students. During the past year, Chairperson Rob Moore has led a strategic visioning process that helps focus on priorities, opportunities and partnerships. The development of the vision for programming and business and operational plans will continue in the coming year. This year, the board of directors was filled by candidates who are members of the public, retired staff and leading educator/users from both districts; trustees and management staff have stepped back to more appropriate governance roles as the Society has recruited capable, committed members at large.

The meeting wrapped up with a presentation about an exciting initiative to build a First Nations-themed covered meeting area at the current fire-pit location. The plans call for a round or octagonal timber-beam structure with west coast designs honouring the first peoples who traditionally visited Hornby. Rob, Gord and others have been meeting with First Nations educators and leaders, and with the

Report of Meetings attending - November 2016

Sheila McDonnell, Trustee Area A (Baynes Sound, Hornby and Denman Islands)

local Timber-Frame Guild members who are excited about contributing their skills to the project. A substantial grant was recently obtained that enables the project to move forward as a crowning piece to this beautiful site.

Farm to Cafeteria Orientation Workshop – Nov 18-19, Victoria

Teams from 2 schools, Lake Trail and Ecole Robb Rd, attended a workshop/orientation in Victoria for recipients of grants this year under the Salad Bar program. Lake Trail's team included the principal, Gerald Fussell, Leslie Kowalsky, who runs the school breakfast program and lunch concession, Renate Millburn, who delivers LUSH Valley's Young Chef program at Lake Trail and is working on menu development under the grant, and myself as an advocate hoping to extend healthy food programming throughout the district. 27 schools in BC received \$10,000 grants each, made possible by funding from the Whole Kids Foundation to the Farm to Cafeteria Canada Assn. Lake Trail has been running a weekly salad bar for over 2 years, supported by a BC Farm2School grant last year and LTNC community school funds; ERR is just starting this year.

The workshop was a very valuable opportunity to learn about the evidence regarding salad bars, healthy food and connecting students to gardens and local farms and hear the various ways that schools and communities are building programs. We were fascinated to hear about the experiences from Haida Gwai, where the students harvest seaweed and meals include fresh crab, scallops and venison. Students at Royal Bay in Sooke learned how to butcher and prepare pigs raised on a nearby farm. Victoria, Kamloops and Haida Gwai have been identified as pilot hubs with funding for coordinators to help develop their programs. Many programs are part of community schools or have strong community support and partnerships. Participants shared ideas for keeping costs down, finding volunteers, engaging students and extending "my favourite vegetable" from asparagus to zucchini. Several other districts benefited from fruit tree projects similar to LUSH Valley which contributed a lot of fruit to local schools this year.

The Comox Valley is definitely doing well for our size. We have all benefited from the knowledge shared by Arzeena Hamir who worked with the program in Richmond and introduced at her children's school, Huband, when they moved here. Ecole Robb Road will begin their program soon and Lake Trail is focusing now on increasing the harvest from the school garden, obtaining food from local suppliers like Butcher Block, Siefferts and Grains, and developing on-site scratch-made meals to replace heat and serve entrees, bringing healthy local food to concession, salad bar and home ec room. We plan to stay connected and share information with other schools.

Respectfully

Sheila McDonnell

Report of Meetings attending- November 2016

Sheila McDonnell, Trustee Area A