



Revelstoke Board of Education

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting April 1st, 2014

Minutes

We recognize and honour the special relationship that exists with the First Nations within whose territories we live and learn.

Called to order at 4:08 pm.

In attendance: Michelle Cole, Lisa Moore, Michelle Kuster, Bryan Dubasov, and Ariel McDowell

Regrets: Kristine Howe and Mike Hooker

1. Agenda Additions

- Blood Quantum
- Inuit symbol at Graduation

2. A review of the March 4th, 2014 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:

- Amend the word “typee” in Item 3 to “tipi”
- Item 4 – the first sentence should read “April dates will be set to bring *Grade 7 and Grade 12* students together.....”

3. June 21st National Aboriginal Day Planning

- Still lots of snow in the woods, so the trees for tipi pole peeling are difficult to get right now.
- Michelle Cole, Michelle Kuster and Lisa Moore will meet with Chic Sharp on Monday, April 7th, 2014 at 4:00 pm to finalize the plans for the tipi poles.
- Funding for the event has been secured. The funding consists of grants from the BC Arts Council (\$11,500) and Embrace BC (\$1,800).
- Storytelling plans are still being finalized – a note from Laura Stovel was shared.

4. Enhancement Agreement

- At 11:30 am on May 2nd, 2014 students from Grade 12 together with four Grade 7 students will meet in the upper office at the School Board Office to reflect on the Enhancement Agreement and their experiences.

- Michelle Kuster reported that her Grade 12 students are very reluctant to miss class time (a good thing!). She felt a lunchtime meeting would be best, especially if pizza can be brought in for the participants.
- For the review process with students, there will be a list of activities, events and services that have taken place. Students will be given stickers, which they will place beside all of the activities, events and services that they have participated in, and those that they believe should continue.
- In preparation for the student review process, all committee members will give some thought to items that can be brought to the upper office to make it reflective of Aboriginal Education in the District (i.e. items for the walls and display case).
- Michelle Cole suggested a spring newsletter, which could take the place of the May reports from Lisa Moore and Michelle Kuster.

5. Reports:

- Michelle Kuster provided her written report.
- Lisa Moore provided her written report.

6. Aboriginal Ancestry Identification (Blood Quantum)

- Lisa reported that she was encountering some parents that felt they didn't have enough Aboriginal blood for their children to participate in Aboriginal Education programs. This may be a topic for future discussion so that it can be clarified for parents.

7. Inuit Graduation Symbol

- We have Metis and First Nations symbols (the sash and the blanket). There are two Inuit students in the district. The Committee will need to consider an Inuit graduation symbol or find one graduation symbol that represents all aboriginal ancestry.

8. Adjourned:

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Next meeting will be at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, May 6th, 2014 at the School Board Office, Upper Office