



## Revelstoke Board of Education

### Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

#### Minutes

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

Called to order at 4:06 pm.

In attendance: Michelle Cole, Lisa Moore, Bryan Dubasov, Kristine Howe, Sherrelle Anderson, Ariel McDowell, and Mike Hooker

Regrets: Dana Reaume, Nadia McLaren and Lissa Cancilla-Sykes

1. Agenda Additions
  - Recognition and thanks to Bryan Dubasov for his 3 years with the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee. Bryan expressed his sincere hope that the Committee would continue its important work.
2. A review of the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014
  - No errors or omissions
3. Introduction of Nadia McLaren
  - Nadia was unexpectedly delayed in returning from a family trip, and was unable to attend the meeting. Ariel McDowell relayed that Nadia and Lisa have relocated the Elementary Aboriginal Education resources to Columbia Park Elementary School. Nadia has had some time to work with Lisa, meet students, organize and become familiar with resources, and is getting to know staff. Nadia will write a letter of introduction which will be shared with students, parents and staff in newsletters.
  - Nadia McLaren is planning to do a series of large art panels in each of the elementary schools, using the process of making them with students as a vehicle to teach and explore Canada's Aboriginal heritage.
4. Enhancement Agreement process for 2014/15
  - Lisa Moore and Ariel McDowell were able to meet with Ministry officials on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 and returned with a wealth of ideas and supportive contact people from across the province.
  - There was some discussion about displaying the completed panels in a public space in the community.

- Initial Enhancement Agreement feast and meeting will take place one evening during the week of January 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The common room (MacPherson Court) at Revelstoke Secondary School is the preferred location. Ariel McDowell will discuss the room's availability with Greg Kenyon, Principal of Revelstoke Secondary School.
- Committee continued to build a list of local (an nearby) people who might enrich and inform our Enhancement Agreement.

5. Graduation Symbol

- There are 5 Aboriginal students graduating in June 2015.
- There was discussion about continuing to gift graduates a blanket, as it is common to many Aboriginal cultures. The blanket is symbolic of a supportive gesture (like a hug) from the community. Lisa Moore and Ariel McDowell have heard that many districts in the Province gift a blanket to graduates.
- It was discussed whether in addition to the blanket, a small personal memento should be given to each graduate.

6. Reports:

- Lisa Moore shared her report.
- December's reports will take the form of a newsletter.

Ariel McDowell shared that there are several upcoming workshops that may be of interest to Committee members:

- FNEESC Regional Session in Kamloops Nov. 24-25 (info at [www.fnesc.ca/regional](http://www.fnesc.ca/regional))
- Can I Play Too? Autism presentation October 24<sup>th</sup> in Salmon Arm (\$20 registration)
- Compassion Fatigue workshop in Revelstoke Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>  
<http://www.cfclinics.com/#!compassion-fatigue/c246l>

7. Adjourned:

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Next meeting will be at 4:00 pm on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the School Board Office, Upper Office