



Revelstoke Board of Education

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting February 5th, 2015

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 4:05 pm.

In attendance: Michelle Cole, Lisa Moore, Leslie Savage, Lissa Cancilla-Sykes, Laura Stovel, Melissa Hemphill, Ariel McDowell, and Mike Hooker

Regrets: Sherrelle Anderson, Nadia McLaren, and Dana Reaume

1. Agenda Additions
 - Letter of Support for the Revelstoke Visual Arts Centre grant application to fund a new public xeriscape and native plants garden project
 - Local food initiatives presentation
2. A review of the January 8th, 2015 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:
No errors or omissions
3. Debrief of the January 20th, 2015 Open House Event

Notes on the Open House

- Excellent community cross-section involvement
 - Results included:
 - Development of a contact list
 - Mural unveiling
 - Student involvement was notable
 - Venue provided connections for resources and partnerships
 - Overall the Committee reported the session provided an excellent start to the gathering of information for the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement
4. Next Steps
 - Plan for April 9th, 2015 to have a community partnership working session from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
 - In our next meeting on March 5th, 2015 we will develop an invitation list to ensure that all community partners are included.

5. District Resources for Aboriginal Education

- Ariel McDowell updated the Committee with the recent additions to the resources available to schools. Aboriginal resources including home reading, leveled readers, high school novels. Gift blankets have been ordered for graduates of the 2015 class.
- Further to the resource discussion, the Committee discussed the legacy project which currently includes the art and mural projects taking place. Follow-up on the possibility of a big drum with teachings and a sturgeon nose canoe to take place in the coming months from the Artists in Residency Program.

6. Aboriginal Facilitator Grant

- Laura Stovel spoke to a grant application and the request to have the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee involved with a 5 hour weekly position of a Community Aboriginal Facilitator to support partnerships.

7. Revelstoke Visual Arts Centre Project

- The Committee agreed to provide a letter of support to the City of Revelstoke, Revelstoke Tourism Infrastructure Committee, for the Visual Arts Centre's grant application to fund a new public xeriscape and native plants garden around the Visual Arts Centre.

8. Reports:

- Lisa Moore, Revelstoke Secondary School, Aboriginal Student Assistant presented her written report highlighting the wide variety of activities she is currently engaged in at Revelstoke Secondary School.
- Nadia McLaren, Elementary Aboriginal Student Assistant will provide her report at the next meeting.

9. Local Food Initiatives Group

- Melissa Hemphill reported on the local food initiatives group wanting to connect with the work of the Aboriginal Education Committee. She noted that sustainability and responsible land use are a large part of aboriginal teachings and fit very well with the local food initiatives intentions.

10. Adjourned:

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Next meeting will be at 4:00 pm on Thursday, March 5th, 2015 at the School Board Office, Upper Office