



Revelstoke Board of Education

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting May 5th, 2016

Minutes

We respectfully honour and acknowledge Aboriginal peoples, recognizing that our students come to us with Aboriginal ancestry from a variety of ancient homelands. We acknowledge and recognize the Métis people as one of Canada's distinct peoples. We would like to acknowledge and honour the four nations on whose traditional land we live and learn: the Sinixt, the Ktunaxa, the Secwepmec, and the Syilx.

Called to order at 4:00 pm.

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

1. Agenda Additions
 - Project of the Heart (Leslie Savage)
2. A review of the March 3rd, 2016 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:
 - Spelling error in the spelling of Margaret Verhaeghe
3. Enhancement Agreement Update
 - The Committee reviewed the draft Enhancement Agreement in detail, and made a few final changes. The document, as revised, will be published and distributed. The Committee reviewed the list of speakers for the signing ceremony, as well as the order of the evening's events.
4. Basket Weaving Workshop Update
 - Two Sinixt basket weavers spent April 27th and 28th teaching district students and staff how to make cedar baskets. They also taught the students how to harvest the cedar bark, using one of the cedar trees outside Revelstoke Secondary School.
5. April 25th, 2016 Professional Development Day Report
 - More than half of the district's teachers attended this very worthwhile day.

6. Orange Shirt Day (takes place September 30th of each year in remembrance of those affected by Residential Schools)
 - The committee agrees that we should recognize Orange Shirt Day, and be sure to teach students the meaning and symbolism of the Orange Shirt for residential school survivors.
7. Reports (included in Spring 2016 Aboriginal Education Newsletter)
 - Copies of the Spring Aboriginal Education newsletter were distributed and reviewed.
8. Project of the Heart: Illuminating the hidden history of Indian Residential Schools in BC.
 - Leslie Savage shared four copies of a resource that was presented to Trustees at the British Columbia School Trustees Association Annual General Meeting in April during a very valuable presentation. One copy of the resource will be provided to each school in the district.
 - Lissa Cancilla-Sykes noted that the resource has been an important part of teaching about Residential Schools in Socials Studies classes.
9. Adjourned:
 - Meeting adjourned at 5:13 pm.
 - Next meeting will be at 4:00 pm on Thursday, June 2nd, 2016 at the School Board Office, Upper Office