



Revelstoke Board of Education

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting June 1st, 2017

Minutes

***We would like to acknowledge and honour the four nations
on whose traditional land we live and learn:
the Sinixt, the Ktunaxa, the Secwepemc, and the Syilx.***

Called to order at 4:00 pm.

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

Regrets: Karin O'Neill, Jessica Stewardson, Wanaki Kistabish, Blake Bara, Chantal Wilson, and Jennifer Wolney

1. Agenda Additions
 - No addition. The order of items was changed. Items 4 (Enhancement Agreement) and 5 (Reports) were switched.
2. A review of the March 2nd, 2017 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:
 - No errors or omissions
3. Aboriginal Education Bursaries for 2017 Revelstoke Secondary School Graduates
 - 5 graduates this year will be eligible to receive the Aboriginal Education bursary of \$500 when they register at a post-secondary institution.
4. Enhancement Agreement 2017
 - Reflections on the Enhancement Agreement trail markers, and setting directions for 2017/2018
 - Goal One and Goal Two of our Enhancement Agreement were reviewed.
 - Groups worked to define examples to highlight progress and successes this year, then established some next steps to work on in the 2017-2018 year.

Some highlights Included:	Some Next Steps Included:
Acknowledgement of Territory happening in most school assemblies, and with this, and increased awareness of the four local First Nations.	Work to increase the profile and comfort with traditional local languages.
Field Trip and guest speaker opportunities are enhancing local connections to Elders and Knowledge Keepers in the area.	Continue to work on making more and deeper connections to nearby Bands.
Use of traditional teachings, such as Talking Circles, the Medicine Wheel, plant walks, and medicinal plants as part of a path to wellness.	Continue to provide professional development opportunities and models ways these practices can be used.
High profile and well-attended school-wide cultural programming in all Elementary schools.	Continue to support the valuable work of the District's Aboriginal Student Assistants, including professional development and networking opportunities within our Region.
Student and teacher knowledge of Canada's residential school history and its effects is almost universal. Willingness to learn and investigate this difficult topic.	Plan for a second annual Orange Shirt Day.
Regular classroom teachers keen to integrate Aboriginal content and approaches. Lissa Cancilla's District Helping Teacher time has been in high demand.	Continue with this block of support time to help teachers with curriculum and with their own comfort and understanding.
Dr. Martin Brokenleg's visit has been impactful, and the Circle of Courage philosophy is being shared by multiple community partners.	Continue and expand on the use of Circle of Courage to frame our approach. In particular, increase authentic opportunities for students to contribute as part of all programming for students (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal). This is the Generosity quadrant of the Circle of Courage.

5. Reports

- Jessica Stewardson highlighted her written report noting that she has been getting to know students and build relationships with them. Some of the

activities she has been doing with students are storytelling, painting, games and small discussions. She has also been invited to speak to some classrooms. Jessica has travelled to Salmon Arm to work with her counterparts there and joined a group of Begbie View Elementary School Aboriginal Students on a field trip to a former residential school in Kamloops.

- Lisa Moore highlighted her written report noting that she continues to provide academic support for students. She has supported grade 12 students in their grad transitions class and has had them choose a blanket for their graduation ceremony. Lisa arranged for students to attend a field trip to the former residential school in Kamloops. She is also increasing her knowledge through the online class “Indigenous Canada” through the University of Alberta as well as viewing webinars on the UBC Learning Circle website. Lisa continues to support with students who have already left or graduated from school through Facebook chats, walks, meeting for coffee, sharing gardening supplies, helping move, delivering baby gifts and letting new parents know about community resources, connecting student with OUC and /or Community Connections for counselling.
- Lissa Cancilla-Sykes highlighted her written report highlighting her work at the elementary level including:
 - Work at Arrow Heights Elementary School with staff members on resources, including references for guest speakers, a trip to the museum for First Nations content, and online resources and lesson plans.
 - Work at Begbie View Elementary School lesson-planning and delivering a field trip to the Flats, current planning “stage two” of “Who was here and how did they live?” lessons, a mock-archaeological “dig” on the Flats and examining the content of seasonal rounds.
 - Work at Columbia Park Elementary School to create lesson plans around the Columbia River Treaty and the various stakeholders in the community including First Nations.

6. Adjourned:

Next meeting dates (all at 4:00 pm at the School Board Office, Upper Meeting Room):

- October 5th, 2017
- November 2nd, 2017
- December 7th, 2017
- February 8th, 2018
- March 1st, 2018
- April 5th, 2018
- May 3rd, 2018
- June 7th, 2018