



## Revelstoke Board of Education

### Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

#### Minutes

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***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, Chantal Wilson, Lisa Moore, Lissa Cancilla-Sykes, Jillian Wiesner, Jessica Stewardson, Amanda Richardson, Ariel McDowell, and Mike Hooker

1. Agenda Additions
  - Verbal Reports from Lisa Moore, Jessica Stewardson, Jillian Wiesner and Lissa Cancilla-Sykes
  - Provincial Government Statement made on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 regarding it's commitment to action on Indigenous child welfare. Ariel will contact Rachel Braund at the Ministry of Children and Families to invite her to the next Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee meeting.
2. A review of the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:
  - No errors or omissions
3. Enhancement Agreement
  - A slideshow shared with photos of students, parents, teachers, and community guests working toward each of our Enhancement Agreement goals (pdf attached).
4. Bursaries
  - The Committee reconfirmed that three bursaries will be granted each year, with advice given to the scholarship committee that preference should be given to students who have demonstrated involvement and interest in Aboriginal education. Unclaimed bursary monies will be set aside for further discussion regarding other ways those monies may be used to support students. Ariel will let the Committee know how many bursaries have been claimed each year, going back the last 3 or 4 years.

5. Reports (in addition to Winter Newsletter):

- Jessica Stewardson highlighted her written report noting Gerry Thomas' visit to CPE this week. All Intermediate classes were able to meet him, hear him teach through his many stories, and touch and feel the beautiful tools, regalia, baskets, etc that he brought. Students loved the hands-on aspect. Jessica will invite Gerry back so the other schools get the same opportunity. Jessica also mentioned that a teacher at BVE has asked for information on local plants and traditional outdoor activities to label a trail behind BVE . The teacher hopes to put up small numbered posts, with information cards for each post (for example, near a plant with its traditional names and uses). And finally, Jessica has become an excellent drum maker with small groups of Indigenous students at each school. They have started learning some songs on their drums!
- Lisa Moore highlighted the Respecting Tobacco event that she will be holding with students who wish to stop smoking. First Nations Health Authority has supported with prizes and some funding to pay for activities, snacks, gum, etc. Event will be held in mid-February. Lisa is providing academic support to many students in classes this semester.
- Lissa Cancilla-Sykes shared the curriculum for the Social Justice 12 course, which is running at RSS this year rather than First Nations 12. Students who have registered for SJ 12 are students who have chosen it as an elective (rather than FN12 which was being taken by many students as a requirement). The culture and conversations in the class reflect the students' keenness to be there.
- Jillian Wiesner – Jillian shared that 18 teachers came out one evening this week to participate in the Kairos Blanket Exercise, facilitated by an Indigenous educator from Silver Creek. The Exercise walks participants through 300 years of Settler-Indigenous history, and is a powerful way to teach about the actions and impact of colonialism. Jillian also shared that there is a version of the Blanket Exercise for younger learners, available for free in the BCTF online resource, *Gladys we never knew*.

6. Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

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

- March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018
- April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018
- June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018