



Revelstoke Board of Education

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting October 1st, 2020

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: Chantal Wilson, Lisa Moore, Lissa Cancilla-Sykes, Marlene Krug, Erin England, Sarah Zimmer, Greg Kenyon, Todd Hicks,

Regrets: Bryanna MacLaren and Mike Hooker

1. Agenda Additions
 - Annual Consent Forms (1701).
 - Policy Review Committee – Request to review the definition of “Two-Spirited” contained in Policy 5.6 Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.
2. A review of the March 5th, 2020 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:
 - It was noted that Erin England is the Indigenous Education Chair of the Revelstoke Teachers’ Association.
 - It was also noted that due to the suspension of in-class instruction in the middle of March 2020, many meetings and events were cancelled.
3. Equity in Action/Equity Scan : October 15th, 2020 Meeting with Joe Heslip from the Ministry of Education, Indigenous Education Branch.
 - The Committee is pleased that despite COVID-19, the Equity Scan will proceed.
 - The Committee recommends that a representative from each school be selected to participate.
 - The Committee prepared a list of community members to contact and ask for their participation in the process.
4. 2019/2020 Indigenous Education Scholarship Recipients
 - Greg Kenyon, Principal of Revelstoke Secondary School commented on the positive characters and contributions of each recipient.
5. Reports:
 - Lisa Moore provided a written report which is attached.

- Marlene Krug highlighted her activities with an oral report noting she:
 - Has connected a student with a first nation member.
 - Is familiarizing herself with the safety protocols of each school.
 - Has visited most classes – 17 collaborations
 - Is focusing on working directly with classrooms/cohorts this year.
 - Is establishing Indigenous recess and lunch programming which is challenging due to COVID-19 protocols.
 - Is participating in classroom interpretive walks and indigenous games at the intermediate level.
 - Expressed thanks to Lisa Moore for assisting with her program while she was at home caring for sick children.
 - Is maintaining contact with students who have benefitted from her connection with them.

- Lissa Cancilla-Sykes explained that her role is different this year, but she has made herself available to teachers.

6. Annual Consent Forms (1701)

- The consent form went out with the student verification/general permission forms. However, due to the delayed start of school the short timeline made it a challenging to have the completed forms returned by the deadline.
- It was recommended that the Annual Indigenous Consent form be sent out separately from the other forms during the first week of school.
- Sending a newsletter which would highlight all of the previous year's activities and the number of opportunities throughout the district with the consent form was discussed.
- The consent form should highlight that verification of identification is not necessary that self-identification is acceptable.
- The consent forms should be copied by the Indigenous Education Support workers for their records with the originals being filed in the student files by the school secretaries.

7. Policy Review Committee – Request to review the definition of “Two-Spirited” contained in Policy 5.6 Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

- The Committee reviewed the current definition and suggested the definition in the policy should be revised to:
 - *“Two-spirit” is an English translation of terms in various languages to describe a concept that exists in many indigenous cultures. A two-spirit person has received the privilege from the Creator to house both male and female spirits in their bodies. Being given the gift of two spirits means that this individual has the ability to see the world from two perspectives at the same time. This greater vision is a gift to be shared with all, and as such, two spirit individuals are revered as leaders, mediators, teachers, artist, seers, and spiritual guides who are treated with the greatest respect and hold important spiritual and ceremonial responsibilities.*

For the purpose of this policy two-spirited may be claimed by indigenous peoples to show membership in the broader LGBTQ2S community.”

8. Adjourned:

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

- October 15th, 2020 – Meeting with Joe Heslip (see Item 3 above)
- November 5th, 2020
- December 3rd, 2020
- February 4th, 2021
- March 4th, 2021
- May 6th, 2021
- June 3rd, 2021
- June 4th, 2020