



Revelstoke Board of Education

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting March 3rd, 2022 (held virtually)

Minutes

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

Called to order at 4:05 pm.

In attendance: Lisa Moore, Jessica Stewardson, Asa Kenyon, Erin England, Sarah Zimmer, Kirby Miller, Todd Hicks, and Mike Hooker

Regrets: Chantal Wilson, Marlene Krug,

1. Agenda Additions
2. A review of the February 3rd, 2022 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) Meeting Minutes:
 - No errors or omissions
3. Policy 3.6 Indigenous Learning and Equity
 - Discussion on overlap between the Terms of Reference (TOR) and policy. Although they each have a separate purpose there can be commonalities between them.
 - Mike Hooker reviewed the purpose of the policy.
 - Teaching standard 9 ~ potential to either paraphrase or reference.
 - Invitation for members of the IEAC to participate in a subcommittee to draft policy.
4. Terms of Reference
 - Recommendations on rephrasing vision:
 - DRAFT:
“We commit to Truth and Reconciliation, Equity and the First Peoples Principles of Learning through the processes of witnessing, listening and learning. We recognize that Indigenous, First Nations, Métis and Inuit students come from a variety of homelands and have been impacted by the Canadian Educational institutions. We actively support anti-racism, anti-assimilation and the decolonization of our learning communities”.

- Discussion if gatherings were 'public' ~ it was agreed that yes, they are as the minutes of meetings are posted on the district website and published in Board agendas and are open for the public to join.
5. Red Dress Project
 - Lisa Moore reported this will be the second time for this installation. One of the artists from last year, Ella Hardey, is willing to be the lead on the project this year with assistance from a junior student, Mya Manson. Jessica Stewardson is willing to work along with the students and community members to put this together this year.
 6. Salmon Feast
 - Lisa Moore reported in collaboration with various community organizations we have started planning for a celebratory gathering to honour Indigenous Elders and provide a place for visiting and getting to know one another. Elders from the four nations and Metis groups will be invited, along with their community members, to come to Revelstoke on June 18 for a Salmon dinner. Indigenous musicians and dancers will perform. Planning is in early stages but there has been very positive feedback from both Indigenous elders and Revelstoke community members.
 7. Correspondence
 - Letter of thanks from Jordan Nash, scholarship recipient.
 8. Reports:
 - Lisa Moore highlighted her highlighted her written report noting:
 - Indigenous Connections class support
 - Learning on the Land class support
 - Beadwork/Metis culture workshops in elementary and high school
 - Started pemmican workshops with K/1/2 classes
 - Checking with grade 12 students and their counsellors – on track to graduate?
 - Checking with graduating students re: post-secondary plans, scholarship applications, blanket/sash presentation at graduation
 - Supporting priority students with rides to school, safe places in the school, food, listening, checking in either in person or text/social media
 - Planning for Salmon Feast and Red Dress installation around National Indigenous Peoples Day
 - Working to bring in Elders and Knowledge Keepers such as:
 - Wes Sandy, fur trade workshop
 - Randy Williams, hide tanning
 - Gerry Thomas, cedar root harvest
 - Tutoring opportunity for students of any age from university students
 - Letter of support for student applying for equipment from her band

- Field trip to Kelowna:
 - Witness blanket replica installation at Kelowna Art Gallery
 - Syilx presentation at Kelowna Museum
 - Students were so respectful and appreciative of the experience. We heard there was a post on social media about the Witness Blanket. Well worth the very long day.

- Jessica Stewardson left the meeting early but provided the following written report:
 - Beading went well – Continuing with some classes.
 - Recess and lunch programs are building, and we are enjoying finger weaving and beading.
 - Boys club has begun at two schools as well as girls club.
 - Pemmican program has started off to a great start! Looking forward to continuing with this for the month of March.
 - Going to classrooms and assisting with students has been a highlight. All teachers and students have been very welcoming.
 - Busy creating a welcoming environment at the schools for sharing circles and an inviting space for students to come too.

- Erin England highlighted her activities with an oral report noting
 - April theme will be the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples – with the blanket exercise used to highlight Article 10
 - A Staff member working on their Masters has reached out to support
 - Noted difficulty in getting courses at RSS to run due to low request; appreciated running current Learning on the Land and Indigenous Connections running with low subscription – hopefully approach will continue if necessary
 - Large range of Indigenous focused courses available that will achieve a social studies credit for students to be explored with department at RSS

9. Adjourned:

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

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

- May 6th, 2021
- June 3rd, 2021