

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Aboriginal Education Council was called to order at 12:05 pm on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at the District Education Centre, 14033 92 Avenue, Surrey, BC.

Present: Laurie Larsen (Board of Education Chairperson, SD #36), Jordan Tinney (Superintendent, SD #36), Lyn Daniels (Director of Instruction, Aboriginal Learning, SD #36 - Chair), Chief Harley Chappell (Semiahmoo First Nation), David Kenworthy (Katzie First Nation), Jacquie King (STA), Denton Muir (SPVPA), Debra Merrier (CUPE), and Kelly Tymich (Parent)

Absent: Métis Nation BC designate, Kekinow Native Housing Society designate and Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association designate

Guests: Neder Dhillon (Acting Assistant Superintendent, SD #36), Gordon Powell (Vice Principal, Aboriginal Learning, SD #36), Deneen Reiter (SPVPA – elementary), Paula James and Shelley Saje Ricci

1. Welcome and Acknowledgment

2. Approval of Minutes from October 29, 2019 Meeting:

Moved: Chairperson Laurie Larsen
Seconded: Kelly Tymich
Carried

3. Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Kelly Tymich
Seconded: Jacquie King
Carried

4. Community Updates

Katzie First Nation

David Kenworthy reported that there is an upcoming election on February 27th with office being taken on April 1st and that the new tetoten Wellness Centre (in memory of Katize member David Leon) is open. There was discussion about having the next Council meeting held on Barnston Island at the new wellness centre.

Semiahmoo First Nation

Chief Harley reported on the naming of the new school, TÁT-Á-LU; the preparation/documentation process of creating the Semiahmoo Teachers Resource Manual; that a new application for a First People's language grant will be submitted; and that the Windspeaker Youth Leadership group will be visiting Semiahmoo First Nation on May 6, 2020.

Motion by Lyn Daniels: "To move into committee as a whole."

Seconded: Chairperson Laurie Larsen

Carried

5. Terms of Reference – Update

Lyn discussed some of the changes made to the draft Terms of Reference. There was around the table discussion about further amendments to be made regarding voting members and representatives.

Motion by Chairperson Laurie Larsen: "Approve the terms of reference with the amendments."

Seconded: Debra Merrier

Carried

6. Surrey School Board Land Acknowledgment

Chairperson Laurie Larsen stated that the land acknowledgment is now done at the start of every Board of Trustees meeting.

There was around the table discussion about the use of land acknowledgements in schools, emails, etc.

7. Naming of Schools

Jordan Tinney reported that Lyn and Gordon had created a document outlining the structure, process and protocols in the naming of schools.

Around the table discussion about the opening of three new schools in Surrey and the naming of schools.

8. Enhancement Agreement – 2020 to 2025 Proposed Term

Lyn stated that Council endorsed the goals of the Enhancement Agreement at the last Council meeting. She asked the Council for their thoughts on the timeframe of a new Enhancement Agreement. There was around the table discussion about the goals and direction of the EA and having the EA as a living document.

Motion: "The Enhancement Agreement will be ratified as an ongoing living document (no expiry date) with the goals revisited every five years but amendments can be made according to emerging needs."

Moved: Chairperson Laurie Larsen

Seconded: Chief Harley Chappell

Carried

9. Equity Lab

Lyn explained the process of the Equity Lab. She stated that designates are asked to create a guide group of 7 to 10 people to respond to relevant questions in the equity scan. Results from each guide group will be reported on May 21st at the Equity Lab Campfire.

There was around the table discussion about actionable goals and what input/influence Council has in implementing the goals.

10. Resource Binders Update

Chief Harley Chappell spoke previously about the resource binder in his community update.

11. Tah-tul-ut Education Assistant Diploma – Program and Recruitment

Gordon spoke briefly about the program aimed at recruiting Grade 11 students.

Chairperson Laurie Larsen requested for the use of the word “Indigenous” in place of “Aboriginal” be added as an agenda item at the next Council meeting.

12. Adjournment:

Moved: Chairperson Laurie Larsen
Seconded: Debra Merrier
Carried

The meeting adjourned at 2:17 pm.