

**FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION COUNCIL
MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022 10:00 am until noon**

PARTICIPANTS IN PERSON:

Chris van der Mark, Superintendent, SD27
Cheryl Lenardon, Assistant Superintendent, SD27
Grant Gustafson, District Principal Indigenous Education
Tracy Hubner, Recording Secretary
Mabelene Leon, Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)
Lacey-Dawn Testawich, Cariboo Chilcotin Teachers Association
Rosalie Montgomery, Yunešit'in Government
Pamela Kozak, T'exelc (Williams Lake First Nation)
Agnes William, Xeni Gwet'in First Nation
Melanie Johnny, Tl'etinqox Govt. (Anaham Band)
Lenore Case, Tšideldel First Nation
Wendy Sam, Educ. Coordinator Tl'esqox (Toosey Band)
Shirley Diablo, Tl'esqox (Toosey Band)
Lewis Budgell, Education Director Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)
Ken MacGillivray, Educ. Director, Stswecem'c/Xgat'tem First Nation
(Canoe Creek/Dog Creek Band)

PARTICIPANTS ON-LINE:

Angie Delainey, Trustee SD27
Michelle Archie, Ed. Admin. Tsq'escen' (Canim Lake Band)
Calvin Dubray, Education Director, Esk'eteme
Marlene Swears, Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Assoc.
Dawna Short, Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Association
Avo Menakian, Education Assistant, Xatšüll First Nation (Soda Creek
Band)
Frieda Belleau, Alternate, Esk'eteme
Catherine Groundwater, Educational Services Coordinator, Esk'eteme

NOT AVAILABLE:

Mary Forbes, Trustee SD27
Sue Sim, President, IUOE
Latisha Kirechuk, Chair, District PAC SD27
Sheena Rogers, Cariboo Friendship Society
Audrey Sinclair, Educ. Assist. ?Esdilagh First Nation
Judith Rietveld, Stswecem'c/Xgat'tem (Canoe Creek/Dog Creek
Band)

A. Call to Order: Rosalie Montgomery called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

i) **Welcome to Secwepemc Territory:** Pamela Kozak, Williams Lake First Nation

ii) **Traditional Opening:**

Melanie Johnny from Tl'etinqox provided a traditional opening.

iii) **Introductions:** Introductions were done.

B. AGENDA & PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Review/Additions/Deletions to the Agenda for December 5, 2022

Motion – THAT the First Nations Education Council adopt the agenda of its meeting dated December 5, 2022, as amended:

Add: District and Ministry Data: Grant Gustafson

Moved: Pamela Kozak

Seconded: Melanie Johnny

Review/Approval of the Minutes of the November 7, 2022 Meeting:

Motion – THAT The First Nations Education Council adopt the minutes of its meeting dated November 7, 2022.

Moved: Pamela Kozak

Seconded: Lacey-Dawn Testawich

C. REPORTS:

i) **Superintendent's Report: Chris van der Mark**

- New Board of Education was sworn in. It was an honor to have David Archie, WLFN Cultural Coordinator, welcome the new Board and acknowledge the work and progress in the school district toward Truth and Reconciliation.
- Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) was conducted. We worked with the CCTA and teachers to have better process and for teachers to mark the FSA. They found it to be rewarding pro-d. We don't yet know the longer-term impact COVID has had and will have on results but there has been improvement over the past few years in results for Indigenous students. Important to note that First Nations Leadership Council of BC sent a letter to the Minister of Education on the value of the FSA and the important role the results data plays in equity work.
- Have hired an elementary counsellor position. Continue to be above the mandated ratio for staffing. Have more service for rural schools and completing more assessments than previously.

ii) **Finance, Facilities & Transportation Committee Report: Trustee, Angie Delainey**

Angie Delainey spoke to her report of the November 2022 meeting. *No Dec. meeting.

[2023-01-10-finance-facilities-minutes](#)

iii) **Education Committee: Trustee, Mary Forbes (not available)**

Cheryl Lenardon spoke to this meeting.

[2022-12-14-education-committee-minutes](#)

iv) **Policy Committee: Trustee, Mary Forbes (Not available)**

Attached is November 2022 report for the Policy Committee. *No Dec. meeting.

[2023-01-10-policy-committee-minutes](#)

Cheryl shared highlights of this meeting.

v) **Indigenous Education Department Budget Report: Grant Gustafson**

- Grant shared current Indigenous Education Department budget.
- We have interviewed for a Language and Culture Teacher at Anahim Lake.
- Language Teacher supply funding is at the school level now.
- Installing digital art displays at the schools now.
- Cultural Credits and Initiatives: IDS. We have funds available to help students with supplies that they may need.
- Elder Program: Want Elders to be present as role models in the school. If there are any ceremonial items, they wish to share. Grant explained the honorarium for Elders.
- Grant will invite Dancing Water Sandy to report to FNEC on First Nation Collection Library and Resources.

Motion THAT the First Nations Education Council receives the reports of the Superintendent, the District Principal, Indigenous Education, Finance, Facilities and Transportation Committee, Education Committee and Policy Committee as submitted and budget.

Moved: Lew Budgell

Second: Pamela Kozak

D. BUSINESS:

i) **Proposals:**

1. **Mile 108 Elementary School Proposal #1: \$5,656.36**

There was discussion on this cultural proposal that was previously tabled for further information:

There are several cultural projects for each grade.

FNEC consensus for this amount: School to ensure every presentation for each class has an Elder. Looks like expectation for 3 more Elders here plus transportation. School to pay this extra funding required from their school budget.

2. Peter Skene Ogden Secondary School Proposal: \$392.72

Francis Johnson to teach hoop dancing.

CONSENSUS FOR THIS PROPOSAL.

ii) Indigenous Role Models: Tracy Hubner

- Registration for the 2023 Role Models is on-going. Applications are available in the schools and on our website. Contest closes Friday, December 23, 2022.
- Poetry Contest closes Friday, December 9, 2022. Poems are arriving every day!

E. STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT:

i. Bussing Information: Cheryl Lenardon

Cheryl will go back and get more information re bus runs that are going on any given day. How does it get decided? There is not a single criterion. It is complex. If a highway is closed, that is a done deal. The transportation department have people out on the roads in very early hours checking it out. There is communication between the drivers and managers. They work closely with the Road Maintenance and Ministry of Transportation staff. It is important that families get to make the ultimate decision. If they are not comfortable, they have the right to not send their child.

One FNEC member's concerns are that SD27 may run or not run while a First Nations Band school bus may run. This is very confusing to people. The Band Schools go by -32. The policies are different between First Nations schools and SD27 schools.

Cheryl said that Band schools have a different policy. We could follow up.

Cheryl: There was extensive conversation on this and now we are not following a specific temperature. Temperatures could fluctuate. As soon as they know a run needs to be cancelled it is on the website. We do not have an absolute time, but they do the best they can.

ii. Cultural Awareness Professional Development: Grant Gustafson

- Bruce Baptiste can do some cultural teachings in the school.

- Chief Willie to do book tour.
- Another presentation from Wayne Lucier is planned as well.

iii. Gang related learning: Grant Gustafson

There was a discussion:

More programming for safer schools coming out. We are keeping you informed and invited to any on-line sessions. Grant will send out more information.

SD27 looking at having Wayne Lucier and pizza night to have parents and students help make positive choices.

Cheryl Lenardon shared that Interior Health has a preventive program that we are piloting at Columneetza now. Looking at risk taking uses. Who is most at risk? Then a small group curriculum. Very researched based. It is currently in the grade 7 program.

iv. Language Teacher Funds: Grant Gustafson

The \$7,000.00 for Language Teachers has all been allocated to the schools for their language teachers to access.

v. District and Ministry Data: Grant Gustafson

Grad rates, attendance rates, FSA results. Grant will ensure FNEC receive all this information.

F. CLOSE OF MEETING:

Add: FNEC want update on Technology Funds: For next Agenda in February

Adjournment of Meeting:

Motion – THAT the meeting of the First Nations Education Council dated **December 5, 2022** be adjourned.

Moved: Melanie Johnny

Seconded: Pamela Kozak

Meeting closed at: 11:48 Lunch was served

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| <p>Reminder: There is no FNEC meeting in January Next meeting date: Monday, February 6, 2023</p> |
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