

**FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION COUNCIL
VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING
MONDAY, April 4, 2022 10:00 am until noon**

PARTICIPANTS: Chris van der Mark, Superintendent, SD27
Cheryl Lenardon, Assistant Superintendent, SD27
Grant Gustafson, District Principal Indigenous Education
Tracy Hubner, Recording Secretary
Rosalie Montgomery, Yunešit'in Government
Lacey-Dawn Testawich, Cariboo Chilcotin Teachers Association
Pamela Kozak, T'exelc (Williams Lake First Nation)
Frieda Belleau, Alt. Esk'etemc
Sue Sim, President, IUOE
Angie Delainey, Trustee SD27
Avo Menakian, Education Assistant, Xats'ull First Nation (Soda Creek Band)
Loni Solomon, Tl'esqox (Toosey Band)
Lenore Case, Tšideldel First Nation
Melanie Johnny, Tl'etinqox Govt. (Anaham Band)
Agnes William, Xeni Gwet'in First Nation
Michelle Archie, Ed. Admin. Tsq'escen'

NOT AVAILABLE: Marlene Swears, Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Assoc.
Dawna Short, Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Association
Audrey Sinclair, ?Esdilagh (Alexandria Band)
Latisha Kirechuk, Chair, District PAC SD27
Sheena Rogers, Cariboo Friendship Society
Mabelene Leon, Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)
Lewis Budgell, Education Director Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)
Melissa Cahoose, Education K-12, Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)
Mary Forbes, Trustee SD27
Harold Duncan, Alt. Stswecem'c/Xgat'tem (Canoe Creek/Dog Creek Band)
Calvin Dubray, Education Director, Esk'etemc
Murray Helmer, Cariboo Chilcotin Teachers Association
Representative: Stswecem'c/Xgat'tem (Canoe Creek/Dog Creek Band)

A. Call to Order: Rosalie Montgomery called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

- i) Welcome to Secwepemc Territory:** Pamela Kozak, Williams Lake First Nation
- ii) Traditional Opening:** Loni Solomon from Toosey Band provided an opening prayer.

B. AGENDA & PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Review/Additions/Deletions to the Agenda for April 4, 2022

Motion – THAT the First Nations Education Council adopt the agenda of its meeting dated April 4, 2022, as amended: Section E, add Dry Grad.

Moved: Angie Delaney

Seconded: Pamela Kozak

CARRIED

Review/Approval of the Minutes of the March 7, 2022 Virtual Meeting:

Motion – THAT The First Nations Education Council adopt the minutes of its meeting dated March 7, 2022, as amended. Tracy to insert the March meeting link for the Committees of the Board (not February).

Moved: Angie Delaney

Seconded: Loni Solomon

CONSENSUS

C. REPORTS:

i) Superintendent's Report: Chris van der Mark

- Chris thanked Rosalie Montgomery, Michelle Archie, and Pamela Kozak for assisting with the interview process in March.
- The first week back to school without masks went well. Those who wanted to wear a mask, did so.
- Pro D Meeting in Vancouver: Cheryl to travel to this. Monique Gray Smith will be our key presenter once again this September.
- Chris acknowledged the work done at WLFN with Prime Minister's visit last week and their on-going work with Truth and Reconciliation.

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

Angie Delaney spoke to her reports of the March 8, 2022, meeting: Please see link to meeting minutes:

[2022-03-08-finance-and-facilities-transportation-committee-agenda.af84094415.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)

iii) Education Committee: Cheryl Lenardon for Trustee, Mary Forbes today

Cheryl Lenardon spoke to the March report for the Education Committee. Click on link below for March 2022, meeting minutes:

[2022-03-09-education-committee-meeting-agenda.52e8164416.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)

iv) **Policy Committee: Cheryl Lenardon for Trustee, Mary Forbes today**

Cheryl Lenardon spoke to the March report for the Policy Committee.
Click on link below for March 2022 meeting minutes:

[2022-03-08-policy-committee-meeting-agenda.9b38c64414.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)

v) **First Nations Education Department Budget Report: Grant Gustafson**

- Grant provided an update on the budget for Indigenous Education.
- Grant is working with Finance on improved financial reporting.
- New Chairs were ordered for the teacher prep area of the Indigenous Culture Centre.
- Books and Guides: Dancing Water Sandy is reviewing all the resources to do the “Traditional Calendar themed books” for schools.
- Outdoor Learning Spaces: There is an update coming.
- IDS: Education Coordinators please contact Grant with any upcoming learning opportunities so we can look at planning for credit for students.
- Transportation: Grant did not have access to these reports.
- Welcome Signage: Waiting on feedback from Chief and Councils.
- Orange Shirt Order for Schools: Finalized today.
- Every Child Matters Sign 4’ x 8’ for each school has been ordered.

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:

Moved: Angie Delainey

Second: Melanie Johnny

CONSENSUS

D. BUSINESS:

i) **Proposals:**

1. **Marie Sharpe Elementary School Proposal #1: \$584.00**

There was discussion on this cultural proposal:

CONSENSUS pending school portion (FNEC requests that the school donate \$100.00)

2. **Marie Sharpe Elementary School Proposal #2: \$600.00**

There was discussion on this cultural proposal:

CONSENSUS pending school portion (FNEC requests that the school donate \$100.00).

ii) First Nation Role Models: Tracy Hubner

- Role Model candidates: Final count, we are now at 5 females and 4 males.
- Voting packages will be put together.
- Role Model Selections will take place in April date TBA

FNEC decided that they would prefer to come into Board office and vote.

E. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:

i) Language and Culture: Grant Gustafson

ii) TRU Transition Trip for Indigenous Students Update: Grant Gustafson

A trip for 25 students to go tour Kamloops TRU site April 13 & 14, 2022. It will be a chaperoned road trip. Grades 10-12.

Grant Gustafson shared that the transportation and hotel is all booked.

There are five Lake City Secondary students going, eleven from PSO, ten from Skyline. Forms due tomorrow, April 5, 2022. Hoping for 25 plus students.

This is a trip for students to see what is there and what supports are in place. The tour will be designed for specific courses the students want to take.

iii) Outdoor Spaces: Update by Grant Gustafson

There are currently two contractors putting quotes together for this. We hoped we would be at the ground-breaking stage but due to Covid supply chain this is where we are at.

iv) Local 7 Sacred Teaching Posters/Elders Update: Grant Gustafson

Métis and Esk'etemc are currently the only ones who have responded.

v) Indigenous Peoples Day, Poetry Contest: Tracy Hubner

This contest closed on Friday, March 11, 2022. Poems are being counted and categorized to be ready for judges.

vi) **Orientation Video – what to include: Grant Gustafson**

This was shared at the last FNEC meeting. As requested, an email of the outline was sent out to receive feedback.

We did not receive any feedback yet. If you have any feedback now, please share:

Trying to think of a way to get the information to everyone of our teachers.

Grant reiterated the following from last meeting:

Grant Gustafson would like to do a First Nations piece here to give more knowledge to staff. Examples of content could be footage related to Esk'eteme cross cultural day, welcome songs in all 3 languages, opening prayer in all 3 languages and messages from different Chiefs, Role Models, what we do in the school district, where to find curriculum resources, strategies for dealing with trauma, important landmarks/dates throughout the year, etc.

vii) **Dry Grad: Grant Gustafson**

Grant received email from Craig Munroe minutes before the meeting that he will send out to FNEC on Dry Grad 2022. There was a discussion on graduation ceremonies.

Schools are responsible for the graduation ceremonies. Communities can work with School Administration on making these meaningful.

The communities hold their own cultural ceremonies for their graduates. School staff can be invited to attend.

F. **Adjournment of Meeting:**

Motion – THAT the meeting of the First Nations Education Council dated April 4, 2022 be adjourned.

Motion to adjourn: Rosalie Montgomery

Meeting closed at: 11:40 pm

Next meeting date: Monday, May 2, 2022
