

**FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION COUNCIL
MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023 10:00 am until noon**

PARTICIPANTS IN PERSON:

Chris van der Mark, Superintendent, SD27
Cheryl Lenardon, Deputy 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)
Michelle Noskey, Cariboo Friendship Society
Angie Delainey, Trustee SD27
Dawna Short, Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Association
Melanie Johnny, Tl'etinqox Govt. (Anaham Band)
Lenore Case, Tsideldel First Nation

PARTICIPANTS ON-LINE:

Kyla Fayter, K-12 Liaison Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)
Michelle Archie, Ed. Admin. Tsq'escen' (Canim Lake Band)
Mabelene Leon, Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)
Catherine Groundwater, Education Services Coordinator, Esk'eteme
Avo Menakian, Education Assistant, Xats'ull First Nation (Soda Creek Band)

NOT AVAILABLE:

Ken MacGillivray, Educ. Director, Stswecem'c/Xget'tem First Nation (Canoe Creek/Dog Creek Band)
Calvin Dubray, Education Director, Esk'eteme
Sue Sim, President, IUOE
Latisha Kirechuk, Chair, District PAC SD27
Audrey Sinclair, Educ. Assist. ?Esdilagh First Nation
Marlene Swears, Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Assoc.
Mary Forbes, Trustee SD27
Wendy Norris, Educ. Coordinator Tl'esqox (Toosey Band)
Agnes William, Xení Gwet'in First Nation
Lewis Budgell, A/Education Director, Ulkatchot'en (Ulkatcho First Nation)

A. Call to Order: Rosalie Montgomery, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ii) Welcome to Secwepemc Territory:

Pamela Kozak provided a welcome to Secwepemc Territory.

ii) Traditional Opening:

Rosalie Montgomery provided a traditional opening.

iii) Introductions: Introductions were done.

B. AGENDA & PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Review/Additions/Deletions to the Agenda for May 1, 2023

Motion – THAT the First Nations Education Council adopt the agenda of its meeting dated May 1, 2023, as amended:

Moved: Pamela Kozak **Seconded:** Angie Delaine

Add BCTEA, Grant Gustafson in Section E. vii

Add future FNEC March Meeting discussion (Pam Kozak) Section D. iii.

Review/Approval of the Minutes of the April 3, 2023 Meeting:

Motion – THAT The First Nations Education Council adopt the minutes of its meeting dated April 3, 2023 as circulated.

Moved: Pamela Kozak Seconded: Lacey-Dawn Testawich

C. REPORTS:

i) Superintendent's Report: Chris van der Mark

[Superintendent's Report](#)

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

[Link for Report](#)

iii) Education Committee: Trustee, Mary Forbes not avail. Chris van der Mark provided an update here.

[Link for Report](#)

iv) **Policy Committee: Trustee, Mary Forbes**

[Link for Report](#) April meeting was cancelled (May's approved minutes attached.)

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

Grant shared current Indigenous Education Department budget.

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 as submitted.

Moved: Dawna Short **Seconded:** Angie Delainey

APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS

D. BUSINESS:

i) **Proposals:**

1. **Nesika Elementary School Proposal #1: \$3,665.00**

There was discussion on this cultural proposal:

APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS

2. **Nesika Elementary School Proposal #2: \$600.00**

There was discussion on this post-event cultural proposal:

Amount should be \$720.00.

APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS of \$720.00

3. **Columneetza Jr. Secondary School Proposal #1: \$1,120.34**

There was discussion on this cultural proposal:

APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS

4. **Columneetza Jr. Secondary School Proposal #2: \$2,000.00**

There was discussion on this Post event cultural proposal:

APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS

5. **Columneetza Jr. Secondary School Proposal #3: \$329.00**

There was discussion on this cultural proposal from all the grade 7 classes:

APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS

ii) **Indigenous Role Models: Tracy Hubner**

- Selections were decided by FNEC: Thursday, April 6 from 1:00-4:30 pm And Tuesday, April 11 from 1:00-4:30 pm.
- Annual Role Model Celebration is scheduled for 4:00 pm June 1, 2023 at Lake City Secondary gymnasium.

iii) **March FNEC meetings:**

One member opened the possibility of not having a FNEC meeting in March. The Bands are busy attending the FNEC Regional Session, plus there is a two-week spring break. It was noted that this year FNEC did not have a quorum at the March meeting.

Most members prefer to find a way to make a March meeting work. Grant will check on dates next year and see if a different date could be decided for our March meeting in 2024. Council agrees that we do not want to conflict with the FNEC Regional session.

E. **STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT:**

i) **Updates on surplus spending: Grant Gustafson**

- 1,000 orange shirts were ordered from Kit and Kaboodle.
- Orange Shirt Society: No agenda or program description provided for reporting out.
- Outdoor learning space: The contractor is from Esk'etmc. Grant will be meeting with him this Friday along with our Manager of Maintenance for SD27.
- Peter Skene Ogden Secondary Cultural Room funding is in place.
- Presenters: Grant is looking at more speakers.

ii) **Technology Funding: Grant Gustafson**

Grant ordered approximately 35 laptops and cases as requested by Bands. Grant reminded FNEC that this is a one-time purchase.

iii) **TRU Kamloops Field Trip: Grant Gustafson**

Grant Gustafson provided an update on the TRU Kamloops trip. They received tours of the various departments. Students were shown the options provided to students and how to apply to TRU.

iv) **BCSSA Conference in Vancouver: Grant Gustafson/Cheryl Lenardon**

A team of Sr. staff, principals, teachers and FNEC members attended this conference with Jo Chrona presenting on anti-indigenous racism, modelling Truth & Reconciliation, and the new Indigenous course graduation requirement.

Jo Chrona will do a full district presentation this September. Every staff member received a copy of her book Wayi Wah – An Act for Reconciliation and Anti-Racist Education.

v) **Attendance Tool Kit: Grant Gustafson/Cheryl Lenardon**

There was discussion on the FNEC Toolkit: Raising the Attendance Rates of First Nation Student in BC.

There was discussion on how we partner together on this big issue.

Grant Gustafson said that reaching out from a place of caring when students are away is an important step.

Principals will be doing learning activities using the tool kit at upcoming principal meetings.

vi) **Feeding Futures input: Cheryl Lenardon**

Cheryl Lenardon explained that we had the affordability funds to be able to help students and families this year. This is going away for next year; however, we will receive approximately \$600,000 next year for food programming and initiatives. The new funding will be provided annually for three years.

Schools are preparing to expand their nutrition programs.

FNEC invited to provide input on how we might enhance food security through schools and may have ideas on how traditional food can be incorporated.

vii) **BCTEA: Grant Gustafson**

Grant is getting this out to the Bands as soon as he gets them back.

Make notes and communicate on any students with transportation issues.

F. CLOSE OF MEETING:

Adjournment of Meeting:

Motion – THAT the meeting of the First Nations Education Council dated **May 1, 2023** be adjourned.

Moved: Angie Delaine

Seconded: Pamela Kozak

Meeting closed at: 12:24 pm

Lunch was served

NEXT FNEC MEETING MONDAY, June 5, 2023