



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2013 – Board Room, Education Centre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marg Arnone, Kathy Beardy, Pauline Fontaine, Sylvia O’Meara, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Suzanne Tardif, Dolores Wawia

ALTERNATES PRESENT:

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Ellen Chambers, Elliott Cromarty, Serena Essex, Lori Lukinuk, Ron Oikonen, Nicole Walter-Rowan, Margaret Vincent, Beverley White-Kokeza

RESOURCE: Suzanne Eddy, Amy Farrell-Morneau, JoJo Guillet, Senator Robert McKay

GUESTS: Kirsti Alaksa, Lori Carson, Pat Johansen, Lauren Ozerkevich, Christy Radbourne, Cathi Siemieniuk

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Opening Exercises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri called the meeting to order and called upon Senator McKay to conduct the opening. A moment of silent reflection was held in honour of Elder Agnes Hardy who passed away on March 12, 2013. 	
2. Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Senator McKay for the opening. Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated. 	
3.1 Approval of Agenda - March 21, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Sylvia O’Meara, that the agenda for the March 21, 2013 meeting be approved. Carried. 	
3.2 Approval of Minutes - January 18, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Suzanne Tardif, that the minutes of the January 18, 2013 meeting be approved. Carried. 	
4. Correspondence File	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence file was circulated. 	
5. Presentations: 5.1 2013-2014 Budget Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirsti Alaksa, Manager of Finance, presented a power point presentation and handout on the 2013-2014 budget and walked the group through the 	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>process. Questions were addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri thanked Kirsti for her presentation on behalf of the group. • Suzanne Tardif offered to present the AEAC Budget Deputation at the Budget Committee Deputation evening on April 30, 2013. • A subcommittee comprised of Amy Farrell-Morneau, JoJo Guillet and Suzanne Tardif agreed to prepare the submission based on feedback provided by the group. 	
5.2 Superior Model Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Carson, Behaviour Resource Teacher/Student Support Initiative Lead, walked the group through the Superior Model website highlighting services that are available. Members were encouraged to visit the website info@superiormodel.ca and provide any suggestions and/or comments. 	
5.3 Algonquin School Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christy Radbourne, Vice-Principal, Algonquin Public School and Lauren Ozerkevich, Teacher, Algonquin Public School, provided a presentation to the group on the work the school has been doing in Aboriginal education. • Grade Three teachers worked with the students on a Social Studies unit about Canada in the 1850's. The unit focused on urban and rural communities infused with Aboriginal content. • Grade Six teachers focused on the Science curriculum – Western perspective versus the Aboriginal perspective. • Questions from the group were addressed. Cathi Siemieniuk thanked Christy and Lauren for their leadership with our Board. 	
6. Business Arising from the Minutes: 6.1 Voluntary Staff Self I.D. Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A draft of the Voluntary Staff Self ID Policy was provided to the group for input. • The Policy will be posted on the Board website for constituent input. • The revised Policy will be brought back to our May meeting for any further input. 	
7. New Business: 7.1 Armstrong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri advised the group that our Board was approached by Gull Bay First Nation in late January to see if Armstrong Public School would be able to accommodate their students for the remainder of this school year. To date, 41 students from Gull Bay are attending at Armstrong. 	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>Sherri thanked Jojo and Amy for their help in transitioning these students. As well, thanks was extended to Beth Boon and Chief Wilfred King of Gull Bay and Colleen Kappel. Positive comments have been received from both parents and students.</p>	
7.2 IT Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri informed the group that the IT Policy is up for review. • Input from AEAC will be provided at our June meeting. 	
<p>8. Ongoing Business:</p> <p>8.1 Transitions Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A brief update was provided by Amy. • A visit was made to Armstrong February 26, 2013 to help transition Grade 8 students when they come to Thunder Bay to attend high school. • Students are very positive and excited to be coming to Thunder Bay. • Thirty-six Welcome Kits were mailed out to northern communities. • Denise Baxter shared with Matawa Principals the importance of getting registration forms in for high school early so that timetables can be developed for these students prior to starting in September. • Aboriginal Transition Committee will be meeting in April. 	
<p>9. Information and Inquiries</p> <p>9.1 Grant Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defer to May meeting. 	
9.2 Launch of Handbook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The official launch of the handbook will be March 21, 2013 at Lakehead University. • Free parking will be provided by Lakehead University for anyone wishing to attend. • Food and beverages will be provided. • Honorarium will be provided to drummers. • A dedication to Agnes Hardy will be included in the handbook and copies will be provided to Agnes's family. • The original winning artwork will be framed and given to the student. 	
10. Closing Exercises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing exercises were conducted by Senator McKay. 	
11. Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, May 16, 2013 – 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Board Room, Education Centre. 	All

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
12. Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="583 159 1108 191">• The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.	