



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, May 16, 2013 – Board Room, Education Centre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Beardy, Elliott Cromarty, Serena Essex, Pauline Fontaine, Sylvia O’Meara, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Dolores Wawia, Beverley White-Kokeza

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Lori Lukinuk, Ron Oikonen

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Marg Arnone, Ellen Chambers, Suzanne Tardif, Margaret Vincent

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

GUESTS: Christine Avgeropolous, Shannon Horne, Elizabeth Andros, Karen Desrosiers, Charles Bishop, Paul Tsekouras, Pat Johansen

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Opening Exercises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order and called upon Senator McKay to conduct the opening. 	
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 - May 16, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Beverley White-Kokeza, that the agenda for the May 16, 2013 meeting be approved as amended. Item 10.2 Student Achievement Board Report be received after the break. Carried. 	
3.2 Approval of Minutes - March 21, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved by Sylvia O’Meara and seconded by Pauline Fontaine, that the minutes of the March 21, 2013 meeting be approved. Carried. 	
4. Correspondence File	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence file was circulated. 	
5. Presentations:		
5.1 Tutors Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine Avgeropolous, Shannon Horne, Elizabeth Andros and Karen 	

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	<p>Desrosiers, Tutors in secondary schools, provided a power point presentation to the group on the student voice and how this program has benefited them and the gathering of data and student voice on the success of the program. This is a new pilot program this school year in our four secondary schools supporting our Aboriginal and Metis students. Questions from the group were addressed. Sherri thanked the Tutors for their very informative presentation on the Tutor program in their respective schools.</p>	
<p>5.2 Restorative Practices Presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles Bishop, Education Officer, apprised the group of the Restorative Practices initiative being implemented in all of our schools. This initiative is based on the wisdom and teachings of the Aboriginal culture. • The aim of Restorative Practices is to develop community and manage conflict within the community. • To date, four schools have received training in the Introduction to Restorative Practices. It is hoped to have the Introduction to Training in all schools by the end of this school year. • Sherri thanked Charles for his presentation. Questions from the group were addressed. 	
<p>6. Information & Inquiries</p> <p>6.1 Student Achievement Board Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Tsekouras and Nicole Walter-Rowan walked the group through a brief power point presentation of the Student Achievement Update Board Report that was presented to Trustees at the April 9, 2013 Board meeting. The presentation focused on self-identified versus non self-identified data in both elementary and secondary panels. Questions from the group were addressed. 	
<p>7. Business Arising from the Minutes:</p> <p>7.1 AEAC Budget Deputation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri thanked Suzanne Tardif, on behalf of AEAC, for presenting AEAC's Budget Deputation at the April 30, 2013 Budget Deputation Meeting. • Trustees will take information received from the budget deputations presented and work to put the budget together for approval at the Board Meeting in June. 	
<p>7.2 Voluntary Staff Self Identification Policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy is currently on the Board website for stakeholder input. Amy has received feedback from the Success Advisory Committee and the 	

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	<p>Elder's Council. The Policy will go to the June 11, 2013 Standing Committee and for final approval at the end of June.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from the group was received. Further feedback can be e-mailed to Judy jhill@lakeheadschoos.ca Amy amy_farrell@lakeheadschoos.ca or JoJo LynnitaJoGuillet@lakeheadschoos.ca 	
7.3 Gull Bay Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri advised the group that meetings are being held regularly with members from Gull Bay. It has been a real success story in helping to integrate students, welcoming them, making them feel a part of the community and the school at Armstrong. There is an agreement to move forward into the next school year. Details are being worked out in regards to transportation, meals, etc. 	
8. New Business: 8.1 2013-2014 Meeting Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A draft meeting schedule for the 2013-2014 school year was provided for input. Moved by Serena Essex and seconded by Sylvia O'Meara, that the 2013-2014 meeting schedule be approved as amended. The Friday, January 17, 2014 meeting will be moved to Friday, February 7, 2014. Carried. 	
9. Information Reports: 9.1 Aboriginal Youth Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amy advised the group that the Aboriginal Youth Awards are being held Thursday, May 16, 2013, 5:30 p.m. at the Victoria Inn. This is the 10th anniversary of these awards. Amy provided a handout of the names of the 26 winners from Lakehead District School Board. 	
9.2 Native Language Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A brief update was provided by Amy on the Native Language Festival that was held at Ecole Gron Morgan. Sixty students attended. A variety of contests were held re the 7 Grandfathers of Teaching, animals, etc. Students were very engaged. Algonquin school won the language festival. Sherri thanked Amy for her work on this event. 	
9.3 Elder's Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A meeting was held with the Elder's Council on May 10, 2013. Eight Elders were in attendance. Feedback was provided on the Voluntary 	

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	<p>Staff Self Identification Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An invite was extended to the Elders to attend the Learning Through the Arts presentation at Kingsway Park School on June 6, 2013. The focus of the event at Kingsway School will be on Literacy. 	
<p>10. Ongoing Business:</p> <p>10.1 Membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the decline in membership, Sherri asked the group to reach out to parents to become members of AEAC. Two parents are required and two alternate parents. 	
<p>11. Information and Inquiries</p> <p>11.1 Grant Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defer to June Meeting. There will be a cultural PowWow at Ecole Gron Morgan on May 24, 2013 that everyone is invited to. An invite will be sent out to AEAC. National Aboriginal Days will be held on June 17, 2013 for students in Grade 5-8 and June 18 for students in K-Grade 4. June 20 will be National Aboriginal Day Teaching Days at Prince Arthur's Landing. 	
<p>12. Closing Exercises</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing exercises were conducted by Senator McKay. 	
<p>13. Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday, June 13, 2013. – 12:00 p.m., Board Room, Education Centre. 	<p>All</p>
<p>14 . Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. 	