



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Friday, September 20, 2013 – Board Room, Education Centre

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

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Lori Lukinuk

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Isabelle Mercier, Ron Oikonen, Cathi Siemieniuk, Suzanne Tardif, Margaret Vincent, Nicole Walter-Rowan, Beverley White-Kokeza

RESOURCE: Ellen Chambers, Amy Farrell-Morneau, JoJo Guillet, Senator Robert McKay, Jennifer Rissanen

GUESTS: Lawrence Baxter, Robin Haliuk, Pat Johansen, Nikki Marks, Donnalee Morettin, Gino Russo, Paul Tsekouras

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. Opening Exercises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dolores Wawia called the meeting to order. Sherri-Lynne Pharand called upon Senator McKay to conduct the opening. 	
2. Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the 2013-2014 school year and thanked Senator McKay for the opening. Introductions were made around the table. Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated. 	
3.1 Approval of Agenda - September 20, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Sylvia O’Meara that the agenda for the September 20, 2013 AEAC meeting be approved. Carried. 	
3.2 Approval of Minutes - May 16, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved by Sylvia O’Meara and seconded by Elliott Cromarty that the minutes of the May 13, 2013 AEAC meeting be approved. Carried. 	
3.3 Approval of Minutes - June 13, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Dolores Wawia that the minutes of the June 13, 2013 AEAC meeting be approved. Carried. 	
4. Correspondence File	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence file was circulated. 	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>5. Presentations:</p> <p>5.1 Summer Programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nikki Marks provided a brief presentation on the summer programs that took place from July 2 to July 19, 2013 at Algonquin, Sherbrooke, Ogden and Claude Garton Public Schools. These programs were supported through a grant from the Ministry to help students who experience learning loss over the summer. • There were 20 students per campus and 15 teachers were hired for the classes. • Pauline Fontaine was the Principal who oversaw these programs. • Seven food preparation individuals were also hired to prepare breakfast, lunch and snacks for the students. • Pre and post Star testing is conducted on each student participating in the summer program. • Lakehead University and the Board partner to build tuition credits for students who attend the summer programs. Students that attend from Grades 1-3 for the 3 year period, earn tuition credits towards L.U and these are deposited into a bank account for the student when they attend University. • The group provided the following feedback to Nikki for future summer programs. • Share assessment and strategies with parents. • Stagger camps so that students may attend more than one camp. • Transportation is an issue. • Possibility of extending this opportunity to First Nation families moving in to the City – work through Kathy Beardy and NAN. • Inform parents that there are First Nation Metis Inuit (FNMI) role models participating in the summer camps. • Hold parent Literacy & Numeracy evenings. • Sherri thanked Nikki for her presentation on behalf of the Committee. 	
<p>5.2 Operational Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Cathi Siemieniuk's absence, Sherri provided a brief overview of the 2013-2014 Operational Plan highlighting key actions of the plan. Questions from the group were addressed. 	
<p>5.3 Native Studies/Native Language Courses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenn Rissanen provided an update on the Native Studies/Native Language courses being offered in our secondary schools. Currently, there are 200 students taking Native Studies and there are 6 classes of Native Language being offered. 	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
5.4 First Nation Metis Inuit School Support Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Tsekouras, Student Success Coordinator, provided a power point presentation on the FNMI School Support Initiative that was introduced in 2008-2009. • This initiative targets supports to low performing schools in the Province, the focus being on Grade 9-10 students in compulsory applied courses. Our Board focus is on Math. • Hammarskjold and Westgate participants received training in Toronto on September 13, 2013 in this area. • Paul will come back to a future AEAC meeting with an update on the progress of this initiative. • Questions from the group were addressed. 	
5.5 Information Technology (IT) Plan Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gino Russo, Mathematics/E-Learning Resource Teacher, provided a power point presentation on the IT Plan. • There has been a \$2.8 million dollar infusion into technology for the Board. • Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is being piloted at Kingsway and Westgate this year. The group asked to have it built into the plan how students are feeling that don't have their own device – what emotional impact it is having on them. • Questions from the group were addressed. • Sherri thanked Gino for his presentation on behalf of the group. 	
6. Business Arising from the Minutes:		
6.1 Work Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defer to November 21, 2013 meeting. 	
6.2 AEAC Representative on Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) for 2013-2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter was received from the Parent Involvement Committee inviting two parent representatives from AEAC (one member and one alternate) to serve on the Parent Involvement Committee for 2013-2014. • Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Sylvia O'Meara that Serena Essex be appointed as the designate member on PIC and Donnalee Morettin as the alternate member on PIC for 2013-2014. Carried. 	
7. New Business:		
7.1 Building the Next	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liz Sandals, Minister of Education, will be leading the Provincial 	

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Phase in Ontario Education	Consultations: Building the Next Phase in Ontario Education “Great to Excellent. The Thunder Bay Regional Consultation will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at the Valhalla Inn. Sherri extended an invitation for a member of AEAC to attend. Serena Essex and Kathy Beardy volunteered to attend the meeting.	
8. Ongoing Business: 8.1 Fall Harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy Farrell-Morneau updated the group on the Fall Harvest being held September 24-26, 2013 at Fort William Historical Park. Thirty-two classes have been signed up to attend – 770 students. There will be a variety of activities – moccasin making, fish nets, bannock, etc. Everyone welcome to attend. 	
8.2 Visits to First Nations Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy and JoJo are working on setting up visits to remote First Nations communities. 	
8.3 Staff Self I.D. Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Staff Self I.D. Policy was approved by the Board in June. We are currently in the process of rolling the policy out. There is the potential for on-line declaration. • Sherri thanked the group for their input into developing the policy and advised that we are the first Board in the Province to develop such a policy. • Sherri also thanked Amy for all of her research into this policy. 	
8.4 Student Self I.D. Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri informed the group that one in every five students have voluntarily self identified. 	
9. Information and Inquiries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator McKay informed the group that the Apprenticeship Symposium that was to be held in October has now been rescheduled for February of 2014. 	
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, November 21, 2013 – 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Board Room, Education Centre. 	All
12 . Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. 	