



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Friday, June 6, 2014, Board Room, Education Centre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lawrence Baxter, Elliott Cromarty, Serena Essex, Katrina Fiddler, Pauline Fontaine, Pat Johansen, Sharon Kanutski, Sylvia O’Meara, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Suzanne Tardif, Dolores Wawia, Beverley White-Kokeza

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Robin Haliuk, Fay Zoccole

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Kathy Beardy, Ron Oikonen, George Saarinen, Cathi Siemieniuk

RESOURCE: Ellen Chambers, Coral Charlton, Amy Farrell-Morneau, JoJo Guillet, Isabelle Mercier, Senator Robert McKay, Jennifer Rissanen, Nicole Walter-Rowan

GUESTS: Donica LeBlanc, Melanie Mussellam

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	Opening Ceremonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order and called upon Elder Isabelle Mercier to conduct the opening. 	
2.	Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Elder Mercier for the opening. Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated 	
3.1	Approval of Agenda – June 6, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Sylvia O’Meara that the agenda for the June 6, 2014 meeting be approved. Carried. 	
3.2	Approval of Minutes – May 15, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved by Beverley White-Kokeza and seconded by Suzanne Tardif that the minutes of the May 15, 2014 AEAC meeting be approved. Carried. 	

4.	Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence file was circulated. 	
5.	Presentations:		
5.1	Parent Engagement Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donica LeBlanc, Supervising Principal , Early Learning Lead, provided a power point presentation on the Parent Engagement project. The objective of the project is to support families in engaging in their child's learning. The project was piloted at Ogden, St. James and Sherbrooke Elementary schools. Donica to e-mail a list of resources to Lawrence Baxter. Sherri thanked Donica for her presentation and the work she has done to engage families. 	
5.2	Integrating our Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicole Walter-Rowan, JoJo Guillet and Melanie Mussellam gave an update on the work that has been carried out in our schools in Aboriginal Education this past year and into the next school year. Melanie described her role as the Student Work Study Teacher (SWST). The group provided feedback to Melanie. 	
6.	Business Arising from the Minutes		
6.1	AEAC Representatives on PIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suzanne Tardif agreed to be the AEAC representative on the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and Beverley White-Kokeza agreed to be the alternate member. 	
7.	New Business		
7.1	NL/NS Course Projections for September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri provided an update on the Native Studies/Native Language courses being offered September 2014 in our secondary schools. Delivery of these programs is based on student enrolment. 	
8.	Information Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri advised the group that Senator McKay was chosen to receive the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Achievement Award and Award of Excellence. Senator McKay will receive his awards at the June 24, 2014 Regular Board meeting at 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome to attend. 	
9.	Ongoing Business		
9.1	Updates:		
	Elder Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elders have been visiting the schools sharing their knowledge of the traditional ways of life. i.e. hunting, trapping, beading, etc. 	
	National Aboriginal Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Aboriginal Day – Education Day will be held on June 20, 	

		2014 at Fort William Historical Park from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Students will be enjoying a host of activities. On June 21, everyone is welcome to attend the festivities at Fort William Historical Park from 12:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. There will be a pow-wow and feast as well as free transportation from the Labour Centre to FWHP.	
	Paul Martin Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a business program for Aboriginal students starting in Grade 11 where two credits can be earned over two semesters. The Board is currently seeking business partners. 	
	Community Coalition Untied for the Protection of Children and our Youth (CCUPCY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paint the Town event taking place Saturday, June 7, 2014 at the Boys and Girls Club. 	
	Aboriginal Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As mentioned previously, these awards have been moved from the Spring to the Fall. Due to concerns expressed, they will be held in the Spring in 2015. 	
	Walleye Publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on National Aboriginal Day is featured in the Wall Eye publication. For those interested, the link to the publication is as follows: http://www.thewalleye.ca/category/current-issue/ 	
9.	Information and Inquiries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On behalf of AEAC, Sherri presented a gift to Dolores in recognition of her retirement from Lakehead University. 	
10.	Closing Ceremonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing ceremonies were conducted by Senator McKay. 	
11.	Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 18, 2014, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – Board Room, Education Centre 	
12.	Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. 	