



**ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE:** Thursday, November 13, 2014, Board Room, Education Centre

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

**ALTERNATES PRESENT:** Robin Haliuk

**ABSENT WITH REGRET:** Kathy Beardy, Mike Judge, Sharon Kanutski, Senator Robert McKay, Ron Oikonen, Jason Pilot, George Saarinen, Suzanne Tardif

**RESOURCE:** Amy Farrell-Morneau, Cathy Ferrazzo, JoJo Guillet, Isabelle Mercier, Nicole Walter-Rowan

**GUESTS:** Diana Lidemark, Crystal Nielsen, Lori Lukinuk

	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1.	Opening Ceremonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order and called upon Elder Isabelle Mercier to conduct the opening.</li> </ul>	
2.	Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sherri welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Isabelle Mercier for the opening. Sherri read an e-mail from Senator McKay's wife on the status of his health.</li> </ul>	Card will be sent to Senator McKay from the group.
3.1	Approval of Agenda – November 13, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moved by Pauline Fontaine, seconded by Beverley White-Kokeza that the agenda for the November 13, 2014 meeting be approved. Carried.</li> </ul>	
3.2	Approval of Minutes – September 18, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moved by Trustee Pat Johansen, seconded by Serena Essex that the minutes of the September 18, 2014 meeting be approved. Carried.</li> </ul>	
4.	Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The correspondence file was circulated.</li> </ul>	
5.	Presentations:		
5.1	Learning Through the Arts Cultural Artist and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crystal Nielsen, Regional Manager for Learning Through the Arts (LTTA) and Diana Lidemark, Artist, provided an update on the work</li> </ul>	

	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
	Elder Program	<p>they have been doing with students at Armstrong Public School. Armstrong Public School's November newsletter was shared with the group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Felicia Waboose is the Elder working with LTTA this year and the Board has purchased four programs of the Elder Program for this school year.</li> <li>• Diana Lidemark gave a brief synopsis of the work she has done with the students and shared some of the crafts she has made to use in her teachings.</li> <li>• The Royal Conservatory of Music is very pleased with the work that LTTA is doing with Lakehead District School Board.</li> <li>• Sherri thanked Crystal and Diana for their presentation and the work they are doing with our schools.</li> </ul>	
5.2	Collaborative Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nicole Walter Rowan and JoJo Guillet provided an update on this item.</li> <li>• Collaborative Inquiry was an initiative funded by the Ministry of Education. A number of Boards came together to make this initiative viable.</li> <li>• Six school teams participated again this year—Algonquin and McKellar Park Elementary and the four secondary schools.</li> <li>• This inquiry is a true embedding of indigenous knowledge into the curriculum.</li> <li>• Elder Felicia Waboose has been an integral part of this initiative, sharing her experience with residential schools.</li> <li>• Questions from the group were addressed.</li> </ul>	
6.	New Business:		
6.1	Operational Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sherri introduced Ian MacRae, Director, to the group.</li> <li>• Sherri walked the group through the Operational Plan highlighting the 3 pillars of the plan: Learning, Environment and Engagement.</li> <li>• She indicated that the focus will be on literacy.</li> <li>• The Ministry will publish a five year graduation rate in March of 2015. If students started with Lakehead Public Schools but graduate elsewhere, their data will be included in our Board's graduation rate.</li> <li>• Staff training for all staff will be occurring this year.</li> <li>• Welcoming environments for all schools.</li> </ul>	

	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement of parents – personal note from the teacher about your child.</li> </ul>	
6.2	AEAC Annual Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sherri asked for a volunteer to present the AEAC Annual Report at the Inaugural meeting of the Board on December 2.</li> </ul>	Judy to contact Suzanne Tardif.
6.3	Student Achievement Board Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nicole Walter Rowan provided a power point presentation on the Student Achievement report that was presented at the Board meeting on October 14, 2014.</li> <li>The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) data will be provided at the December meeting.</li> </ul>	
6.4	Math Research Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nicole Walter-Rowan provided an update on this research project.</li> </ul>	
7.	Information Reports:		
7.1	Honourees from OPSBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senator McKay was the recipient of the 2014 OPSBA Award of Excellence and Suzanne Tardif was the recipient of the OPSBA Achievement Award. Both individuals were featured in the publication, Education Today.</li> </ul>	
8.0	Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amy Farrell-Morneau provided the following updates:</li> <li>Elder’s gathering was held on October 31. Mental health and well being of students is of paramount importance and how we can help students. ie after school programs.</li> <li>Community visits took place on October 22, 2014 to Summer Beaver and October 27, 2014 to Sachigo Lake.</li> <li>The Fall Harvest was well attended. Over the course of three days, 1600 students attended and there were 20 stations.</li> <li>Spirit of Winter will be held February 5, 2015. There will be a variety of activities.</li> <li>National Aboriginal Day will be held on Friday, June 19, 2015.</li> <li>Aboriginal Youth Awards – tentatively set for sometime in February 2015.</li> </ul>	
9.0	Information and Inquiries		
9.1	Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JoJo Guillet provided an update on the Board’s Action Plan.</li> <li>Funding will be allocated on self identification numbers in addition to money already granted.</li> <li>The 2014 FNMI Framework document is available on line and can be accessed at the following link:</li> </ul>	

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		<a href="http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/aboriginal/OFNImplementationPlan.pdf">http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/aboriginal/OFNImplementationPlan.pdf</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copies of the document will be provided at the December meeting.</li> </ul>	
9.2	Trustee Recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On behalf of AEAC, Sherri thanked Trustee Lori Lukinuk for her commitment to AEAC for the past 11 years whether it be as the Trustee representative, alternate or attendee.</li> <li>• As well, Sherri thanked Trustee Pat Johansen for her commitment to AEAC for the past 4 years.</li> </ul>	
9.3	EQAO Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sherri-Lynne, Deborah Massaro and Katrina Fiddler attended an Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Regional Strategic Planning Session on October 29, 2014. Sherri thanked Katrina for her input at the session related to student voice.</li> </ul>	
10.	Closing Ceremonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isabelle Mercier conducted the closing ceremonies.</li> </ul>	
11.	Next Meeting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday, December 18, 2014.</li> </ul>	
12.	Adjournment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.</li> </ul>	