



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, May 14, 2015, Board Room, Education Centre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pauline Fontaine, Sharon Kanutski, Sylvia O’Meara, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Dolores Wawia, Beverley White-Kokeza, Katrina Fiddler, Lawrence Baxter, Kathy Beardy, Cathy Ferrazzo, Suzanne Tardif, Anika Guthrie

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Trustee George Saarinen

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Trustee Ellen Chambers, Senator Robert McKay, Serena Essex, Mike Judge, Trustee Marg Arnone, Elliott Cromarty, Isabelle Mercier, Donnalee Morettin, Fay Zoccole, Robin Haliuk,

RESOURCE: Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau, Nicole Walter Rowan, Jason Pilot

GUESTS: Anna Marie Kakegamic, Judy Kokis, Pat Johansen, and Eric Frederickson

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	Opening Ceremonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order and called upon Dolores Wawia to conduct the opening. 	Dolores Wawia
2.	Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri-Lynne welcomed everyone, including guests Anna Marie Kakegamic, Judy Kokis and Pat Johansen to the meeting and thanked Dolores Wawia for the opening. Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated. 	
3.	Agenda/Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda – May 14, 2015	Moved by Pauline Fontaine, seconded by Sylvia O’Meara, that the agenda for the May 14, 2015 meeting be approved. Carried.	
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – March 26, 2015	Moved by Sharon Kanutski, seconded by Pauline Fontaine, that the minutes of the March 26, 2015 meeting be approved. Carried.	

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4.	Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The correspondence file was circulated. Sherri-Lynne highlighted the International Students Report (050-15) included in May 12, 2015 Standing Committee minutes. 	
5.	Presentations		
	5.1 FNMI Collaborative Inquiry – Eric Fredrickson and Jason Pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eric Fredrickson explained that the primary goal of the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) Collaborative Inquiry project was to improve student achievement and well-being amongst First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. The video included clips from all the secondary schools and two elementary schools. All questions were addressed. The Ministry of Education (Toronto) requested permission to use the video for training purposes. Katrina Fiddler spoke from a student's perspective about the mentorship program at Hammarskjold High School and its impact. Sherri-Lynne thanked those involved in this project and noted that this is a true partnership. 	
6.	Business Arising From the Minutes		
	6.1 Work Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amy revised the work plan as requested. The new format was well received. All questions were addressed. <p>Moved by Sylvia O'Meara, and seconded by Beverly White-Kokeza, that the revised 2014-2015 AEAC Work Plan be approved. Carried.</p>	Amy to update the First People's Resource Collection (FPRC) on the website.
	6.2 PIC Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final revision of the Magnet was presented and reviewed by the committee. The following changes were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insert "Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee" before Special Education Advisory Committee; and time to call will read: Call weekdays 8:30 – 4:30 EST or leave a message after hours. 400 Magnets have been ordered - (\$596 + 77.48 HST = \$673.48). It was suggested that we do some promotion in the communities via radio, Facebook, Skype and LDSB's website. Other suggestions for distribution were discussed. 	

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	6.3 AYARA Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katrina Fiddler received an Aboriginal Youth Achievement & Recognition Award for Community Leadership. This is her third AYAR award. 	
	6.4 Wording on LDSB answering machine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri-Lynne presented the 'after hours' phone script and requested feedback. • All input will be sent to the Communications Officer for consideration. 	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	6.5 Native Language Program in south side school/ Grant for transportation for Native Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri-Lynne explained the transportation policy re: funding for French but not for Native Language courses. The Committee will consider drafting a letter from AEAC to the Ministry asking for funding for transportation. • It was noted that 20% of our students are Aboriginal (20% of 10,000 students) • It was suggested that Kathy Beardy bring this issue to NAN. 	K. Beardy
	6.6 Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee unanimously agreed to submit Katrina Fiddler and Sharon Kanutski's names for Trustees' Character Award. 	Amy Farrell
7.	New Business		
	7.1 AEAC Meetings for 2015-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed calendar for 2015-16 AEAC Meetings was discussed and will be distributed. <p>Moved by Trustee Saarinen, and seconded by Sylvia O'Meara, that the 2015-16 AEAC Meetings schedule be approved.</p> <p>Carried</p>	Brenda Barradell
8.	Ongoing Business		
	8.1 Updates	<p>Amy Farrell-Morneau provided updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Sensitivity Training – all teaching and non-teaching staff must take this training ever 2 years – the alternate years are for catching up with those who couldn't attend for whatever reason. Success is measured through feed-back forms which identify what information would be helpful in the future and staff also rate the 	

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		<p>sessions. Attendance is tracked. AEAC saw the training before it went out and also take part in the training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sachigo Trip – Amy and Rachelle Pelletier (Tutor from Superior CVI) visited Sachigo on April 28. They spoke to staff and students and had good discussions on how to support students and their options when they come to school in Thunder Bay. • National Aboriginal Day's theme this year is "Honouring Our Men". It is being held at the Pow Wow Grounds on Mount McKay. June 20 is entertainment only; June 21 is the Pow Wow and some entertainment and Monday, June 22 is Education Day at the LU Soccer Field (next to the J. Saunders Fieldhouse). • Aboriginal Educational Initiatives – A small group of community members (including Lawrence Baxter and Kathy Beardy) will be meeting on Tuesday, May 19 re: Connecting Anishinabee and Western Ways of Knowing Mathematics. This is a follow-up to previous group meetings on this topic. 	Brenda will send invitation to AEAC members and trustees
9.	Information and Inquiries		
	9.1 Wild Rice Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason Pilot explained his idea of connecting science and math through a Wild Rice Project. Next year the board to undertake a long term scientific study at Kingfisher Lake and Fort William Historical Park where students can grow wild rice (to study - not to sell). They will be looking for information on climate change; how to collect rice the traditional way, etc. Dr. Peter Lee (a professor doing research at LU) will assist with collecting data for the scientific study. Jason explained that they are pursuing all avenues for funding including Ducks Unlimited and the Ministry of Agriculture. Grade 9/10 applied math/science classes would be involved in the project which applies learning through a scientific study. 	Jason agreed to keep AEAC apprised of progress on this project.
10.	Closing Ceremonies	Sylvia O'Meara was asked to close the meeting.	
11.	Next Meeting:	Thursday, June 11, 2015.	
12.	Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.	