



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, June 11, 2015, Board Room, Education Centre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pauline Fontaine, Sharon Kanutski, Sylvia O’Meara, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Dolores Wawia, Beverley White-Kokeza, Katrina Fiddler, Kathy Beardy, Cathy Ferrazzo, Suzanne Tardif, Serena Essex, Elliott Cromarty

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Trustee Ellen Chambers

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Mike Judge, Trustee Marg Arnone, Lawrence Baxter, Donnalee Morettin, Fay Zoccole, Robin Haliuk, Trustee George Saarinen

RESOURCE: Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau, Nicole Walter Rowan, Jason Pilot, Anika Guthrie, Isabelle Mercier

GUESTS: Donica LeBlanc, Chris Larocque

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	Opening Ceremonies	Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order and asked elder Isabelle Mercier to conduct the opening.	Isabelle Mercier
2.	Welcome and Introductions	Sherri-Lynne welcomed everyone, including our guests and thanked elder Mercier for the opening. Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated. Senator Robert McKay has stepped down from the Committee. Amy sewed Senator McKay a beautiful blanket as a gift from the committee. Many thanks to Amy for sharing her gifts.	
3.	Agenda/Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda – June 11, 2015	Moved by Beverly White-Kokeza, seconded by Pauline Fontaine, that the agenda for the June 11, 2015 meeting be approved. Carried.	
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2015	Moved by Sylvia O’Meara, seconded by Suzanne Tardif, that the minutes of the May 14, 2015 meeting be approved. Carried.	

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4.	Correspondence	The correspondence file was circulated.	
5.	Presentations		
	5.1 Summer Camps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicole gave a detailed account of the upcoming summer camp for 30 self-identified Aboriginal students (grade 6 – 9) from Sherbrooke, McKellar, Algonquin, Ogden and Churchill CVI. • The camp will be held at Lakehead University. • All questions were addressed. • Sherri-Lynne thanked those involved in this project. • Donica gave a detailed account of the 3 upcoming Ministry funded summer camps for grade 1-5 students: Numeracy (3), Literacy (2), and Native Language (2). • The camps will be run out of Sherbrooke, Ogden, Algonquin and Claude Garton (7 classrooms at 4 schools with 25 students per classroom). • Donica shared information about the summer school programs for secondary students who need to recover credits, and the dual credit program at Confederation College. • All questions were addressed. 	<p>Nicole Walter Rowan</p> <p>Donica LeBlanc</p>
	5.2 Native Language Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Larocque gave a very informative talk and PowerPoint presentation outlining the Native Language Courses he teaches at Hammarskjold High School. • He brought examples of students' work and shared videos where they expressed their interest in learning their native language. • All questions were addressed. • The Committee expressed their appreciation for his enthusiasm and knowledge, and the way he works with the students in LDSB. 	Chris Larocque
	5.3 Aboriginal Education Board Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy gave an overview of the Aboriginal Education Board Report (054-15) that was brought to the Board on May 26. • All questions were addressed. 	Amy Farrell-Morneau

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
6.	Business Arising From the Minutes		
	6.1 Wording on LDSB answering machine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from the committee regarding the phone script on the LDSB answering machine was given to the Communications Officer. Bruce Sauder was approached re changing the message to reflect the feedback. Minor changes can be made now and Bruce will be invited to the September meeting to discuss further options. 	<p>Sherri-Lynne Pharand</p> <p>Bruce Sauder</p>
	6.2 Large Copies of Work Plan	Distributed to committee	Brenda Barradell
	6.3 Trustee Character Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharon Kanutski and Katrina Fiddler will receive Trustee Character Awards at the June 23rd Board Meeting. 	
7.	New Business	No new business	
8.	Ongoing Business		
	8.1 Updates	<p>Amy Farrell-Morneau provided updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Aboriginal Day (NAD) – information re NAD celebrations were emailed to AEAC members; NAD Website is up and running; Class Visits at Churchill – Deputy Minister visited classes on his tour of the north; and Cultural Sensitivity Training – classes are completed for this year – make-up classes have been scheduled for the next school year. 	Amy Farrell-Morneau
9.	Information and Inquiries		
	9.1 APTN Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APTN interviewed Sherri-Lynne Pharand on June 10 regarding a report that was released by “People for Education” saying: “Though 96% of Ontario secondary schools and 92% of elementary schools have some FNMI students enrolled, only 31% of secondary and 13% of elementary schools offer cultural support programs.” 	Sherri-Lynne Pharand

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in cultural sensitivity has been a priority in LDSB for many years. All teachers and staff receive this training and it is updated every two years. LDSB is the leading board in all of Ontario. Additionally, a unit on Treaties has been developed in collaboration with staff and community and is a required component in the compulsory grade 10 Civics and Careers course at Lakehead DSB high schools. • The link to the news story which aired on June 15 is http://aptn.ca/news/newscasts/ Sherri-Lynne's interview is at the 15.43 minute mark of the story. 	
	9.2 Doctorate Degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherri-Lynne offered congratulations to Amy on behalf of AEAC for receiving her Doctorate in Education. 	
	9.3 AEAC Student Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katrina graduated on June 9th from Hammarskjold High School and will be studying Social Work at Lakehead University this fall. • Sherri-Lynne offered congratulations to Katrina on behalf of the Committee and thanked her for her commitment to AEAC. 	
10.	Closing Ceremonies	Elder Isabelle Mercier conducted the closing.	
11.	Next Meeting:	Thursday, September 17, 2015.	
12.	Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.	