



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016, Board Room, Education Centre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Dolores Wawia, Trustee George Saarinen, Kathy Beardy, Elliott Cromarty, Serena Essex, Pauline Fontaine, Sharon Kanutski, Suzanne Tardif, Helaina Kwandibens, Robin Haliuk, Fay Zoccole

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Trustee Ellen Chambers, Trustee Karen Wilson, Elyse Big George

ABSENT WITH REGRET: Lawrence Baxter, Beverley White-Kokeza, Cathy Ferrazzo, Mike Judge, Jason Pilot, Nicole Walter Rowan, Jane Lower, Donnalee Morettin, Chris Ooshag

RESOURCE: Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau, Anika Guthrie, Elder Isabelle Mercier, Neil Workman

GUESTS: Rita Fenton, Gerry Martin, Heather Harris – Capital Planning Officer, David Wright - Superintendent of Business, Jeff Upton - Education Officer

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	Opening Ceremonies	Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and asked elder Gerry Martin to conduct the opening.	
2.	Welcome and Introductions	Sherri-Lynne welcomed everyone, including our guests. She thanked Gerry Martin for the opening. Introductions were made. Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated.	
3.	Agenda / Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda – Feb. 18, 2016	Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by George Saarinen, that the agenda for the Feb. 18, 2016 meeting be approved with the addition of 9.3 FNMI Leadership Camp - Neil Workman. Carried.	

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	3.2 Approval of Minutes – Dec. 17, 2015	Moved by Robin Haliuk and seconded by Sharon Kanutski that the minutes for the December 17, 2015 meeting be approved. Carried.	
4.	Correspondence	The correspondence file was circulated.	
5.	Presentations		
	5.1 Budget 2016 - 17	David Wright, Superintendent of Business provided an overview of the budget for 2016-2017. He noted that although the funding package will not be released by the Ministry until late March/early April, he anticipates a decrease in operating revenues because of the drop in enrolment. AEAC was asked to present a Budget Deputation to the Board of Trustees on April 5, 2016. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All questions were addressed. 	David Wright
	5.2 School Renewal	David Wright and Heather Harris provided an overview of the School Renewal Plan which will take place over the next three years. They emphasized that the plan is not about school closures, it is about renewal and opportunity. Information about the Renewal Plan is posted on the website. Heather Harris explained that the Accommodation Review Committees (ARC) will be made up of two staff reps (teaching and non-teaching), a school parent rep and a school administrator for schools that are impacted. Additionally, a representative from SEAC and AEAC will also be asked to participate. Their role will be to act as a conduit – to attend the public sessions and bring information back to the committee. There will be 5 evening meetings: an orientation meeting, two public meetings and two working meetings with a final meeting in June. The following AEAC volunteers for ARC were elected by consensus: North Side: Serena Essex (alternates: Gerry Martin, Suzanne Tardiff) South Side: Pauline Fontaine (alternates: Rita Fenton, Kathy Beardy and Suzanne Tardiff) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All questions were addressed. 	David Wright and Heather Harris

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	5.2 Day and Extended Field Trip Policies (review)	<p>Jeff Upton, Education Officer explained the procedure regarding policy reviews in general and noted that constituent input for the Day and Extended Field Trip Policies must be received by February 24, 2016. He asked the committee to look carefully at the definitions, safety, and transportation sections as well as consent, medical and information forms to be sure they are appropriate, informative and meet the needs of AEAC as parents and committee members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All questions were addressed. 	Jeff Upton
6.	Business Arising From the Minutes		
	6.1 Telephone Message	<p>Pauline Fontaine explained that an elder is being consulted to ensure that the message is correct and appropriate.</p> <p>A tri-lingual student from Ecole Gron Morgan will be the voice of the message. Bruce Sauder will attend the March meeting and present the finished product for the Committee's approval.</p>	Sheri-Lynne Pharand Pauline Fontaine
	6.2 PIC Funding	Deferred to March meeting.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
7.	New Business		
	7.1 Budget Discussion	<p>AEAC will present a Budget Deputation to the Board of Trustees on April 5. As indicated in the Budget presentation by David Wright, we do not anticipate receiving additional funds for the next school year. Sherri-Lynne said she has advocated to the Ministry that they begin to fund based on the self-identification numbers rather than just using Stats Canada information. Funding is not transferable – it is tied to the number of students involved.</p> <p>Amy, Anika and Suzanne will draft a submission and forward it to Brenda for formatting prior to presenting it for approval at the March meeting.</p>	<p>Amy, Anika, Suzanne</p> <p>Brenda Barradell</p>

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	7.2 Change date of March meeting	The AEAC meeting scheduled for March 24 th must be re-scheduled. Moved by Robin Haliuk and seconded by Serena Essex, that the March 24 th AEAC meeting be rescheduled for Wednesday, March 30. Carried.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	7.3 Trustee Awards	Included in the agenda package was information about the Trustee Awards. Sherri-Lynne asked the members to think about who they would like to nominate. This will be discussed at the March meeting.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
8.	Ongoing Business		
	8.1 Updates	a) Cultural Sensitivity Training – This is the ‘catch up year’ and training sessions will be held on March 24 and 31 for all staff. Amy will send an email reminding staff. b) AYARA – Amy recently participated in a fundraiser. Brenda will send the information and application to Committee today.	Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau
	8.2 Updates to Aboriginal Presence in Our Schools booklet	Deferred to March meeting.	
9.	Information and Inquiries		
	9.1 Update on Semester 2 Courses	Sherri-Lynne gave details of the Native Studies Classes/Credits that are being offered at each of the Secondary Schools this semester. Sherri-Lynne will bring information regarding course outlines to the next meeting.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	9.2 Kindergarten Information Night	Sherri-Lynne thanked Amy Farrell, Chris Ooshag, and Brenda Barradell for attending and representing AEAC at the Kindergaarten Information Night on Feb. 1, 2016.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	9.3 FNMI Leadership Camp	Neil Workman shared his experience regarding the leadership camp (Tim Horton’s Memorial Camp) that he attended in Parry Sound this summer. This camp was for self-identified FNMI students. Last year	Neil Workman

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		<p>all the students came from Hammarskjold CVI as it was linked with the mentoring program there.</p> <p>This year Lakehead District School Board will be the lead Board for planning. Neil is looking for help and guidance from AEAC regarding culturally relevant activities from this region. He asked for ideas / suggestions / names of people they could approach. Amy volunteered to help.</p> <p>This initiative will be discussed at a future meeting.</p>	
	9.4 Perception of Aboriginal Education Councils	<p>Yves Pelletier is a Senior Consultant with Academica Group who along with Mohawk College has been funded by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities to complete a project on Aboriginal Education Councils</p> <p>This project aims to explore how Aboriginal Education Councils are perceived by both institutional and community members of the various AECs, the board focus of its discussions and the continuing collaborations.</p> <p>Yves interviewed both Sherri-Lynne and Dolores. It was an excellent opportunity to gain recognition for Lakehead District School Board and to tell the story of our AEAC.</p>	Sherri-Lynne Pharand Dolores Wawia
	9.5 Nishnawbe Aski Nation Education Partnerships Program	<p>Kathy Beardy shared information about the <u>Best Practices in First Nation Education Conference</u> that is being held at the Victoria Inn and Conference Centre on March 30 – 31, 2016</p> <p>More information is available on their website http://www.nan.on.ca under 'Upcoming Events'.</p>	Kathy Beardy
10.	Closing Ceremonies	Elder Isabelle Mercier conducted the closing.	
11.	Next Meeting:	Wednesday March 30, 2016	
12.	Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm	

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

School Renewal -Delegates for ARC will share information with the AEAC committee at each meeting!

PIC Funding – deferred from Feb. 18

SLP talked about the letter that was sent by Ian MacRae.

\$750 received ... to support, increase and enhance parental involvementwere asked in Dec. to bring ideas to the Feb. meeting.

Neil to be invited to a future meeting for further discussion. (He can't attend the March meeting.)