



**ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- DATE:** Thursday, June 8, 2017, Board Room, Education Centre
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Dolores Wawia, Pauline Fontaine, Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau, Anika Guthrie, Sharon Kanutski, Trustee Chambers, Trustee Arnone, Cathy Ferrazzo, Elliott Cromarty, Brittany Collins, Elder Isabelle Mercier, Donica LeBlanc
- ABSENT WITH REGRET:** Lawrence Baxter, Beverley White-Kokeza, Robin Haliuk, Trustee Saarinen, Ocean Meekis, Neil Workman, Elder Gerry Martin, Elyse Big George, Serena Essex, Jane Lower, Kathy Beardy, Nicole Walter Rowan, Suzanne Tardif
- ABSENT:** Mike Judge
- GUESTS:** **Rachelle Pelletier – Hammarskjold; Dan McMillan – Hammarskjold; Ashley Sisco – Third Progress Report Consulting Team, FNMI Education Policy Framework (via SKYPE), Kathleen Anderson – Program; Anna Fern Kakegamic-NAN**

	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1.	Opening Ceremonies	Sherri-Lynne Pharand called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked Elder Isabelle Mercier to conduct the opening.	
2.	Welcome and Introductions	<p>Sherri-Lynne thanked Elder Mercier for the opening.</p> <p>Sherri-Lynne welcomed everyone, including our guests and introductions were made.</p> <p>Regrets and substitutions were noted and the attendance sheet was circulated.</p>	

	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
3.	Agenda / Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda – June 8, 2017	Moved by Sharon Kanutski and seconded by Pauline Fontaine that the agenda for the June 8, 2017 meeting be approved with the addition of 8.2 Ceremonies and Flags under New Business.  <b>Carried.</b>	
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – May 18, 2017	Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Sharon Kanutski that the minutes for the May 18, 2017 AEAC meeting be approved as written.  <b>Carried.</b>	
4.	Correspondence	The correspondence file was circulated.	
5.	Presentations		
	5.1 Hammarskjold – Collaborative Inquiry	Rachelle Pelletier and Dan McMillan gave a detailed explanation of the Collaborative Inquiry project at Hammarskjold. They shared 3 videos which show the aspects of the mentorship program, forming relationships and building leaders. The Videos were from Kingfisher, the Windsor trip and the Pow Wow at Hammarskjold. They stressed that the students have taken control of <i>what they need</i> . The students have a voice and the adults are there to help and keep them on track when needed.  All questions were answered.	Rachelle Pelletier Dan McMillan  Brenda to circulate the links for all to everyone including Ashley.
	5.2 FNMI Education Policy Framework – Focus Group	Ashley Sisco, joined the meeting via Skype. She is part of a group that has been hired to review the progress of the FNMI Education Policy Framework. The FNMI Education Policy Framework forms the foundation of our work plan.  Ashley explained that the purpose of the focus group is to look at how well the Framework is working for everyone, including best practices and challenges. This will be used to develop the Policy Framework for 2018. The focus group is confidential, optional and anonymous. A good discussion ensued and many good ideas were shared. AEAC was unanimous in stating that it needs to stop being ‘grant’ funding.	Ashley Sisco – via SKYPE

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		It must be long term sustainable funding that can be counted on from year to year.	
6.	Business Arising from the Minutes		
	6.1 Budget Deputation Update	The Board and Senior Administration have reviewed the budget and there are 2 more budget meetings planned. The goal is that at the end of June, the budget will be approved. An update will be provided at the September meeting.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	6.2 Work Plan	Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau reviewed the draft Work Plan for 2017 – 2019. Key priorities were discussed and will be highlighted. The final draft will be ready for approval at the September 21 <sup>st</sup> meeting.	Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau
	6.3 Aboriginal Programs	Further to previous discussion regarding the letter of support for the Aboriginal Programs in Lakehead Public Schools, AEAC agreed that the letter should be posted on the website.  Moved by Ellen Chambers and seconded by Pauline Fontaine to post the letter of support for Aboriginal Programs in Lakehead Public Schools on the LDSB website.  <b>Carried</b>	Sherri-Lynne Pharand  Brenda to ensure it is downloaded to the website.
	6.4 PIC Funding	Tony McGuire with They Media has completed the revisions of the Student Success videos which will constitute part of the PIC Funding expenditure from last year and this year.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	6.5 Role Titles	Discussion ensued regarding whether to use FNMI or Aboriginal or Indigenous in the role titles for staff. We should be consistent. It was decided that we will reflect further and in September conduct focus groups / surveys to see what the students think. The results will be brought back to AEAC for further consideration.	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	6.6 Process re Indigenous Trustee	AEAC has discussed having an Indigenous Trustee for some time. Sherri-Lynne Pharand gave information from the Education Act and explained that if AEAC wanted to move forward with this idea, the first step would be to send a letter to trustees asking them to consider having an Indigenous	Sherri-Lynne Pharand

	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
		<p>Trustee on the Board.</p> <p>Moved by Pauline Fontaine and seconded by Sharon Kanutski that the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (AEAC) contact Lakehead District School Board Trustees requesting a First Nation Trustee be appointed to sit on the Board of Trustees”.</p> <p>CARRIED unanimously</p>	
7.	Updates	- Deferred due to time constraints	Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau
8.	New Business		
	8.1 Racism	<p>Concern was expressed regarding the racism in Thunder Bay that is targeted at our First Nations students. Many of our students are afraid to walk to school (they are not afraid once they get to school). The school board needs to have a loud voice and come out in support of our students.</p> <p>We would like to develop a sub-committee to work on an anti-racism campaign for our schools. We are writing a grant to fund a new high school course where we would hire a teacher who would work with students who choose to take a credit course on anti-racism.</p> <p>The sub-committee (working group) would report to AEAC monthly.</p> <p>The committee was asked to think of who sit on this sub-committee.</p>	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
	8.2 Ceremonies and Flags	<p>When the grand entry takes place at Pow Wows, a variety of flags are part of the ceremony (FWFN flag, NAN flag, Rainbow flag). We acknowledge our signature on the treaty by flags. A discussion ensued about how we can find out about and possibly purchase flags from different communities.</p> <p>We will look into this and bring information to future meetings.</p>	Elder Mercier

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9.	Information and Inquiries		
	9.1 AYARA	- Deferred	Sherri-Lynne Pharand
10.	Closing	Elder Mercier closed the meeting with a prayer.	
11.	Next Meeting	Thursday, September 21, 2017	
12.	Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm	