



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES



- DATE:** Thursday, June 10, 2021 – 9:30 am – 12:00pm - Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
- CO-CHAIRS:** Anika Guthrie
Serena Essex
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kathy Beardy, Kristy Boucher, Trustee Ellen Chambers, Keli Cristofaro, Elliott Cromarty, Indigenous Student Trustee Keira Essex, Pauline Fontaine, Anna Fern Kakegamic, Cheryl King-Zewiec, Elder Gerry Martin, Yolanda Wanakamik, Indigenous Trustee Scottie Wemigwans
- ALTERNATES:** Trustee Marg Arnone, Dinah Jung, Elder/Knowledge Keeper Renee Tookenay
- RESOURCES:** Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Eric Fredrickson, Donna Flasz, AJ Keene, Ashley Nurmela, Nick Sacevich, Fred Van Elburg
- GUESTS:** Patti Pella, Education Officer, Indigenous Education Office, Ministry of Education
- ABSENT WITH REGRETS:** Brittany Collins, Mike Judge, Emma Kaminawash, Sharon Kanutski, Leanne Marshall, Skylene Metatawabin, Trustee Ryan Sitch, Sophie Sutherland

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	Opening Ceremonies	Co-chair Guthrie called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and asked Elder Gerry Martin to conduct the opening.	Elder Gerry Martin
2.	2.1 Land Acknowledgement	Co-chair Essex acknowledged the lands and traditional territory.	Serena Essex
	2.2 Welcome and Introductions	Co-chair Guthrie welcomed everyone to the meeting and had all members introduce themselves in the chat area.	Anika Guthrie

3.	Agenda and Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda - June 10, 2021	Moved by Elder Gerry Martin and seconded by Cheryl King-Zewiec that the agenda for the June 10, 2021 AEAC Microsoft Teams meeting be approved. Carried	Serena Essex
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – May 13, 2021	Moved by Elder/Knowledge Keeper Renee Tookenay and seconded by Cheryl King-Zewiec that the minutes for the May 13, 2021 AEAC meeting be approved as written. Carried	Serena Essex
4.	Business Arising from the Minutes		Anika Guthrie
	4.1 David Bouchard Event – Recap	Ashley Nurmela updated the committee on the Live Virtual event with Author David Bouchard. Families of students in Grades K – 12 were invited to the virtual reading event on June 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. There were over 25 families that joined the virtual event. Copies of David Bouchard’s most recent book, ‘Meet the Family’, were given away as prizes to the family that attended the event and shared with schools to add to their library.	Ashley Nurmela
	4.2 AEAC members to sit on PIC for 2021-2022	Co-chair Essex informed the AEAC members that the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) require new members from AEAC to sit on the committee, for the 2021-2022 school year, as she will not be eligible to sit on the committee as she no longer has students attending LDSB. No volunteers came forward at this meeting. This item will be brought forward again at the September 16, 2021 meeting to confirm the new AEAC members for PIC.	Anika Guthrie Serena Essex
5.	New Business		
	5.1 Guided Discussion: AEAC Response to Kamloops Discovery	Co- chair Guthrie and Co-chair Essex led the committee in an open discussion of feelings and story sharing in the committee’s response to the Kamloops discovery. It was a very emotional and vulnerable part of the meeting, so this portion was not recorded for member’s privacy. Co-chair Guthrie opened up the discussion as to the actions that the AEAC members would like to see LDSB take. The following suggestions were made about LDSB doing more, continuing with the Indigenous book club, working together to meet all goals, have the trustees speak, to have the trustees write a letter, review LDSB bylaws, policies and procedures with an eye on equity, student led action, have a heart garden created at the Board Office, professional development session with the student and staff, teachings about the medicine wheel and what the colours mean, putting	Anika Guthrie Serena Essex

		<p>programs into place, developing connections with every student in the classroom, this is a huge opportunity for change, share information, teach or develop curriculum, with action we recover, involve the elders, create subject matter and be respectful and organized in healing. Another suggestion that was brought forward was during the creation of LDSB's operational plan that AEAC, FNMI committee and our Equity office be involved with suggestions and input.</p> <p>Dinah Jung, Social Justice Equity Chair, ETFO, offered her assistance and mentioned that ETFO recently has a presentation from Niigaan Sinclair regarding Cultural Appropriation.</p>	
6.	Presentations		
	6.1 NEW 7021 Teacher Hiring Policy and Procedures/ NEW 7022 Conflict of Interest – Teacher Hiring Policy and Procedures	<p>Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Human Rights and Equity Advisor, reviewed with the committee, the new policies that were developed for 7021 Teacher Hiring and 7022 Conflict of Interest – Teacher Hiring.</p> <p>The following questions and suggestions were put forth from committee members: how can we allow applicants to be recognized for lived experience, how can we get new graduates to apply to school boards, considerations for salary, commuting and placing importance on the Indigenous language programs.</p> <p>Superintendent Keene would like further conversation with committee members on this topic.</p>	Mahejabeen Ebrahim
	6.2 Indigenous Reads Book Club	<p>Jasmine Sgambelluri and Kathleen Andrews presented information to the committee on the Indigenous Reads Book Club with author Alicia Elliott's book, 'A Mind Spread Out on the Ground'. Over 50 educators participated in the Indigenous Reads Book Club in a unified effort to gain understanding about the past and present in an effort to build a stronger future. The goal of the book club had emphasis on LDSB'S commitment to reconciliation. The book club met every Wednesday from 4 to 6 pm for six weeks. It was requested that the book club invite/include members of AEAC. There are plans to expand book club for the 2021-2022 school year.</p>	Jasmine Sgambelluri Kathleen Andrews
	6.3 Aboriginal Education Board Report	Co-chair Guthrie deferred this item to the September 2021 meeting.	Anika Guthrie

7.	Information and Inquiries		
	7.1 COVID-19 Update	Superintendent Keene updated the committee that COVID vaccinations have been offered to LDSB Special Education groups, a promotional program from LDSB and the TBHU has been launched centering around the vaccinations of 12 -17 years old and in-person classroom participation numbers are very strong for September 2021.	AJ Keene
	7.2 Indigenous Student Trustee Update	Indigenous Student Trustee Keira Essex reported to the committee that she would be participating in an orientation session for Grades 7 and 8 students transitioning into secondary school on Monday, June 15, 2021.	Keira Essex
	7.3 Native Language Supports and Resources	Co-chair Guthrie deferred this item to the September 2021 AEAC meeting.	Anika Guthrie
	7.4 Updates	Ashley Nurmela will forward details of the National Indigenous Peoples Day to AEAC members once they are finalized.	Ashley Nurmela
8.	Information and Inquiries		
	8.1 NAN Land Based Language and Learning Gathering	Co-chair Guthrie informed the committee that the NAN Land Based Language and Learning Gathering occurred last week. A number of LDSB staff attended the gathering including the Kingfisher Education Centre staff and Kingsway Park Public School staff. Co-chair Guthrie thanked Kathy Beardy and her staff for the learning opportunity.	Anika Guthrie
	8.2 Magnus Theatre Presentation	Indigenous Student Trustee Keira Essex informed the group that Magnus Theatre would be releasing their new presentation, 'Truth and Reconciliation Project' on YouTube next week.	
9.	Closing	Elder Martin closed the meeting with a very insightful and inspirational view.	
10.	Next Meeting	Thursday, September 16, 2021	
11.	Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.	