



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST NATION, MÉTIS, AND INUIT EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING held on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., by Google Meet.

## PRESENT:

Trustee/Members: Braden Leal, Kerri-Lee Langer, Ainsley Dunn, Pam Knott, Jacqueline Gorgeatt, Karrie MacMurray, Della Stewart-Figueira, Michael Nasello, Elaine Devlin, Cynthia Gray, Aricka Fleguel, Aimee Sleep, Trina Turner, Lisa Evans

Regrets: Mark LaFrance, Andy Dufrane, Linda Gendron, Clare Armstrong, Mitch Champagne, Shannon O'Connor, Jamie Brake

Administration: Tim Moloney, Sharon Lajoie

Recorder: Jenny Leahy

## Call to Order

1. Land Acknowledgement - Tim Moloney
2. Opening Prayer  
Tim Moloney asked Jacqueline Gorgeatt to lead with prayer.
3. Welcome and Introductions - Tim Moloney
4. Approval of Agenda  
**MOTION** Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Kerri-Lee Langer  
That the Agenda be approved, as presented.  
Carried
5. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on December 10, 2019 (attached)  
**MOTION** Moved by Aricka Fleugel, seconded by Trina Turner  
That the Minutes of the meeting held on December 10, 2019 be approved.  
Carried
6. Business Arising from the Minutes  
There was no business arising.

**A. Presentations/Discussions**

1. Community Partners Sharing

Curve Lake First Nation – Aricka Flequel

- Following the declaration of a provincial emergency on March 17, 2020, students and teachers moved to the online learning module
- After that date, the school launched a new website, which includes a parent portal and teacher blogs, to help families adjust to this new method
- Students are continuing to access supports, such as speech/language, social work, etc.
- Staff are adjusting well to the online platform, engaging in professional learning, and continuing to share information amongst each other
- Curve Lake First Nation held a “Standing Parade” in the community. Another one is planned for June 19 which will celebrate the graduates
- Community checkpoint has been setup to help control exposure of COVID-19
- The PowWow, scheduled for September, has not been cancelled as of the date of this meeting. The decision will be reviewed again in the summer

Alderville First Nation – Jacqueline Gorveatt

- As with Curve Lake First Nation, the pandemic has caused the community to work from home, with students engaging in online learning
- Ongoing services are continuing to be provided through student services
- Traffic is being stopped to control who is coming into the community
- Businesses initially all shut down – some have since re-opened, primarily gas and convenience stores
- Education Manager has been supporting students online
- As of the date of this meeting, the PowWow has not yet been cancelled
- Chief and Counsel are making good decisions to keep things closed, and modelling social distancing

Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre – Cynthia Gray

- Creative programming opportunities are being made available to keep students and families engaged
- A new student worker has been hired to provide social work support to the community
- Staff who would normally be supporting students in the schools are now finding new ways to provide that support
- In some cases, the situation has been working for students. As a result of the Covid-19 situation, a positive has been that families have had more home-time together

Hiawatha First Nation – Karrie MacMurray

- Karrie had been reaching out to students, assisting with technology and communicating with families
- An area of particular focus had been to recognize graduates – how could it be done virtually to ensure students are recognized? Feedback had been requested from students and parents
- Updates were provided to the community – Providing information, eg. creating space in your home, having fun with online learning, how to engage students.

2. Consultant Update - Sharon Lajoie
  - a. [Honouring Indigenous Education in PVNC](#)
  - b. Overview of the BAP year - with data on Walking the Path, Kairos Blanket Exercise, First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Studies courses, etc.

Sharon provided an update of the activities and events that have taken place since January, pointing out that the year has been interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The board was able to fulfil many goals of the BAP, despite the year being cut short.
  - c. Native Studies Courses will be running in all six (6) secondary schools for the 2020-2021 school year
  - d. Ministry of Education – updates  
Unspent Indigenous Education (BAP) funding will be carried forward into the next school year (2020-2021). No news to report yet regarding funding for the 2020-2021 school year.

3. Celebrating Sacred Teachings - Michael Nasello, Sharon Lajoie, Peter Bagnall  
Michael Nasello reflected on his vision for this document which was the culmination of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit, the Catholic Social Teachings, and the Seven Grandfather Teachings.

The working group comprised of Emily Moore, Shane Alderson, Jacqueline Gorveatt, Kendra Willis, Peter Bagnall, Sean Heuchert, and Sharon Lajoie, along with Coop Student, Elisa Schmidt.

Following a few minor edits, this resource will be rolled out to Principals in September 2020.

Michael offered his thanks to the Committee for their wisdom and input toward the development of this resource.

4. 2020-2022 Committee Membership - Tim Moloney  
The Committee members were thanked for their commitment during the last two years. Some members will not be returning as their term officially expires on June 30, 2020. Tim encouraged those members to re-apply for the next two-year term of September 2020-June 2022.

## **B. Informational Items**

1. Indigenous Education Facilitator - Tim Moloney  
Information was provided regarding the establishment of a new contract position that will support Indigenous Education in PVNC. The local First Nation and Métis community members have been involved in developing the role and will continue to be involved in the screening and the interview process. The successful candidate is expected to begin September 2020.
2. Learning@Home/Summer Programs - Michael Mooney  
Mike Mooney was introduced as the Teacher-Learning Consultant hired to replace Sharon Lajoie as the Indigenous Education Lead. Mike assumes this role in September 2020

Mike provided information around the learning during this recent pandemic and spoke to the contributions made for the development of this document. Families in need were supplied with technology and those students identified as having special education needs were supported by Educational Assistants and Special Education Resource Teachers. Staff are continuing to reach out to meet individualized needs, with social worker staff reaching out to support students.

**Summer programs**

Mike provided an overview of all summer programs scheduled for July, including summer school, summer learning, and “Reach Ahead” opportunities. All programs will be held online this year.

The Ministry of Education has provided additional funding for programs to support students to transition back to school in September. This program will take place toward the end of August.

3. 2020-2021 Meeting dates
  - a. September 15, 2020
  - b. December 8, 2020
  - c. March 9, 2021
  - d. June 1, 2021

**C. Next Meeting**

1. Tuesday, September 15, 2020 – Location: Catholic Education Centre
2. Volunteer(s) for Opening and Closing Prayer
  - Opening Prayer - Mike Mooney
  - Closing Prayer - Tim Moloney

**D. Conclusion**

1. Closing Prayer - Sharon Lajoie

Sharon shared a few words about her experience/engagement and the various relationships she had developed. Sharon extended appreciation to staff, indicating that there had been lots to learn over the years and staff had been responsive and eager to do so. Sharon has felt privileged to help staff and students learn and is grateful to everyone that made her job possible.

Sharon closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

**MOTION**

Moved by Elaine Devlin, seconded by Della Stewart-Figueira  
That the meeting adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

Carried