



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST NATION, MÉTIS, AND INUIT EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in person or via Google Meet by using: <https://meet.google.com/uvy-exbp-qbd>

## PRESENT:

Trustee/Members: Sherry Davis, Melissa Bishop, Joshua Charpentier, Kerri-Lee Langer, Elaine Devlin, Gayelyn Heffernan, Jacqueline Gorveatt, Karrie MacMurray, Della Stewart-Figueira, Nancy Watt, Emily Chorley, Mark La France, Helen McCarthy

Regrets: Craig Hulsman, Lisa Evans, Aricka Fleguel, Cydney Habraken, Shannon O'Connor, Michael Grant, Mind Taylor, Braden Leal

Administration: Julie Selby, Jeannie Armstrong, Mike Mooney

Guest: Siobhán Marie, Sandra Connolly, Peter Bangall

Recorder: Shannon Carr

## A. Call to Order:

### 1. Welcome

Superintendent Julie Selby welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the 2021-2022 school year.

### 2. Territorial Recognition - Mike Mooney

Julie asked Mike Mooney to lead with our Territorial Recognition.

### 3. Opening Prayer – Jacqueline Gorveatt

Julie asked Jacqueline Gorveatt to lead with Opening Prayer.

### 4. Additions to the Agenda

Mike Mooney brought a request forward to discuss the Papal visit by Pope Francis during his consultant update.

### 5. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Gayleyn Heffernan, seconded by Sherry Davis, that the Agenda be approved, with the addition of Mike Mooney's item.

Carried

### 6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

### 7. Approval of the [Minutes](#) of the Meeting held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

Karrie MacMurray requested that corrections be made to the minutes under "Hiawatha First Nation Update" on page 25 and page 26. Shannon Carr made

those corrections.

**MOTION:** Moved by Sherry Davis, seconded by Karrie MacMurray, that the Minutes be approved, as amended.

Carried

8. Business Arising from the Minutes  
None.

**B. Presentations:**

1. Equity Resources - Siobhán Marie - Student Trustee

Siobhán noticed her school (St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School) did not have books written by Indigenous peoples and wanted to do something to change that. Siobhán applied for a grant through #RisingYouth which is a program led by "TakingITGlobal" to help young individuals take action through youth-led community service grants. The program is funded through the Government of Canada.

Siobhán's application was successful and she was awarded a grant of \$750.00. With that money, Siobhán purchased approximately 16-20 books for St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School. In addition, Siobhán purchased 5 books for every St. Thomas Aquinas feeder school. All books purchased are written by Indigenous people and are reflecting Indigenous literature.

Siobhán acknowledged that this project was based around the board's call to action number 6.3, "The school and community build partnerships to enhance learning opportunities and well-being for students."

Superintendent Jeannie Armstrong highlighted how this project shows the substantial impact student voice and student leadership has on our school system.

More information regarding THE #RisingYouth program can be found using this link: <https://www.risingyouth.ca>

2. Student Census - Peter Bagnall & Sandra Connolly

Learning Consultants Peter Bagnall and Sandra Connolly presented the Demographic Data from Student Census and Synodal Focus Groups. Surveys were sent in the Fall of 2021 to parents to fill out on behalf of students grades 1-8 with participation of 1,473. Grade 9-12 students (with parental permission) were invited, with 2,154 participants, totalling 3,627. Participation in the survey was voluntary, anonymous and confidential. PVNCCDSB participated in the survey voluntarily, in the future the Ministry is making it required. Questions in the survey were provided by the Ministry, with additional questions added by our Equity Advisor, Mante Molepo. Questions from the survey were reviewed by Sandra Connolly along with the results from the Equity Census. The Demographic Data and Student Census provides a qualitative view of PVNCCDSB.

The Synodal Focus Groups gave student voice through a qualitative lens. The 6 secondary schools, 3 classes from each, participated in the Synodal Discussion. A

synthesis of Diocesan Questions was reviewed highlighting key themes that came out of the discussion with students. This process was very successful and well received by students with conversations spilling over into the classroom. On Faith Day, April 8 Professional Development Day, staff in all schools and at the Catholic Education Centre participated in Synodal Discussions and key-note speaker Bishop Paul-André Durocher, summarizing key themes.

The next steps include communicating results to stakeholders by creating a report and publishing the report on the board website, using the data and student consultations to inform the Equity Action Plan, identifying areas for improvement and allocating resources. The next data collection will occur in October 2022, occurring annually, being voluntary but no longer anonymous.

Jeannie opened the floor for discussion/questions following the presentation. Helen McCarthy asked if staff members will receive training on how to handle those hard questions that will be asked within the synodal questions? Jeannie Armstrong stated that PD has been provided to staff all throughout the year.

Gayleen asked if the board is concerned about the participation moving forward since the survey will no longer be anonymous? Jeannie acknowledged that other boards have taken the approach of a coding system which will allow school boards to have a more detailed result as to who filled out the survey but will not provide specific names. Jeannie advised that PVNC will follow suit with that same process. Jeannie confirmed that the board is actively working with MFIPA and board communications to ensure that privacy is secure. Jeannie expressed that by doing the survey this past year, it has hopefully built trust with the school community and therefore, will make participants feel comfortable in participating again next year.

## **C. Updates, Discussion and Input**

### **1. Community Partner Sharing**

#### **a. Alderville First Nation- Jacqueline Gorveatt**

Jacqueline stated the community was without power for a period of time in some areas when the storm hit on Saturday, May 21. Thankfully the community centre had back up generators which allowed members to go to the centre that had no power. No injuries were reported.

Alderville is having their first Powwow since covid on July 9th and July 10th. Grand entry for the Powwow is at noon at Roseneath Landing Road. Jacqueline advised this event is open to anyone who would like to attend.

#### **b. Curve Lake First Nation- Aricka Fleguel**

Aricka did not attend the meeting and did not provide an update.

#### **c. Hiawatha First Nation (HFN)- Karrie MacMurray**

Hiawatha First Nation no longer has a mask mandate in place except when accessing health related appointments in the community. The community respects people's choice to wear or not wear a mask as it is a personal choice.

After a 2 year hiatus, HFN attempted to have their annual Powwow on the May long Weekend. Unfortunately, a derecho storm blew through the community and it went through the powwow grounds. Thankfully no one was seriously injured however, there were some injuries. The kindness and caring nature of community members shined as the community centre was opened for those who needed power, water, food, showers and just a place to go to be with others.

HFN has 9 on territory Grade 8 students from the KPR Board that are being recognized this year for our Hiawatha Achievement Award. This will take place on June 27 – 2022. HFN has 1 Grade 12 for the 2021 – 2022 school year who has successfully Graduated.

HFN has 5 1<sup>st</sup> year Post-Secondary students who have or will have met the requirements by September 2022 to be considered for the one-time incentive bursary of \$1,000.00. The bursary serves to celebrate their successful 1<sup>st</sup> year post secondary students for doing well in their first year.

HFN has a few students who were funded through the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (psssp) and have 1 more year to complete. The HFN community are proud of the students and their accomplishments to date.

HFN has a graduate this year from Trent University's Indigenous B.Ed Program and are equally thrilled to learn this individual has secured a teaching position for September 2022 with a local school board in the primary division.

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 HFN will be hosting an Indigenous Day full of Teachings and all sorts of things Indigenous. Anyone is welcome who would like to come.

d. Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre- Cydney Habraken

Cydney sent her regrets for the meeting. Cydney asked that in her absence the Chair share that the Friendship Centre is hosting an event for Indigenous Peoples Day, on June 21, 2022. For more information, members can view the poster provided. Shannon Carr shared the poster following the meeting with Committee members. To view the poster, click here: [Indigenous Peoples Day Poster](#).

e. Peterborough and District Wapiti Métis Council - Gayelyn Heffernan

The MNO is celebrating Pride Month, and is offering a presentation on Breastfeeding Awareness and Youth Wellness in Connection to the Land. Additionally, the MNO is sponsoring a Youth Leadership award, a Summer Break Camp for youth in grades 10-12, and a Youth Leadership Conference leading up to the annual AGA in August.

The local Council is offering Budget Wise Cooking classes in conjunction with the Health Unit, and we will be offering a Bat Workshop in July to increase attendees' understanding of the role of bats in the ecosystem.

On May 15, MNO celebrated with a naming and launching ceremony for our mini Voyageur canoe. Teachings were offered, and we had the opportunity to meet in person to share food, drumming and fiddling. Josh Charpentier was heavily involved in the creation and planning of the canoe and explained to the committee the events leading up to the ceremony.

Members that were brutally impacted by the May long weekend storm were provided with food cards. Council members contacted all community members 65 and older to see if they were okay after the storm.

## 2. Consultant Update - Mike Mooney

Mike acknowledged the Papal's visit with Pope Francis happening on July 24-29, 2022. The Pope will visit Edmonton, Quebec City and Iqaluit during his visit to Canada. Mike opened the floor for discussion in the event anyone wants to voice their thoughts and/or feelings about the visit.

Jacqueline asked Mike if the board will provide any correspondence to families and staff about the event? In addition, Jacqueline asked if the Papal visit will be addressed in the September meeting and how we can reflect on it? Lastly, Jacqueline asked how the visit will be portrayed to students in class? Mike agreed with Jacqueline that those items need to be addressed. Mike has been in talks with Religious Consultant, Peter Bagnall, Father Paul Massel and a couple school chaplains about the upcoming event. Within his conversations Mike stated that everyone is wondering what to do and it is being pondered all across the system.

Going into the summer, Mike is thinking how do we value the relationships within the system and the system outwards. Mike is looking to see how things develop over the summer and in particular, July when the Pope is in Canada. Mike acknowledged that doing nothing is not an option. Mike explained to the committee that he is waiting to hear how people feel about the visit afterwards and listening to people's thoughts so that the board can respond appropriately and not respond in an institutional way.

Jacqueline agreed that herself and the Alderville First Nation community are also waiting to see how the Papals visit plays out. Karrie MacMurry believes that the board should include the students in helping us guide this process to express student voice. Karrie suggested we invite the students to express how they are feeling about the Pope's apology and visit.

In response to Karrie's suggestion, Jeannie advised the committee that the Bishop invited the student trustee to present with Jeannie and consultants regarding the student consensus and asked the student trustee to express how students are feeling. The Bishop is going into the schools with the students to listen to their voices. Jeannie acknowledged that the board has an obligation to support the healing through listening and relationships.

Mike provided an update to the committee on the initiatives that have taken place since our last meeting in March. Mike discussed the process that has been made regarding the Video Game Project, working with Niigaan Sinclair, Time Immemorial Indigenous

Speaker Series, Student Learning, The Journey of MOD and the Kairos Blanket Exercise. For more detailed information on the progress, please reference this document: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oMTO3xrXJYEDfRjncnSQI5WfDW-etWBUtxJuKyGtT3k/edit?usp=sharing>

Mike highlighted the Student Learning section in particular and is seeking feedback from the committee about appropriation vs. appreciation. Mike highlighted how teachers do not always think of the impact as the hunger for learning increases. In response, the committee suggested that we share Nicole Bell's article with teaching staff and with Nicole's permission, connect the use of Nicole's article to allyship.

Superintendent Julie Selby advised that that board is looking at expanding learning and building relationships moving forward. Julie expressed her congratulations to Jacqueline Gorveatt, who is joining the board's central team in September as a second Indigenous Education Learning Consultant alongside Mike Mooney.

Julie acknowledged that the board is continuing to think about and reflect upon the Indigenous Educator Facilitator position. The board is anticipating bringing that forward in the fall again and the board will consult with the committee moving forward when facilitating the rollout of the position.

**D. Next Committee Meeting:**

1. Next meeting: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 6:30-8:30pm
2. Agenda items for the next meeting, please contact Shannon Carr
3. Volunteers for meeting duties:
  - Land Acknowledgement: Helen McCarthy
  - Opening Prayer: Karrie - Lee Langer
  - Closing Prayer: Gayelyn Heffernan

**E. Conclusion:**

Jeannie thanked everyone for their tremendous work and support with this committee and PVNC. Jeannie expressed her enjoyment of sitting in on the committee as Chair.

Karrie MacMurry expressed her congratulations to Jacqueline. Jacqueline acknowledged that this will be her last meeting while representing Alderville First Nation as next year she will be representing the board. Jacqueline is looking forward to her new role and is hopeful that Alderville will have a new representative in September.

Closing Prayer – Sherry Davis

Julie asked Sherry Davis to lead in Closing Prayer.

Adjournment

**MOTION:** Moved by Karrie MacMurray, seconded by Helen McCarthy

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.