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THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST NATION, MÉTIS, AND INUIT EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in person or via Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/gmq-goif-zjn>

PRESENT: Trustee/Members: Kerri-Lee Langer, Lisa Heitzner, Josh Charpentier, Jeanette Hunter, Ashley Wynee, Della Stewart-Figueira, Patricia (Trixie) Taylor, Beth Needham, Julie Brown, Rachel Logan, Kristy Davidson, John Connolly, Anne Taylor, Cydney Habraken

Regrets: April Smoke, Katelynn Brennan, Rachel Rochon, Kayla Benoit

Administration: Julie Selby, Mike Mooney, Jacqueline Gorveatt

Recorder: Shannon Carr

## A. Call to Order:

### 1. Welcome

Superintendent and Chair of the committee, Julie Selby, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Land Acknowledgement - Rachel Rochon

Julie asked Mike Mooney to lead with the Land Acknowledgement. Rachel Rochon was unable to attend the meeting.

### 3. Opening Prayer - John Connolly

Julie asked John to lead with an Opening Prayer.

### 4. Additions to the Agenda

None

### 5. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Lisa Heitzner, seconded by Kerri-Lee Langer, that the Agenda be approved.

Carried

### 6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

### 7. Approval of the [Minutes](#) of the Meeting held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023

It is noted that there is an error on page 2 during the Motion. The Motion should read "MOTION: Moved by Lisa Heitzner, seconded by Trixie Taylor, that the [Minutes](#) be approved as amended." It currently states that the "Agenda be approved as amended".

**MOTION:** Moved by, Jeanette Hunter, seconded by Rachel Logan ,that the Minutes be approved as amended.

Carried

8. Approval of the [Minutes](#) of the Meeting held on Tuesday, October 3, 2023

**MOTION:** Moved by Cydney Habraken, seconded by Lisa Heitzner that the Minutes be approved.

Carried

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

None

## **B. Presentations:**

1. Métis Nation of Ontario Information Updates - Josh Charpentier

Later in the year, Josh will be putting forward a motion to the Committee for consideration to amend the Terms of Reference for the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Advisory Committee. The motion will be to add a second Métis representative to the committee in addition to Josh's position. Before Josh puts the motion forward, he wanted to provide the Committee with context as to why he is advocating for the addition.

Métis Nation of Ontario is divided into 9 regional territories and each region has their own council. PVNC Catholic falls within region 6 and region 7 of Métis Nation of Ontario. Currently, the Métis council only has access to citizenship information for families that reside within region 6 having Josh on the Committee. By adding another representative to the Committee (from region 7) it will allow for Métis council to have access to citizenship information for PVNC Catholic students/families that reside in region 7 (Clarington) and can therefore assist them in collaboration with PVNC Catholic. Josh further advised the Committee that given the current situation, Métis council from region 6 can not service students/families in region 7 due to privacy and accessibility issues.

Julie reminded Committee members that the committee is currently in its second year of a two year membership. A call for new membership will be brought forward in June for September.

Josh welcomed any questions from the committee to come forward. An open floor discussion took place.

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

1. Community Partner Sharing

### **Alderville First Nation - April Smoke**

April Smoke was not able to attend the meeting and did not provide an update.

### **Curve Lake First Nation - Jeanette Hunter**

Curve Lake has handed in their nominal roll for the year. Currently, Curve Lake has 118 students in the provincial system (16 of those students are registered in PVNC Catholic, at St. Peter CSS and St. Paul, Lakefield CES).

The Curve Lake First Nation Education team is focused on providing

opportunities for student learning during scheduled School Board PD Days. Their goal is to get students together and address prevalent topics that students/staff see in the schools. They hosted an alcohol use prevention and awareness day on November 3, 2023 for Grade 4-12 students. The event was in collaboration with Curve Lake staff and police. On February 6th, Curve Lake will have a cultural mindfulness workshop for Grades 7-12 with guest speaker George Couchie.

**Hiawatha First Nation - TBD**

The Committee looks forward to welcoming the new Hiawatha First Nation representative once they are appointed.

**Nogojwanong Friendship Centre - Ashley Wynne**

Ashley shared the centre's tutoring program is up and running. The centre continues to support students with meetings within the schools.

Ashley advised the centre is continuing to develop the relationship with PVNC Catholic social workers and looks forward to working with them moving forward.

**Peterborough and District Wapiti Métis Council - Josh Charpentier**

December was a very busy month with many workshops such as a burning house planter workshop, artist presentation (virtually) teaching beading to children, rendezvous at Lang Pioneer Village, gift exchange etc. For Christmas the council provided a food hamper and gave out many hams and turkeys for Christmas dinner.

The annual general meeting will be held in February of this year. In addition there are plans to host a healing blanket workshop. Members of the community are welcome and it is around wellness and mental health. Timing and further details of the workshop are to be determined.

Early learning child care of Métis Nation of Ontario is holding a conference in February for educators to participate in workshops and meet people from Métis Nation of Ontario. Last year some educators were not able to attend based on supply shortages therefore, it was decided that this year the event will be held from Friday to Sunday.

Métis Nation of Ontario put out a call out for volunteers to review a guide called "Guide to Métis Governance". Once approved, teachers in grade 10 (civics and citizenship) can apply to have it implemented in their teachings. Josh will keep teachers informed when the guide will be available.

**Niijkiwendidaa - Katelynn Brennan**

Katelynn was not able to attend the meeting and did not provide an update.

## 2. [Indigenous Education Team Updates](#)

### a. 2022-2023 Board Action Plan Final Summary

The team provided a summary of the 2022-2023 Board Action Plan (BAP). The Board Action Plan initiatives submitted to the Ministry outlined the Board's work in the following categories: Elementary and Secondary Indigenous Education Plans, Professional Development (PD) provided (including School based PD, Central PD and External PD), Student Success, Consultation and Guest Speakers and Language Support.

The team also reviewed Best Practices and Lessons Learned throughout the 2022-2023 school year. A list of the best practices and lessons learned are included in the slidedeck link above.

### b. 2023-2024 Board Action Plan

Back in June, the Committee was asked for their input on how they wish to see the Board use their allocated funds from the Ministry. Based on the committee's input as well as input from school staff, the following is how the money was allocated for this current 2023-2024 school year:

- Supplemental Amount = \$678,338
- BAP Table Amount = \$66,488
- Indigenous per pupil Amount = \$36,146
- Underspending on Allocation for Lead = \$58,880
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Total In-Year Funding = \$839,852 plus deferred revenue (end of 2022/2023 = \$375,964)

TOTAL Allocation for 2023-2024 = \$1,215,816

#### In-Year Expenditures

Staffing = \$762,714.72 (money used to fund staff such as Indigenous Education Advisor, Indigenous Education Coach, Indigenous Education Social Workers and Educational Assistants dedicated to one on one support with students that identify as Indigenous)

Professional Development/Resources = \$181,652.00

Total Expenditures = \$944,366.72

\$271,449.28 available in deferred revenue to support additional spending (\$1,215,816.00-\$944,366.72).

Julie asked for any questions or comments. An open floor discussion took place.

Jacqueline provided an overview of the BAP initiatives for the 2023-2024 year. More information is included in the slidedeck link above. Some initiatives including the following:

1. Language Support;
2. Learning Material;

3. Learning Opportunities (Faith Day); and
4. Deep Learning

Cydney advised the committee of some practices that are being done in the schools directly with staff and students. Some examples of the many practices include the following:

1. Starting the Path (this is Kindergarten to Grade 3. The teachings are adjusted from Walking the Path learning to age appropriate learning);
2. Kairos Blanket Exercise;
3. Land Acknowledgement support;
4. Indigenous Student and Ally Groups; and
5. Days of Recognition

Cydney advised that the team has purchased "This Place, 150 Years Retold". All secondary schools will get a class set along with the teaching guides. An audio book for this resource will also be provided soon, it is in the process of being created. Before the Christmas break the team sent a survey to English chairs and NBE teachers to select the titles (of books) that would work at their college and university pathway. The purpose of this is to create literature circle kites to support NBE courses.

Mike provided a brief overview of this year's Faith Day. The theme was "Healthing Through Hope". Mike advised it was a collaborative approach with staff in the Faith/Religious Education and Family Life department as well as the Indigenous Education department. Each component of the day was provided through both the Faith lens as well as the Indigenous lens.

The committee was asked to participate in a feedback exercise regarding the work that is being done by the PVNC Catholic Indigenous Education Team. The committee was asked to provide their thoughts on the following questions:

1. What key strengths do you observe?
2. What opportunities should we focus on thorough our work within Indigenous Education?
3. What aspirations do you have for Indigenous Education at PVNC Catholic?
4. What meaningful measures (results) do you feel would demonstrate progress within the initiatives you've learned about tonight?

**D. Next Committee Meeting:**

1. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 2024
2. Agenda items for the next meeting, please contact Shannon Carr
3. Selection of committee member for Land Acknowledgement
  - a. Kerri Langer

4. Selection of committee member for Opening Prayer
  - a. Beth Needham
5. Selection of committee member for Closing Prayer
  - a. Cydney Habraken

**E. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer - Kristy Davidson
  - a. Julie asked Kristy to lead in closing prayer
2. Adjournment
  - a. **MOTION:** Moved by Lisa Heitzner, seconded by Rachel Logan that the meeting be adjourned at 8:34 p.m..