

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Initial Approval – May 2, 2007

Revised – October 11, 2011

COUNCIL PURPOSE

The purpose of the Aboriginal Education Advisory Council (AEAC) is to support, enhance, and increase school success for Aboriginal learners in School District No. 53. The Council will represent Aboriginal interests in the design, implementation, and assessment of programs and services that will improve the school experience and academic achievement of Aboriginal students. In addition the AEAC will:

- monitor the implementation of the Enhancement Agreement;
- evaluate performance data and Aboriginal programs;
- ensure that social, emotional, and academic needs are considered;
- share information about programs;
- recommend and facilitate the implementation of new programs to provide better service to Aboriginal students; and
- provide strong communication and connection with Band Councils and other Aboriginal groups served by the District.

COUNCIL'S ROLE

- To work in partnership with School District No. 53 to determine programming and funding initiatives related to the Ministry of Education's Aboriginal Targeted Funding Policy.
- To develop and review District policies related to Aboriginal learners and to recommend appropriate changes.
- To support research about Aboriginal education issues.
- To ensure curricular inclusion of the history, culture, and language of the Aboriginal people within whose traditional territories School District No. 53 lies.
- To ensure current topics are presented in the curriculum from an Aboriginal perspective.
- To support in-service training about Aboriginal culture for teachers.
- To support the development of programs and materials that teachers may readily use in the classroom to focus on Aboriginal culture.

A.E.A.C. Terms of Reference

- To ensure that the interests of **all** Aboriginal students in the District are met.
- To encourage the hiring of Aboriginal people within District programs and services.
- To promote local cultural awareness within all staff groups in the District.
- To ensure the provision of activities designed to promote pride and self-worth of all Aboriginal learners.
- To develop a communication plan that addresses two-way communication (AEAC to community and community to AEAC).

Quorum

A quorum for decisions will consist of one representative from each of the following:

- Osoyoos Indian Band
- Lower Similkameen Indian Band
- Upper Similkameen Indian Band
- Parent Representative of off-reserve students with Aboriginal ancestry
- Student – Two, at least one from each valley as defined by the EA
- Trustee
- School District (Administrator, Aboriginal Education Teacher)

Note:

1. Formal advocate group (as defined by the SD 53 Enhancement Agreement) representation will be added when such groups are formed.
2. The superintendent/designate will be a non-voting member.
3. In the interest of “Quorum”, delegates must ensure that an alternate attends the meeting if they are unable to do so. Attendance must be confirmed prior to the meeting.

In most cases, when making a decision, we will strive to reach a high consensus of the whole group, but if necessary, decisions may be made by a simple majority (50% + 1).

Meetings

Meetings will occur four times during the school year. Special meetings may be called if necessary.