



Indigenous Education Council
School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)

Mission Statement:

sysisuselx i? scmāmaya?. ma?łspu?usəlx ali? i? sqilx^w cawtət k^{wu} pǎam. ixi? ǎspiwt.

‘Enhancing students’ pride and success through traditional Okanagan and Similkameen people’s ways of learning.’

Agenda – Thursday May 1, 2025 Location – USIB Chuchuwaya Hall (5771 Hwy 3 Hedley)

Breakfast- 8:30 AM

Meeting Begins – 9:00 AM

Territory Acknowledgement – Amanda Palmer

Song/Prayer – Charlotte Mitchell

Meeting Minutes – Naryn Searcy

Agenda Items:

1. Introductions:

Gloria Bent – LSIB Elder; Marion Louie – LSIB Education Coordinator;
Cecelia Louis-Ralston – USIB Education Coordinator; Shannon Peltier – OIB Education Coordinator; Veronica McGinnis – OIB Council Member; Colleen Jaycna - Métis Nation of BC Ministry of Education Early Learning K-12; Marcus Toneatto – Superintendent of Schools; Naryn Searcy – Director of Learning and Inquiry; Brenda Doroz-SD53 Trustee; Michael Reid – Indigenous Education Advocate SESS; Helen Gallagher – District Teacher for Indigenous Education; Brad Burns – District VP of Indigenous Education; Amanda Palmer – Principal Cawston Primary

Regrets: Jessica Stelkia-SD53 Indigenous Graduation Coach

2. Approval of the Previous Minutes from March 4- Brad Burns

- Previous minutes approved

3. District Indigenous Education Report- Brad Burns

- As presented (Powwow @ SESS, OMRIE Summit May 1-2, Indigenous Student Leadership Forum, Indigenous Grad)

4. IEC Budget Update- Naryn Searcy

- To date \$2997.08 has been spent, with \$76, 858.92 remaining. Spending has been on food for meetings, mileage, and honorariums.
 - Proposal mentioned as part of full budget discussion to transfer \$3,600.00 for Brad's time in his role as Secretariat from IEC budget to add to targeted funding.
5. Language in Schools and Recruitment/Retainment Update – Naryn Searcy
- Naryn met with USIB and LSIB to revise posting, and with OIB to revise posting
 - Language changes/revisions to the postings have been implemented
 - Any posting with new and update language will be shared with Education Coordinators before it is posted publicly
6. Honorary Chair Update- Naryn Searcy
- Naryn and Brad reached out to Leona Prince (Assistant Superintendent of Indigenous Education, Ministry of Education and Child Care) for more details about what the expectations and time commitment would be for an honorary IEC Chair
 - From Leona:
 - Time commitment is at least one meeting in the lower mainland per year and then a few online meeting obligations
 - It has never been a large time commitment
 - Meetings in lower mainland are the IEC chair meetings and JCAM (Jointly Convened Annual Meeting between FNEC and the Ministry of Education and Child Care).
 - Main responsibility of the honorary chair would be to attend provincial meetings, speak on behalf of the IEC and report back.
7. Advocates' Report- Mike Reid (in person) and other advocates (via video recording)
- As presented
8. Student Rep Reports- Mike Reid
- As presented (via video recording)
 - Some follow-up discussion re: online concerns with students, and supports such as Safer Schools Together. (Schools have brought in these presenters as well as RCMP to present). Parent evening sessions have been offered but with poor attendance.
 - Suggestion to offer parent sessions in community- this could be a possibility
9. Grad Coach Report
- Attached with IEC minutes
10. District Teacher for Indigenous Education Report- Helen Gallagher
- As presented
11. Guests attending IEC Meeting– Shan Peltier
- Question- are voting members allowed to invite community members to the IEC meetings?
 - Clarification of T of R- anyone who attends an IEC meeting who is not a voting member is a guest

- Consensus- IEC voting members are welcome to invite guests to meetings
12. 2025-26 Targeted Funding Budget Discussion/Approval -Naryn
- IEC Voting members discussed presented budget options
 - Follow-up meeting (voting members only) set for Monday May 12th.

Action Items:

- IEC Meeting minutes will be sent out
- Naryn will send slides for budget options to IEC voting members
- Voting members will continue to consider if anyone wants to be an honorary chair
- Future dates for next year's IEC will be set at the May 12th meeting

Standing Additional Items:

Indigenous Grad May 21st 5:00 PM @ Ashnola Powwow Grounds

- I. Schedule for Future Meeting Dates
 - a. May 12th (on zoom)- IEC Voting members only

Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn @ 12:01 pm

Next Meeting: Fall 2025