

FNMI IEAC MINUTES November 16th, 2017

Attendees: Mona Stonefish, Beth Cook, Kelly Kiyoshk, Kim John, Brad John, Dan Miskokomon, Paula Hedgepeth, Lisa Staley, Brieanne John, Tina DeCastro, Rachel Oliveiro, Julia Burgess, Joann Henry, Erin Kelly, Clara Howitt

Opening-Elder Mona Stonefish

Welcome and Introductions-Clara Howitt

Review of the Principles for Our Journey Together (Terms of Engagement)

Open Minds Program Report:

- Subject Specific PD day November 17th with guidance counsellors/student success teachers, about application process for post-secondary education, opportunities
- Information sessions for students/families on Nov. 21 @ Herman, Nov. 22 @ Kennedy, Nov. 30 @ Walkerville, Dec. 7 @ Essex
- Will be reaching out to students unable to attend
- Culture club – Indoor Lacrosse @ Westgate Nov 29, Holiday Movie Night/Potluck @ Eastwood Dec. 13, Traditional Art @ John Campbell Jan 17, MMW Valentin Prep @ Westgate Jan 31
- There will be a mail out of information

Q: Webpage management—activities are not being updated

A: staff change, will look into having webpage updated, media officer working with staff

Q: Can a list be maintained of graduates and their professions?

A: Something to look into, have been looking at ways of documenting all students and where they go after graduating

Tutoring Program:

- 67 requests for tutors this year, fund allocated in Board Action Plan not enough
- Challenge: allocated enough funding for 20 students to receive tutoring. Solution: met with University of Windsor Faculty of Education, reach out to teacher candidates to assist with additional students for tutoring.
- Also looking at senior students in high school, want every student to receive assistance

Q: Can you attribute the higher number of tutor requests to anything?

A: possibly better communication, building trust, word of mouth, more comfortable

Representative from the Ministry (JoAnn Henry): Indigenous Educations in all streams now. Every divisions has support for Indigenous education. Letting communities know what's out there. Staying on top of it. Ministry is trying to be proactive at the table. Making gains across the province. The data is just now coming in, have seen gains in many boards. Board Action Plans show where money is being spent.

Q: How many boards have an Indigenous lead?

A: out of 16 in this region, maybe 3. It is not a mandate to have an Indigenous lead.

Mr. Antaya (Human Resources) will join meeting in January, question re: staff self-Id'ing, it is important moving forward when hiring, conversation will continue.

Comment: Some people self-Id when they see a benefit to checking that box. People taking advantage of programs by self-id'ing

Educator's Learning Circle

- At least one member at each school, create a safe space in each school
- These members will be change makers
- Discussed having a panel of parents to speak to the staff members
- Sent out a survey—within 2 hours over 70 staff responded that they are interested
- Enaadmaagejik—those who help

NBE Course Implementation Plan

- Currently native studies course—until new curriculum comes out
- Will be a mandatory grade 11 English course—Indigenous Literature
- Rolling out in 3 phases, 3 year plan. Need to educate the educators, provide professional learning.
- Every student will have exposure to indigenous literature
- Walkerville currently offering the course
- Will be offered at all 3 levels of grade 11 English

Q: Who was involved in developing the English course?

A: JoAnn Henry (ministry, at the table), Leslie Whiteye, Jennie (from Nipissing First Nation?). Reached out to communities, worked with groups from communities.

Comment: Languages in the school—don't have the language in the schools, should mandate for 2 languages to be taught in the school. Succession and capacity building. Language is the perfect pathway of linking the kids. Need partnerships with culture hubs.

Comment: It's a process, there was a language symposium this year, ministry supporting that work, lots of work to do to keep a network of language people together.

Q: when will we see the spoken language taught? Need a date. What can be done politically?

A: ran 2 language classes last year, was lack of interest, still ran the classes. There will be language courses at 2 different locations starting in December.

Comment: Possible to have a word a day announced over the PA system?

Special Education Presentation

Lynn McLaughlin and Dr. Corey Saunders

Refer to handout provided at meeting—3 sections—Overview of Spec Ed Department, overview tiered delivery model, extensive list of accommodations and what they are

Q: when support team meets can student support worker (Paula, Brieanne) be part of the support team discussions, if it involves an FNMI student.

A: If there is somebody involved with the student they would be involved. More collaborative the less will have to go to Tier 3.

Comment: can accommodations be culturally appropriate with parent consent?

Some people in the positions were not very knowledgeable, if working together-everyone should be on the same page

There is a committee, SEAC (Special Education Advisory Council), Beth Cook represents the indigenous parents. Meets every month. 11 organizations involved.

Comment: FNMI parents need supports to navigate the system, especially with cultural component. Families are not understanding report cards, need a workshop to educate parents.

Character Education:

- #3 of the Protocols, currently over 10 years old, time to revitalize the Character Ed program
- Would like 2-3 people from this table as part of committee, meeting is Dec. 6
- Trying to launch revitalized Character Ed by September 2018

Special Purpose Committee

- Trustee Burgess will put in a notice of motion for IEAC committee
- Currently can't be a committee of the Board because of the way the education act is wrote.
- Want it to be a mandated committee of the board
- Will arrange advocacy/communication to be recognized as a committee of the board.
- Letter will be crafted for committee to be under the Education Act

Next meetings will be as follows:

January 31

April 5

May 31

Will cover items left on agenda from this meeting (at next meeting):

Traditional Territory Acknowledgement—will send special invite to leadership to join

Visible Artifact/Statement in Every School

Ministry meeting Report

GECPIC Report

Representation

Closing: Elder Mona Stonefish