



Revelstoke Board of Education

Indigenous Education Council Meeting June 18th, 2025

Minutes

We would like to respectfully honour the four nations on whose land we live and learn: The Sinixt, the Secwépemc, the Ktunxa, and the Syilx Okanagan.

CALL TO ORDER at 3:00 pm

In attendance: Jodi Wallach, Roberta Kubik, Sarah Zimmer, Kristi Strobbe

1. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

5. e) Mental Health Strategy

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes dated March 13th, 2025, for adoption as presented.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a) IEC Implementation

i) Reviewed Stage 1 – DONE

We invited Secwépemc, Ktunaxa, and Okanagan Nations to designate two persons to be members of the IEC and had responses from:

- Secwépemc – Darrell Jones and Nerissa Joseph
- Ktunaxa – Eric Einerson and Kristi Strobbe
- Okanagan – no reply

ii) Stage 2 – Use student data to determine who else should be invited to establish an IEC that reasonably reflect the Indigenous population in Revelstoke

- Non-status – 49 students
- Status – off reserve – 15
- Metis – 33

Discussion

a. Salmon Arm Metis Association

- How many Metis students have status? Unknown as we do not require this information, but will look into.
 - No Metis Association in Revelstoke
 - We have also collaborated with the Golden Metis Association, however Revelstoke is under the umbrella of the Salmon Arm Metis Association.
- b. Revelstoke Friendship Society
- As a local society made up of parents and community members, the membership may more closely reflect the Indigenous student population.
- c. Sinixt
- An Indigenous Nation with ancestors who lived in this area, they have history and culture to share with students.
 - The Sinixt decision not to be included in the Indian Act means they are not recognized as a BC First Nation.
- iii). Stage 3 - Terms of Reference to be created once the IEC is established. Current Terms of Reference and recommended template are attached. Specifics to discuss:
- Chair/ Vice-chair discussion: Length of term, should Chair and Vice-Chair be from different Nations, should Chair position alternate between Nations? Tabled.
 - Secretariat - Jodi Wallach
 - Meetings - two in person (October and May), and one virtual meeting mid-year.
 - Tabled the rest of the discussion for September in-person meeting.
- b) IEC Capacity Funding or 24/25 - \$70187. Roll over the surplus to next year - approved.
- c) Budget- approved as presented
- d) Reviewed August 27th ProD day.

Keynote - Nadine McSpadden on decolonizing education and. Cultural safety. <https://nadinemcspadden.weebly.com>.

Three sessions:

- Request to Tina Lepine - Secwepemc and Indigenous timeline
- Request to Kenthen Thomas, a Secwepemc story teller
- Confirmed Jade Berrill - Connection to the land and personal reflections. TBD
- Confirmed CSISS and Food Commons - Indigenous gardens and invasive species. TBD

Other suggestions if Tina and/or Kenthen cannot attend?

- o Smokii Sumac <https://fernwoodpublishing.ca/authors/view/smokii-sumac>

e) Mental Health Strategy

- We have been working with BC Children's Hospital to create the strategy. One section of the document refers to a Two-Eyed Seeing Approach to Mental Health and Wellness. Some BC Nations like this concept but others have questioned using it as it is not local and because it depicts the Indigenous world view as one view when there are actually 250 different nations in BC. Is there a local preference for what is shared here?
- Draft strategy will be sent out with the minutes for reference.

Ktunaxa potential future collaboration

- Student visits to learn about Ktunaxa history and culture. Perhaps an annual overnight trip for a specific grade level.
- Some knowledge holder visits, but distance makes this more difficult.
- Salmon festival

5. **STAFF AND KNOWLEDGE HOLDER UPDATES – See attached**

6. **UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

Meeting dates to be determined.

- Tentative - October 23-24. We discussed holding the meeting in afternoon of first day and the morning of the following day to leave room for travel. An additional night could be added if members would like time on the land, or more time to connect.
- Note: October 24th is a Professional development day. Would October 9-10 work for everyone?

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 4:05 pm