INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL
MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2026 10:00 am until 3:00 pm

PARTICIPANTS IN PERSON:

Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction, Indigenous Education SD27
Dancing Water Sandy, District Principal, Indigenous Education
Tracy Hubner, Recording Secretary, SD27
Michelle Noskey, Cariboo Friendship Centre
Yanos Stephenson, Education Coordinator, Xatsull First Nation
Catherine Groundwater, Esk'etemc
Jody Hannon, Educ. Assist., ʔEsdilagh First Nation
Agnes William, Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Govt.
Tiffany Bishop, Education Coordinator, WLFN
Marilyn Camille, Education Director, Stswecem'c/Xget'tem First Nation
Dora Grinder, A/Education Coordinator Tsideldel First Nation

PARTICIPANTS ON-LINE:

Emma Rigoni, Education Coordinator, Tl'etinqox Govt.
Michelle Archie, Education Sr. Manager, Tsq'escen
Joy Holte, Education Director, Ulkatcho
Rosalie Montgomery, Education Coord., Yunesit'in Govt.
Dawna Frizzi, Cariboo Chilcotin Mètis Association
Holly Elkins, Education Coordinator, Tl'esqox

ABSENT: Cheryl Lenardon, Superintendent, School District 27
Marlene Swears, President, Cariboo Chilcotin Mètis Association

A. Call to Order: Rosalie Montgomery, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

i) Welcome to Secwepemc Territory:

Dancing Water Sandy welcomed everyone to Secwepemc Territory.

ii) Traditional Opening:

Dancing Water Sandy provided a traditional opening.

iii) Introductions: Introductions were done.

B. AGENDA & PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Review/Additions/Deletions to the Agenda for October 5, 2026:

Motion – THAT the Indigenous Education Council adopt the agenda of its meeting dated October 5, 2026 as amended:

Additions to the agenda: Add Role Model Celebration Day 2027 in Role Model update.

Motion: Dawna Short **Seconded: Tiffany Bishop**

Review/Approval of the Minutes of the June 1, 2026 Meeting:

Motion – THAT The Indigenous Education Council adopt the minutes of its meeting dated June 1, 2026 as circulated.

Motion: Yanos Stephenson **Seconded: Michelle Noskey**

C. SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION Sept. 2026

Link: Superintendent Report – September 28, 2026

Cheryl Lenardon was not available today.

D. (Committee of the Whole): (There were no policies to review)

Committee Of The Whole – September 14, 2026

E: Budget and Staffing Levels: Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction, Indigenous Education

i) Staffing 2026-2027:

Grant updated the council on current staffing and posted positions.
He noted that it is too late to change staffing for this year but can decide for next year.

ii) Enrollment:

Grant shared that 1,365 signed forms were handed in. He showed the current enrollment at each school.

iii) Budget Allocations:

Grant gave a presentation on the budget. There was discussion on each of the topics. He shared what is covered by Targeted funding in the budget.

Professional Development Workshops: Dancing Water Sandy, District Principal

Dancing Water has a full slate of Indigenous workshops planned for this school year. We only have 5 Pro d days a year. This year we can provide 10 workshops as we have the 'in-house' skill set to be able to do this.

Course evaluations are done by participants to help make any future improvements and planning.
Grant asked IEC if they wished to continue funding support of Four Seasons of Learning (now called 'Cycles of Indigenous Learning').

IEC Consensus: Cycles of Indigenous Learning to still be covered.

iv) <u>IEC Capacity Funding:</u>

<u>Curric. Dev and Supplies:</u> Dancing Water Sandy, District Principal

Kits are being used. Dancing Water Sandy said that there are more resources to add to the catalogue now (in process of doing this). We have added more cupboards. This space will suit our department for five years, but we are probably going to have to expand.

Dancing Water Sandy has put in two applications to present at the annual Indigenous Education Conference on the Resource Centre and the Indigenous Language Program. She has yet to hear back.

Grant Gustafson added that if this is approved, their hotel and fees are covered by the conference.

<u>TRU Transitions Trip:</u>

Discussion:

There was discussion on possibly including other institutions. Rosalie asked Grant Gustafson to ask the grad students what they would like. Give them an option of Kamloops, Prince George, etc.

Grant said that 5 or 6 Universities came in the fall last year and will be coming this November to talk with grad students.

Dancing Water Sandy said that there is an opportunity for a capstone project on Univ. preparedness.

Consensus: For Call it University Transitions Event <u>not</u> TRU Transitions event.
<u>LUNCH BREAK 12:00 to 12:30</u>

<u>Student Leadership Series:</u>

We started this last year. We took a group of students down to Vernon last year. Cost was around same amount as the TRU trip. There were about 10 students on this trip.

IEC Consensus

Outdoor Classroom (poss. Stages):

This permit is only good to spring of 2027 and then we would have to apply for extension. Grant would like to at least get the wheelchair ramp built.

IEC: Agreed to come back to this.

FINAL DISCUSSION ON BUDGET:

Grant Gustafson will ask finance for a new list of GL'S.

BUDGET MOTION: TO HAVE BUDGET AS PRESENTED TODAY AND REVISIT ON A MONTHLY BASIS.

Motion: Rosalie Montgomery Seconded: Dawna Frizzi

F. Proposals: No proposals were submitted.

G. Presentation: Requests for 11:00 am on Nov. 2, 2026

Grant is looking for presentations that IEC may like to have arranged.

Suggestion for Nov IEC: November agenda

- Student Support Services – Hattie Darney
- Freda Alphonse and Danikka Murphy from Resource Room.

H. Business:

i) District Day: September 8, 2026

Chief Willie Sellars and Chief Solomon both welcomed staff to the territories. Niigaan Sinclair spoke to SD27 staff on District Day.

ii) National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Grant showed slides of ceremonies at north and south end of the district.

iii) Role Models: Update Tracy Hubner

- Role Models took part in Indigenous People's Day parade and park event.
- They attended the Kamloopa Pow Wow on July long weekend with their families.
- Over the summer both role models helped in their communities and attended Pow wows there.
- September 29th they spoke at Orange Shirt Day event at WLFN arbor.

Please note: Thursday, May 27, 2027 annual Role Model Ceremony (Tentative)

iv) Proposals Form:

Grant Gustafson noted that the Electronic Form did not work out. Grant suggests going back to the paper one which was last updated November 2021.

There was discussion:

CONSENUS:
Keep paper form: 2 weeks notice for IEC and Grant Gustafson to review. It also gives the schools time to update or fix their form before coming to the IEC table.

I. Terms of Reference Review: (IEC Members):

Dancing Water Sandy will be Secretariat for the IEC meetings for now on.

Rosalie Montgomery and Michelle Archie will remain as Chair and Vice-Chair.
Superintendent: Under non-voting members. Standing invite. If she can attend she will.

IEC to let Rosalie and Michelle know any questions or concerns you have.

J. Close of Meeting:

Adjournment:

Recommended Motion – THAT the meeting of the Indigenous Education Council dated October 5, 2026 be adjourned:

Motion: Tiffany Bishop 2:48 p.m.

Next IEC Meeting:
Monday, November 2, 2026