

**INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL
MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025 10:00 am until 3:00 pm**

PARTICIPANTS IN PERSON:

Grant Gustafson, District Principal Indigenous Education SD27
Tracy Hubner, Recording Secretary, SD27
Leah Briault, Education Coordinator T'exelc (WLFN)
Yanos Stephenson, Xat'süll First Nation (Soda Creek Band)
Marlene Swears, President, Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Assn.
Dawna Short, Alt. Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Assn.
Catherine Groundwater, Educational Services Coord., Esk'eteme
Calvin Dubray, Education Director, Esk'eteme
Michelle Noskey, Cariboo Friendship Centre
Emma Rigoni, Education Manager, Tl'etinqox Govt. (Anaham Band)
Faith Rosette, Stswecem'c/Xget'tem First Nation (Canoe Creek/Dog
Creek Band)
Holly Elkins, Education Coordinator Tl'esqox (Toosey Band)
Joy Holte, Education Director, Ulkatcho
Agnes William, Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Govt.

PARTICIPANTS ON-LINE:

Rosalie Montgomery, Education Coord., Yunesit'in Govt.
Michelle Archie, Education Sr. Manager, Tsq'escen
Dora Grinder, A/Education Coordinator Tsideldel First Nation

A. Call to Order: Rosalie Montgomery, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ii) Welcome to Secwepemc Territory:

Leah Briault from WLFN (T'exelc) provided a welcome to Secwepemc Territory.

ii) Traditional Opening:

Dora Grinder from Tsideldel First Nation provided a traditional opening.

B. AGENDA & PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Review/Additions/Deletions to the Agenda for December 1, 2025

Motion – THAT the Indigenous Education Council adopt the agenda of its meeting dated December 1, 2025, as amended.

Additions: To agenda
New business

- 1. Update on LCS Outdoor Classroom – Archaeology Permit. Grant Gustafson**
- 2. Letter of Invite from Orange Shirt Society. Grant Gustafson**
- 3. Leah Briault: Discussion on email from Nara Riplinger, VP at Lake City Secondary re email to help find information for parents on school Website.**

Moved: Marlene Swears

Seconded: Michelle Noskey

Review/Approval of the Minutes of the November 3, 2025 Meeting:

Motion – THAT The Indigenous Education Council adopt the minutes of its meeting dated November 3, 2025 as amended.

Add:

Page 3 WLFN Pow Wow:

- Catherine Groundwater asked “Has anyone talked to Columneetza re the possibility of the Columneetza Pow Wow possibly moving to Pow Wow at WLFN; how do they feel about it?”
- Calvin Dubray asked that Grant speak to the person who initiated the Columneetza Pow Wow.
- Rosalie Montgomery said that IEC should be the ones to say yay or nay if the pow wow moves to Williams Lake First Nation.

Moved: Marlene Swears

Seconded: Michelle Noskey

C. BUDGET AND STAFFING LEVELS: Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction

Grant Gustafson presented the current staffing levels and budget to end of November.

Leah Briault: When you get accounting to fix that computer discrepancy on your spreadsheet, can you please email it out to us? Keep in minutes.

D. PROPOSALS:

1. 100 Mile Elementary School Proposal: \$1,200.00

There was discussion on this proposal:

PROPOSAL DENIED: School can use their \$1,000.00 allocated for indigenous books/content in their libraries if they wish. Grant to inform the schools once again that they have this funding.

PRESENTATIONS:

Debbie Peters from Xatsull First Nation Culture Camp presentation: along with Bev Sellars:

Youth Rediscovery Camp: Moccasin Footprint Society was created to share Indigenous teachings. This is brief, just to let us know what is coming forward.

Following their presentation, there was discussion:

Bev Sellars: Debbie and her committee will put something together for us.

PRESENTATION #2: Hattie Darney, Director of Instruction SD27 Feeding Futures:

Hattie shared the funding they have in place for the Feeding Futures and National School Food Programs.

There was discussion:

Grant Gustafson: Any IEC member can reach out to the Principals to identify student in need of support.

Hattie will send her presentation to Tracy to get to IEC.

PRESENTATION NO 3: CHIEF SELLARS, WLFN (not available today)

On behalf of Chief Sellars, Grant read a letter from Chief Sellars re a possible Williams Lake First Nation Pow Wow in conjunction with SD27 (Columneetza Jr. Sec.):

Chief Sellars: Slow process down until he takes idea to community.

Grant shared with IEC that he met with Columneetza Pow wow committee. They wish to still do their own pow wow. We have already sent their dollars for this year's pow wow to them. It is in the planning for January.

Grant Gustafson: As of right now Columneetza is having their own pow wow. We will wait to see what Williams Lake First Nation has to offer in the future.

12:15 Lunch Break

E. BUSINESS:

i) Equity Scan: Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction

There was discussion on this:

Grant will continue to contact Dr. Dustin Louie.
We have a proposal from Scott Benwell and Kaleb Child.

Grant shared the Equity Scan information he had from 2017. He will email this out to IEC.

IEC agreed that they would like to have a meeting with who is chosen to do the Equity Scan.

Grant wanted it noted that IEC requested to table discussion until Jan. meeting.

Addition to Dec. 1st Draft Minutes received Dec. 15, 2025: From Calvin Dubray

“I have concerns regarding the proposal submitted by the consultants as one of the members listed as doing the proposed work on the Equity Scan was part of the Climate and Culture Review and there was little to no input gathered from the IEC table nor specific communities that were embedded in the survey. Also, we were told at the IEC table we would see the survey questions by both the Superintendent and this consultant before they went out and when brought forth at the IEC table by not only myself, but 2 other communities that we did not get to see them and the survey had already gone out, there was denial from both this consultant and the Superintendent.

Calvin Dubray.

Grant Gustafson wants it added to Dec minutes (Calvin’s section) that he does not agree with what was said at this meeting.

Equity Scan TEAMS meeting on January 6, 2026 at 1:00 pm. Grant Gustafson to send out invite to IEC.

Tracy will add Equity Scan to February 2, 2026 IEC Agenda.

ii) IEC Regional Meeting Osoyoos, BC November 2025 Grant Gustafson

Grant Gustafson gave a highlight presentation to IEC on this first ever IEC session.

There was discussion:

Grant Gustafson: To share out what he presented to IEC from Osoyoos.

iii) Minute Taking & Meeting Protocol Course at TRU November 4, 2025:

Leah Briault shared that 11 members confirmed and 10 were present.

Roberts Rules of Order was discussed. How to do in-camera was discussed. What should be in minutes and what shouldn't be. Putting time on each agenda item do keep people on topic – members felt was a good idea.

Motion: Roberts Rules of Order. If you need something specific in minutes: State directly you would like it noted in the minutes.

Motion: Rosalie Montgomery

Seconded: Michelle Archie

iv) Orange Shirt Society Update: Grant Gustafson

April 13, 2026 will be the Anniversary that we may like to attend or send some students to. Grant showed the letter from the Orange Shirt Society written by Phyliss Webstad. This anniversary for students who were first of Orange Shirt Day to now. Can we put this on the agenda for February. How SD27 will be taking part.

Tabled to February 2, 2026 IEC Agenda

v) Outdoor Classroom Permit: Grant Gustafson

The digging permit has been approved. They are looking at a spring investigation. I think we should wait for full approval. Grant noted that we did provide costs to cover this.

vi) Superintendents Report: Grant Gustafson

Referring to Cheryl Lenardon's online report to the Board of Education. Do we want the link in the IEC agenda? Or just invite her when we have questions?

Leah Briault: I thought that we wanted a copy of her report ahead of time in case we had questions.

Grant Gustafson to include standing link to Superintendent's report on next IEC Agenda.

vii) School Information Leah Briault, Williams Lake First Nation

Leah shared an email from Nara Riplinger, Vice-Principal at Lake City Secondary. Information for parents to see. She noted that the parents page has really good information.

Leah to share this information to Grant to forward to IEC.

F. IEC future Capacity Building Meeting February 3, 2026:

This meeting is to take place the day after the February IEC monthly meeting. Tracy to set it up for Columneetza meeting room or the TRU Gathering Place. Catering will be required.

Tracy Hubner will arrange and let IEC know.

G. CLOSE OF MEETING: Adjournment:

Recommended Motion – THAT the meeting of the Indigenous Education Council dated December 1, 2025 be adjourned 2:47 pm.

Motion: Rosalie Montgomery

CLOSING PRAYER: Provided by Calvin Dubray