

**INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL
MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026 10:00 am until 3:00 pm**

PARTICIPANTS IN PERSON:

Grant Gustafson, District Principal Indigenous Education SD27
Tracy Hubner, Recording Secretary, SD27
Rosalie Montgomery, Education Coord., Yunesit'in Govt.
Marlene Swears, President, Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Assn.
Dawna Short, Alt. Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Assn.
Michelle Noskey, Cariboo Friendship Centre
Emma Rigoni, Education Manager, Tl'etinqox Govt. (Anaham Band)
Joy Holte, Education Director, Ulkatcho
Dora Grinder, A/Education Coordinator Tsideldel First Nation

PARTICIPANTS ON-LINE:

Michelle Archie, Education Sr. Manager, Tsq'escen
Calvin Dubray, Education Director, Esk'eteme
Lucas Kiefiuk, Direct of Education, Xats'ull First Nation (Soda Creek Band)

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

i) Welcome to Secwepemc Territory:

Michelle Archie 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 February 2, 2026:

Motion – THAT the Indigenous Education Council adopt the agenda of its meeting dated February 2, 2026 as amended:

Additions to the agenda:

Automated Messages: Requested by Grant Gustafson.

Motion: Marlene Swears **Seconded:** Dawna Short

Review/Approval of the Minutes of the December 1, 2025 Meeting:

Motion – THAT The Indigenous Education Council adopt the minutes of its meeting dated December 1, 2025.

These minutes are Tabled until the next IEC Meeting March 2, 2026:

There was discussion about what one member requested be added to Dec. 1, 2025 minutes following the December meeting. This will be re-worded without names and ready for next meeting.

IEC members to get their changes added into the Draft at the meeting it is being approved at. NOT before that.

DRAFT DEC IEC MINUTES TABLED TO NEXT MEETING:

Michelle Archie said that at the next Capacity Funding meeting they need to talk about the minutes taking procedure. How IEC can put forward suggestions on what kind of training is beneficial. They need to look at a plan and have a timeline in place for this.

IEC members to email ideas to Rosalie to discuss at Capacity building meeting. We need to see what we want added to minute taking

Michelle Archie asked “What changes can we make so that all members have a voice at the table without discrediting anyone and what they have to say. We need to respect each member’s voice. We have some work ahead of us”.

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

This is in the Teams folder. The link is in the agenda today.

Link: [Superintendents Report Jan. 2026](#)

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

Grant Gustafson presented the current staffing levels and budget to end of January 2026. Council discussed how to have dollars set aside to help students who need support, examples included: skates or regalia.

MOTION: To take \$15,000.00 from teacher allocation and make available for student support as gifting. Grant Gustafson to reach out to school principals and give them a GL to charge it to. The principals know that the student is ‘in school’. IEC wants this to be charged to GL for student leadership.

Motion: Calvin Dubray
CARRIED

Seconded: Rosalie Montgomery

E. PRESENTATIONS:

11:00 a.m. Sean Cameron, Director of Learning & Innovation, SD27: HAWD Stats

Sean was pre-empted due to the IEC discussion going longer.

11:30 a.m. Kelvin Parent, District Principal Careers & Education: Trades & Dual Credit

Kelvin gave a presentation to IEC that he gives to students and parents.

Kelvin said that he is willing to come out to the communities.

Lunch was served at 12:10 to 12:40:

F. PROPOSALS:

1. Skyline/Storefront Alternate School Proposal: \$1,767.44

There was discussion on this proposal:

CONSENSUS: IEC Approves to pay this school \$1,238.70 only. The school to cover the rest of the cost.

2. PSO Secondary School Proposal #1: \$2,151.96

There was discussion on this cultural proposal:

CONSENSUS

3. PSO Secondary School Proposal #2: \$675.70

There was discussion on this cultural proposal:

Grant Gustafson said the school has annual plan money they could use for this. Unless they have already used it for something else; or have plans for it.

CONSENSUS ON GRANT LOOKING INTO THE FUNDING. If school can pay, if not IEC will pay.

G. BUSINESS:

i) Equity Scan update: Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction

Updated as per IEC request.

Grant Gustafson said that the district is fully willing to have this conversation.

1. No Provincial funding available.
2. District around province funded equity scan in numerous ways.
3. District willing to have conversation on where funding comes from.

There was discussion on this:

KEEP IN MINUTES BY CALVIN DUBRAY:

It talks about bias'. There is one group who put a proposal in to do this. They made this process. It talks about a collaborative effort. We want true and authentic collaboration. Calvin has concerns about one of these groups.

CONSENSUS that Grant Gustafson to reach out to Michael Bowden and gather information to bring to next IEC meeting.

ii) District Planning Day: Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction

Grant Gustafson gave a highlight presentation to IEC on District Planning Day in Sept. where we welcome back our SD27 staff. He shared who were previous keynote speakers and what they covered.

There was discussion as IEC has never had input into what the district should learn on this date:

Ideas were:

- Something around **racism and bullying** and how do we as staff address the issues/concerns. We need more awareness with all staff with this. It is not even First Nations, all students all people.
- Safer schools – due to drug and alcohol use in schools. How to cultivate safe spaces. Lots of kids with anxiety.
- Suggestion to invite Elaine Alec, Author and member of Penticton Indian band. She does good work on safe spaces

iii) Service Form Feedback:

Grant Gustafson shared the SD27 First Nations form that provides support to students. He noted that we only had 1,388 returned out of 1400+ forms. We could not claim those students. Many questions are left blank.

Grant added that the forms were applicable to each school.

iv) IEC Capacity Funds: Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction

Discussed earlier.

v) April IEC Meeting Date: Grant Gustafson

Suggested meeting date is March 30th or Tuesday April 7th.

Consensus: Tuesday, April 7th

vi) **Orange Shirt Society Anniversary: How SD27 will take part April 13th**

There was discussion:

These students have had OSD every year of their education Grant Gustafson said. This event is April 13th at BC place stadium.

We would love to take a group of students down to this event, especially as Phyllis is from our district. It would be open to Grade 11 and 12's.

**CONSENSUS: No cost to Indigenous/Metis students; grade 11 or 12.
Non-indigenous students would have to pay their own way.
2 buses and 2 nights hotel.
Grant Gustafson to put this out for interest.**

vii) **Policy Review:**

There was discussion on the changes to School District Board meetings:

In future IEC will receive updates to policies.

CONSENSUS: Both Superintendent and Board Chair to be invited to the March IEC meeting. Calvin will provide 8 questions. How to improve communications for vulnerable students.

viii) **Automated Messages:**

It was brought to our attention the problem that two members had with our SD27 automated messaging last week.

Grant said that we did in fact have issues with the phone system and it has since been rectified.

H. CLOSE OF MEETING: Adjournment:

Recommended Motion – THAT the meeting of the Indigenous Education Council dated February 2, 2026 be adjourned
3:01 pm.

Motion: Rosalie Montgomery

CLOSING PRAYER: Joy Holte, Ulkatcho First Nation

Next IEC Meeting is Monday, March 2, 2026