

First Nation Education Commission (FNEC) Meeting

Whitehorse, Yukon
January 12-13 2015, 9:00-4:00 p.m.
CYFN Boardroom #1

Agenda

January 12 Day 1

8:30 a.m. Coffee & Muffins/Fruit

9:00 a.m. Opening Prayer, Welcome and Introductions/Announcements

**Tab 1 Review & Acceptance of Agenda
Review & Acceptance of Minutes from October 21-22, 2014
Business Arising from Minutes**

**Tab 2 Leadership Meeting (Nov. 5-6) Discussion and Decisions
Tosh Southwick**
a) YFN EAC
b) FNEC TOR
c) Invitation to Federal Government
d) Joint Media Event – JEAP

10:15-10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

Tab 3 Discussion RE: Funding Options
a) FNEC Funding Proposal
b) Training Policy Committee Proposal
c) CYFN Education Funding Proposal
d) JEAP Multi-Year Funding Proposal
e) Federal Government Funding Proposal

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

**Tab 4 Joint Education Action Plan Update (Follow-up from Leadership)
Roberta Hager, Tosh Southwick and Tina Jules**

Tab 5 Yukon First Nation Languages (Follow-up from Leadership)
-Update FNEC TOR – Tosh Southwick
-Briefings Requested re: YNLC – Tim Cant

2:15-2:30 Coffee Break

Tab 6 Committees, Boards & Councils (Follow-up from Leadership)
-Letters from Department of Education to FNEC Co-Chair

Tab 7 Consultations, Involvement and Engagement
-Gadzoosda Student Residence Review

Tab 8 Advanced Education – Tosh Southwick

First Nation Education Commission (FNEC) Meeting

Whitehorse, Yukon
January 12-139:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
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Agenda

January 13, 2014 Day 2

8:30 a.m. Coffee & Muffins/Fruit

9:00 a.m. Opening Prayer, Review of Previous Day & Outline of Day

**Tab 9 YFN Education Data Strategy, Framework & Reports
Parent Satisfaction Survey
Jake Lee – YFN Student Achievement Coordinator**

**Tab 10 YFN Parent Empowerment Project
Tina Jules and Jenn Wykes
Review of Project Charter for Feedback and Direction**

10:15-10:30 Coffee Break

Tab 11 Information and Updates
a) **CYFN Education Update- Tina Jules & Jenn Wykes**
b) **YFN Literacy Framework – Interim Sub-Committee – Jeremy McCullough, Tina Jules, Geraldine James**
c) **CTFN Education – Strategic Planning Project Update
Geraldine James and Tina Jules**
d) **FNEC Conference Update – Jeremy McCullough, Tina Jules, Jenn Wykes and Roberta Hager**

12:00-1:00 Lunch Break

**Tab 12 YFN Education Protocol & Policy Framework Progress Report
Lori Eastmure, Janie-Lee Silas and Lynn Sparks**
a) **Background Policy Frameworks (Saskatchewan and Alaska)**
b) **Priority Areas**

2:30-2:45 Coffee Break

Tab 13 YFN Education Summit – March 9th & 10th, 2015 – Jenn Wykes

Upcoming Dates – Leadership

4:00 p.m. Next Meeting & Closing Prayer

First Nation Education Commission (FNEC) Meeting

Whitehorse, Yukon
January 12-13 2015, 9:00-4:00 p.m.
CYFN Boardroom #1

Approved Minutes

January 12 Day 1

8:30 a.m. Coffee & Muffins/Fruit

Attendance:

Mark Wedge, Elder
Tosh Southwick, Kluane First Nation
Janie Lee Silas, Ross River Dena Council
Tim Cant, Teslin Tlingit Council
Julia Joe, Selkirk First Nation
Vera Owlchild, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
Paula Banks, Champagne and Aishihik First Nation
Lynn Sparks, Ta'an Kwach'an Council
Geraldine James, Carcross / Tagish First Nation
Jeremy McCulloch, Vuntut Gwitch'in First Nation (2:00 via teleconference)
Tina Jules, Council of Yukon First Nation

Lori Eastmure, Contractor-Policy and Protocol Project
Jennifer Wykes, Council of Yukon First Nation

9:00a.m. Opening Prayer, Welcome and Introductions/Announcements

Geraldine James provided the opening prayer. Roundtable introductions were done. Quorum was not achieved. Jeremy McCulloch has offered to call in at 2:00 to pass the motions.

Action
Jenn Wykes to email the FNEC logo.

Tab 1 Review & Acceptance of Agenda

Mark Wedge facilitated a conversation on Self Government (the ability to pass laws).

Additions: Deputy Minister Valery Royle will join the conversation at 3:30 on Day 1.

Motion

The agenda was moved by Paula Banks, seconded by Janie Lee Silas, passed by consensus.

Review & Acceptance of Minutes from October 21-22, 2014 Business Arising from Minutes

Vera Owlchild reviewed the action items on behalf of Tosh Southwick, Tina Jules updated on FNEC's presentation to Leadership to include culture and language in the TOR and this will be further discussed when Tosh Southwick is present.

It was noted that action item on page 5 regarding language was requested, and awaiting a briefing. The discussion will go further (in camera) at this meeting.

Language will be further discussed under Tab 2 and Tab 5.

Actions
<p>Tina Jules to check the organizational chart from page 8 of minutes to ensure updates and resend to FNEC.</p> <p>Jennifer Wykes to bring forward FNEC recommendation regarding Curriculum Redesign (so it doesn't get lost) – Tab 5 October 21-22 meeting: as follows:</p> <p>Nicole Morgan to provide a copy of the PowerPoint to FNEC with the approval of the department.</p> <p>FNEC recommendations (with reference to section 54):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That the Department of Education funds the creation of a YFN curriculum committee that works on the emerging curriculum incorporating a YFN perspective into all the pillars; members of each YFN, FNEC and CYFN will be invited to sit on the committee;• The product/s created can be vetted through FNEC and each individual YFN and then feedback can be sent back to the Department of Education;• The curriculum will provide a framework that will later drive the need and priorities learning resource development and implementation at the local and central levels: such as residential schools unit, etc.;• FNEC develop copyright policy (ownership and control). <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would report to FNEC thus providing a connection to all YFN communities;• Would provide recommendations to FNEC for ensuring YFN representation;• Would develop protocols, procedures and policies for curriculum and learning resource design, delivery and evaluation, which will assist areas such as local First Nation involvement and engagement.

Motion

Minutes moved by Lynn Sparks, seconded by Geraldine James passed by consensus.

**Tab 2 Leadership Meeting (Nov. 5-6) Discussion and Decisions
Tosh Southwick**

Tina Jules reviewed the briefing notes that were sent out by e-mail to all commissioners and presented to Leadership on November 27th, 2014. As well, the briefings that will be presented at the next Leadership table next week were reviewed.

e) YFN EAC

Regarding the dissolving of the YFN EAC and the transfer of funding to support FNEC, Leadership approved on the condition that funding is guaranteed. Tosh Southwick met with DM Valerie Royle and ADM Albert Trask who are in favour of the proposal since there are mutual benefits to be gained. Yukon Education will send funding figures to FNEC by the end of January. Leadership will be provided with an update at the next meeting.

Tosh Southwick also presented an update on discussions she has had with ADM, Shawn Kitchen and shared ideas around funding/engagement with FNEC. FNEC was open to the idea of engagement with advanced Ed, not another committee and funding for FNEC meetings.

f) FNEC TOR

It was noted that due to time constraints on the briefing notes required for Leadership packages, Tosh Southwick needed to draft the notes as draft and then receive direct input in person from FNEC, however she did submit the notes prior to the meeting on behalf of Tosh Southwick, Tina Jules read the briefing note, FNEC TOR, amended to include language and culture within FNEC’s mandate. This item will be further discussed when Tosh Southwick is present.

g) Invitation to Federal Government

Tina Jules read the briefing note that provided an update on JEAP and discussed the role of the federal government with regards to the JEAP. FNEC discussed a possible invitation to Federal Minister Valcourt for a discussion on the issue.

h) Joint Media Event – JEAP

A media splash is currently on hold until there are (above noted) funding guarantees.

10:15-10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

Tab 3 Discussion RE: Funding Options

- a) FNEC Funding Proposal**
- b) Training Policy Committee Proposal**
- c) CYFN Education Funding Proposal**
- d) JEAP Multi-Year Funding Proposal**
- e) Federal Government Funding Proposal**

Tina Jules presented a document that provides clarification between JEAP (tripartite) initiatives, FNEC (13 YFNs and CYFN), CYFN (central) and YFN local initiatives (specific agreements) and CELCs. This is required in order to determine systemic funding required for all initiatives (not piecemeal). Tina Jules read the draft motion. FNEC members provided feedback to ensure the opportunity for local input and discussion. Tina provided a verbal overview of current funding types and levels.

Mark Wedge suggested adding research and development within the scope of FNEC’s work.

Motion

Principally, in the form submitted and open for FN input:

The FNEC agrees that it is important for Yukon Education to fully understand that First Nations have funding and resource needs for centralized and local education initiatives. Further, it is imperative and productive for all partners to understand that centralized, systemic education infrastructure and supports are necessary components in an education system. Both centralized and local education initiatives are necessary and needed to advance and improve the outcomes for Yukon First Nation students enrolled in Yukon public schools. The FNEC supports the development and submission of funding proposals for the following:

1. Yukon Department of Education – Public Schools Branch
2. Yukon Department of Education – Advanced Education
3. Federal Government – AANDC

Moved by Lynn Sparks, seconded by Julia Joe, passed by consensus.

Actions

CYFN Education and FNEC co-chairs will send draft proposals by email to FNEC for further review.

FNEC members will review with their FNs according to their respective process.

CYFN Education to add Research and Development under CYFN Education.

Tina Jules reviewed the proposal submitted to the Training Policy Committee.

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

Tab 4 Joint Education Action Plan Update (Follow-up from Leadership) Roberta Hager, Tosh Southwick and Tina Jules

On the topic of accountability, assessment and evaluation, Mark Wedge proposed a question: how do we take our work and translate into a measurable outcome? It begins to define what First Nations want in assessments as well as the tools that need to be developed. There needs to be a measurement of the whole person, therefore develop First Nation data sets – at least an outline – noting that the indicators, tools, assessments, etc. need to be developed with a strategy that includes training, delivery, and evaluation. Where are the data sets, for example with regards to spiritual competence, emotional competence and language fluency?

It was suggested that SGS assists with negotiating a data sharing agreement – for example to have an independent agency to access and analyze data already collected by the Department of Education – that could perhaps tie their database to our database.

Tab 5 Yukon First Nation Languages (Follow-up from Leadership)

-Update FNEC TOR – Tosh Southwick
-Briefings Requested re: YNLC – Tim Cant

Motion

As per motion from the Leadership November 27th, 2015 meeting, FNEC approves the amendments to its Terms of Reference made on January 12, 2015, to be presented at the Leadership table.

Moved by Vera Owlchild, seconded by Tim Cant, passed by consensus.

2:15-2:30 Coffee Break

Tab 6 Committees, Boards & Councils (Follow-up from Leadership)
-Letters from Department of Education to FNEC Co-Chair

Tina reviewed the committee structure suggested by Albert Trask at a September 2014 YFN EAC meeting. She reviewed the letter written by Albert Trask and his request for FNEC's representation within his restructured committee plan. Discussion was that a rep should be there, not to provide 'consultation' but to bring info back to the FNEC table. A roundtable was done. We can have members on each of the boards as well as representation on the ADM Advisory Committee. Lynn Sparks would like to request TORs for the working group committees. Mark Wedge suggests that FNEC sits at a DM level, not at the ADM level. Also, we're not reporting to the ADM. We are at equal level to the DM with whom we dialogue with.

We can thank them for the opportunity but would like some more information as well as time to reflect on FNEC participation. It was also noted that it does not necessarily have to be FNEC that is on the committees. It could be a citizen. It would be up to FNEC to appoint and ensure that something is in place to ensure the reporting back gets done.

Actions

FNEC co-chairs will respond to ADM Albert Trask expressing gratitude and recognizing the opportunity. At this time FNEC would like to request additional information to fully consider the request prior to making an appointment. Additional information includes:

- The work is involved in each of the areas (student learning, student support services, etc.) and the Working Groups/Committees Terms of References;
- How the Francophones are involved in this process;
- Who currently sits on the committees

The information will assist FNEC determine how it will be involved in the Working Groups and the Advisory Committee

In the meantime, Co-Chairs will work directly with the ADM and DM as needed.

FNEC members will think about this issue and consult at their community level as needed. FNEC members come to the next meeting prepared with their recommendations.

CYFN Education and FNEC Co-Chairs will pull this information together for a presentation to the FNEC next meeting.

**Tab 7 Consultations, Involvement and Engagement
-Gadzoosda Student Residence Review**

Tina Jules discussed the Gadzoosda Student Residence Review. An oversight committee may be formed and there is a request for First Nation participation in the oversight committee.

Actions
<p>FNEC recommends the following individuals to participate in the review of the Gadzoosdaa Residence Geraldine James, Robin Smarch (Tosh to follow up), Crystal Bolton (Janie Lee to follow up), Glenna Tetlich (Jenn to follow up) and Randall Tetlich (Vera to follow up).</p> <p>FNEC members will contact and confirm with Jenn Wykes by the end of the week.</p> <p>CYFN Education will draft letter to Yukon Education with the nominations.</p> <p>Appointees will report back to FNEC.</p>

Tab 8 Advanced Education – Tosh Southwick

Tabled.

In Camera Session:

FNEC requested Tina Jules and Contractor, Lori Eastmure to depart the meeting for a FNEC in-camera discussion.

Motions
<p>FNEC would like to see a contract given to Tina Jules to work with the Working Group on Yukon Literacy Strategy/YFN Literacy Framework and the YFN Protocol and Policy document project.</p> <p>Moved by Janie Lee Silas, seconded by Tim Cant, passed by consensus.</p> <p>FNEC requests direct involvement in the hiring of the CYFN Education Director position.</p> <p>Moved by Jeremy McCulloch, seconded by Julia Joe, passed by consensus.</p>

3:30 DM Valerie Royle

A roundtable was done prior to meeting with the Deputy Minister to solicit questions.

a) Data – raw data is needed, schedule, self-identification issues, data sharing

Valerie Royle indicated that there are issues with data integrity issues, capacity issues and consistency of collection. FNEC requests raw data for specific data sets to be received in a timely fashion.

There is an understanding that we may have to get individual students to sign for information to be released. Val indicated that they can give the data, but with no names. She shared that self-identification is an issue and perhaps FNEC could help with this. Pelly Crossing is a good example where some students are not self-identifying.

First Nations are governments. This means that data sharing is beneficial. Val indicated it is not a problem to share that data (with FNEC, YFNs, etc.).

FNEC requested Val's support to wrap-up data requests for 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 and for FNEC to receive the same reports on YFN education being presented to others such as CMEC, YTA, etc.

b) JEAP

Tina Jules shared that the Federal Government acts as an observer.

Valerie Royle responded that in regards to the financial transfer to the province, FN students and non-FN students are counted the same in the system – the funding that Yukon receives from Canada does not reflect the funding levels in other jurisdictions as pertains to FN students. An example was the FN Education bill that was recently on the table. Yukon was left out of that.

Val and the Minister are meeting with Valcourt in early February. They will be putting a request to not leave the North out, show the gaps in education outcomes. The department does not want the federal government excluding YFNs.

c) FNPP Mandate

FNEC requested information on the role and mandate of FNPP. Valerie Royle can get what is currently in place. It is housed in the PSB. As FNEC grows duplications on roles are becoming apparent. PSB will be reviewing the mandate.

Val will have a conversation with FNEC regarding defining the role of FNPP mandate exercise.

d) Gaps in Education – Tim Cant

Tim explained the issues regarding upgrading. Val explained that this problem is not just rural. She shared the complexities that are considered in the upgrading issue.

e) YC Program – Mark Wedge

Full bachelor's degree programs need to be offered in the areas of:

- Child Protection & Social Services
- Education

- Governance
- Renewable Resources

f) Introduction to Funding

Tina Jules reviewed the Draft Funding & Resources document. Val indicated that FNEC will be required to do a special submission for 2015-16 as the budget is already in for this year.

g) Invites to Federal Government

No time to discuss

h) YFN Literacy Framework – Support from YG

No time to discuss

i) YFN Policy & Protocol – Bright Light

Tina Jules acknowledged the positive relationship between CYFN Education, YFN Policy & Protocol Staff and Michael McBride, Director of Policy and Planning with Yukon Education. It was noted that requests for resources are provided diligently and in a timely fashion. Especially appreciated is the openness to First Nation aspirations and needs in the policy area.

4:45 p.m. Closing Prayer

Geraldine James provided the closing prayer.

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Draft Agenda

January 13, 2014 Day 2

8:30 a.m. Coffee & Muffins/Fruit

Attendance:

Mark Wedge, Elder
Roberta Hager, First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun
Janie Lee Silas, Ross River Dena Council
Tim Cant, Teslin Tlingit Council
Julia Joe, Selkirk First Nation
Vera Owlchild, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
Paula Banks, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
Linnea Rudachyk, Ta'anKwach'an Council
Alma Wrixon, Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation
Geraldine James, Carcross / Tagish First Nation
Tina Jules, Council of Yukon First Nation
Councillor Sean Smith, Kwanlin Dun First Nation

Jennifer Wykes, Council of Yukon First Nation
Lori Eastmure, Contractor-Policy and Protocol Project
Jake Lee, Contractor YFN Student Achievement

9:00 a.m. Opening Prayer, Review of Previous Day & Outline of Day

Opening prayer provided by Mark Wedge and Jake Lee.

Roberta Hager acknowledged and welcomed Councillor Sean Smith, KDFN and Alma Wrixon, LSCFN Representative.

Shannon Audette presented the results of the TPC funding application. It looks very positive. The committee is looking to change the application requirements to allow for FNEC to apply directly (and control the funding) rather than through a YFN.

Tina Jules introduced Jake Lee who has joined CYFN on contract as the YFN Student Achievement and Data Framework Coordinator.

**Tab 9 YFN Education Data Strategy, Framework & Reports
Parent Satisfaction Survey
Jake Lee – YFN Student Achievement Coordinator**

Jake Lee discussed the data project he will be working on with CYFN, beginning with a general discussion of what data is, why it's important and where the weaknesses are. One of

the reports Jake will be working on is the *How Are We Doing?* Reports (Yukon-wide and two pilots – with FNNND and CTFN). The design of the framework will be centered on the YFN perspective.

Roberta Hager made mention that culture and language is not reflected in the BC HAWD Report. Mark Wedge extended on the issue. We need to set baselines and there needs to be measurements for language – one word, one phrase – for all students, not just FNs. Jake Lee is beginning this process. Perhaps by next year can start implementing assessments on culture and language and begin to create baseline data.

Actions
FNEC to provide questions for parent and student satisfaction survey to Jake Lee. Jennifer Wykes to e-mail parent/student satisfaction surveys.

**Tab 10 YFN Parent Empowerment Project
Tina Jules and Jenn Wykes
Review of Project Charter for Feedback and Direction**

Jenn Wykes introduced the Parent Empowerment Project and reviewed the project charter. Tina Jules requested names put forward for those interested in working directly with Jenn to move this project forward. Julia Joe accepted.

Feedback was received that the survey should include information on what FN parents view as student success.

Actions
FNEC members forward names of parents that could help work directly with Jenn with the Parent Engagement Project by the end of the week.
The parent survey will be integrated into Jake Lee’s work and can be developed and delivered by First Nations that wish to.
Julia Joe put her name forward to assist with PEP project and noted that SFN would participate in the parent survey.

10:15-10:30 Coffee Break

**Tab 11 Information and Updates
e) CYFN Education Update- Tina Jules & Jenn Wykes**

Tina Jules presented the annual CYFN Newsletter. The Student Success and Literacy videos made by ILC students were screened. Jenn Wykes provided an update on the ImagineNATIVE project. She noted that if FNs were interested perhaps they could work with ImagineNATIVE for a second workshop offering in one of the communities.

Action

Jennifer Wykes will forward imagineNATIVE info to FNEC.

f) YFN Literacy Framework – Interim Sub-Committee – Jeremy McCullough, Tina Jules, Geraldine James

The Literacy project is currently on hold due to recent VGFN election (and current swearing in of Chief and Council).

**g) CTFN Education – Strategic Planning Project Update
Geraldine James and Tina Jules**

Tina provided an update on the CTFN Education Project. It was noted that RRDC has requested support to develop a strategic plan for education.

h) FNEC Conference Update – Jeremy McCullough, Tina Jules, Jenn Wykes and Roberta Hager

Tina and Roberta reviewed the workshop presented on behalf of FNEC at the FNEC Conference. Materials were promoted for use by commission members and copies of the presentation are in kits as well as in Dropbox.

12:00-1:00 Lunch Break

**Tab 12 YFN Education Protocol & Policy Framework Progress Report
Lori Eastmure, Janie-Lee Silas and Lynn Sparks
c) Background Policy Frameworks (Saskatchewan and Alaska)
d) Priority Areas**

Lori Eastmure, Janie Lee Silas and Lynn Sparks presented the beginnings of work towards the Protocol and Policy Framework. Work required for today:

- Draft TOR for the policy subcommittee
- Draft work plan
- Proposed subcommittee membership
- Draft criteria for selecting priority areas
- Draft Motion to approve all of the above

YFNs are in a good place in terms of having the authority from a legislative perspective (UFA, SGAs, Education Act). Separate legislative pieces can be integrated and policy can be developed to breathe life into the docs. While there are many levels to the policy work required, Lori is looking to keep it simple, doable and easy to review. Lori reviewed the draft criteria for policy development – it must have a positive impact on the students; be of common importance to all YFNs; important to public schools; important to local school/FN; supported by high level legislation; an area of immediate opportunity / significant attraction (low hanging fruit). An example used was the culturally responsive school report card (like the Alaska Standards).

A general discussion on legislation, possibilities and opportunities ensued.

Motion

FNEC accepts the nominations of Lynn Sparks, Janie Lee Silas, Kluane Adamek, Mark Wedge, and exofficio members Tina Jules, Lori Eastmure and Michael McBride to the FNEC Subcommittee on Policy and Protocol. FNEC also accepts the nomination of Mary Jane Jim (Paula Banks, nominator) and Eddie Skookum (Alma Wrixon, nominator) to the Subcommittee as exofficio members.

Be it resolved that FNEC supports and approves:

- the Terms of Reference for the FNEC Policy and Protocol Subcommittee with amendment;
- the Work Plan for this subcommittee;
- accepts the membership nominations to this committee; and
- the criteria for selecting policy priority areas as submitted to FNEC, Tuesday, January 13, 2015.

Lori reviewed the Saskatchewan policy document(simple and effective) followed by the Alaska Cultural Standards.

There was a suggestion put forward to look at YTA (Teacher Agreements, hiring etc.)

The subcommittee will consider the future work of this committee to go beyond March 31, 2015.

The priority areas are reflected in the JEAP and the sub-committee will work with those areas. Other priority areas put forth on previous occasions with First Nations will be referenced as well.

Actions

FNEC nominators to follow up on nominees and confirm their acceptances to the subcommittee.

Subcommittee will provide an update after each meeting to FNEC.

Jennifer Wykes to send out info on Michael McBride's thumb drive to FNEC.

2:30-2:45

Coffee Break

Tab 13 YFN Education Summit – March 9th & 10th, 2015 – Jenn Wykes

Upcoming Dates – Leadership

Info was provided on Leadership meeting dates. It was suggested that FNEC meets at least two weeks before Leadership – providing one week to Co-Chairs and CYFN Education to prepare information for Leadership packages.

4:00 p.m. Next Meeting & Closing Prayer

February 18th and 19th, 2015

Action
Jennifer Wykes will follow up and confirm FNEC's availability on Feb 18-19 th or the possibility of a tele-/video conference.

Closing prayer provided by Geraldine James.