

SIWAL SI'WES (SWSW) – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 13, 2022

Present in-person at Siwal Si'wes:

Sonya Williams	Agnes Giesbrecht	Priscilla Wells	Vivian Searwar
Marcy Buell			

Present on Zoom:

Randy Cairns	Tracy Loffler	Angus Wilson	Nicholas Louie
Peggy Duden	Karen Alvarez	Lauren Peterson	Rose Daigle
Shelley Carter	Camielle Anderson	Sharon Syrette	Cheryl Gabriel

1) Call to Order, Welcome & Opening Words – Agnes/Priscilla

- a) Good to see all of you today

2) Territory Acknowledgement - Vivian

- a) Mission Public School District 75 is located on the traditional, ancestral, Unceded and shared territories of the Stó:lō people, which includes Sq'ewlets, Leq'á:mel, Sema:th, Matheqwí and Qwó:ltl'el First Nations.

3) Apologies/Regrets – Agnes/Priscilla

- a) William Wells
- b) Honey-Dawn Faircrest

4) Ey kwese e'mi: Welcome Everyone & Introductions – Vivian

- a) Welcome everyone

5) Special Presentation

- a) Student & Family Affordability Fund – Angus Wilson
 - i) The Provincial Government is offering a one-time funding of 60 million dollars to offset costs for students & their families
 - ii) Each School District will receive just under \$690,000.00
 - iii) The money is for food and security
 - iv) Anything that impacts families such as:
 - (1) School supplies
 - (2) Sports equipment
 - (3) Field trips
 - (4) Students to participate in extra-curricular activities
 - v) Will connect with families and Indigenous communities for ideas
 - vi) If you have ideas, forward them to Vivian and she will forward them to Angus
 - vii) Will more funding be provided for tuition?
 - (1) This is plausible
 - viii) Maybe gift cards to Superstore or Walmart? (Stores with a variety of things)
 - ix) Haircuts
 - x) Psych Ed Assessments
 - xi) Consult with your communities and get back to Vivian
 - xii) Thank you, Angus
- b) Board Authority/Authorized Course – Camielle Anderson/Rose Daigle
 - i) Current plan for MSS for Grad Requirements

- ii) MSS currently offers BC First Peoples and English First Peoples
- iii) Had a meeting at the end of June
- iv) Most talked about food and land
- v) Want to start a new course
- vi) Indigenous Foods course
- vii) Jacquie Blaschek would like to focus on another course that involves food and land, Outdoor Education
- viii) Required to co-develop with local Indigenous people
- ix) Wants to include fishing, hunting and water skills
- x) Would like input from the Advisory
- xi) Would like to do a multi-day canoe trip down the Harrison River
- xii) Any BAA (Board/Authority Authorized) courses must be approved by Local Nations, saying that the course was co-created, and SD75 requires a letter of support from the Nations
- xiii) Next step, Vivian will forward this to the Education Coordinators, Metis Nation & MFC
- xiv) Short timeline
- xv) Grade 12's will do their course selections at the end of January or beginning of February
- xvi) May create a working group at our next meeting in October

6) Routine Business

- a) Review of Previous minutes of June 14/22 – Agnes/Priscilla
 - i) Accept – Agnes Giesbrecht
 - ii) 2nd – Nicholas Louie
 - iii) Motion Carried

7) Financial Statement Review - Vivian

- i) No funds have been transferred to schools yet
- ii) The funds get transferred after the Grant Selections in October

8) Year of the *spá:th*, (the Bear) & *alwes* (courage) – Viv

- a) Marcy will send out the images with the minutes
 - i) Artwork of the bear is by student artist Kai House and the other Bear image is by Ovila Mailhot
 - ii) We all need courage right now

9) Staffing

- a) Had a bit of a surplus
- b) We now have 22 Indigenous Liaison Workers full time and one working at days per/week
 - i) One ILW with Cultural & Animal Service work
- c) With the increase in Mental Health, wanted to give the students more support
- d) Chris will bring her dog Cinch
 - i) Animals can bring a positive impact
- e) We have an Indigenous Student & Community Outreach Teacher
 - i) Su Chang
 - ii) Carrying over some of the .4 position that we had last year
 - iii) Su will be full time
 - iv) Servicing students with attendance barriers
- f) Services are provided for all Indigenous students in K – 12

10) Equity PATH in Community - Vivian

- a) Vivian would like to plan to do a PATH presentation in community
 - i) Please let Vivian know

11) National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Planning Update – Planning Group Members

- a) Shape of the Day
 - (1) Opening – Vivian
 - (2) Speakers from Nations – Vivian to meet with leaders of the Nations (with help of Education Coordinators)
 - (3) Cheryl & Lekeyten are working with Vivian to work out a date to meet with Chief Marilyn (Kwantlen) and Chief Alice (Matsqui)
 - (4) Sq'ewlets – *Confirmed*
 - (5) Leq'á:mel – September 16 (*new information – confirmed*)
 - (6) Matheqwí – Need date (*new information – confirmed*)
 - (7) Priscilla will be speaking on behalf of Stl'at'lim
 - (8) Dave Schaepe will speak on behalf of the Research Team at St. Mary's (*new information – confirmed*)
 - (9) Angus, Tracy & Mayor Horn will be speaking
 - (10) Looking for student speakers
 - (11) The Nations will pay lead drummers
 - (12) Posters are ready – pick up from Marcy
 - (13) Giveaways
 - (14) We need more volunteers - If you know of anyone that would like to help, let Vivian know
 - (15) Students from the Monastery will be helping
 - (16) Onsite counselling
 - (17) Tim Horton's to provide drinks and food
 - (18) Contact Marcy for Elders Parking Pass
- b) Vivian met with Peggy and Jen
 - i) Created a Public Blog post
 - ii) Will include a plethora of amazing resources for September 30
 - iii) Marcy will include the press release with the minutes (see attached)
 - iv) All information will be posted on the Public Blog Post:
https://sd75curriculum.com/2022/09/12/remembering_2022/
- c) Creating a St. Mary's Flight Team
 - i) If students are finding it challenging dealing with the work at St. Mary's
- d) Orange shirts are available to pick up from Marcy

12) Future Format of Meetings

- a) Personally, would like to move totally in person
 - i) Like the option of ZOOM if busy
 - ii) Nice to get out and meet people in person
 - iii) Technology challenges with the Elder laptops
 - iv) Hard to give others a chance to speak
 - v) Feels like it's just Vivian's meeting on ZOOM
 - vi) Miss seeing people
 - vii) Next time if most come in person, Vivian will put the laptop on the counter

13) Co-Chair Selection

- a) Not easily done on ZOOM
 - i) Postponing to October
 - ii) Please come in person to vote or if you wish to be nominated

14) Closing

- a) Thank you everyone for coming

**Next Meeting:
October 11, 2022
11:30 a.m. in person or 12:00 p.m. on ZOOM
Room 104**

Please attend in person and advise Marcy, so we can order enough lunches.