



SIWAL SI'WES – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
April 13, 2021 at noon (via Zoom and Room 104 SWSW)

Jeanette Phillips, Agnes Giesbrecht, Priscilla Wells, Dawn Styran, Joelle Reynolds, Julia Renkema, Tracy Loffler, Vivian Searwar, Cheryl Gabriel, Peggy Janicki

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Territory Acknowledgment & Commitment:
 - Along with the Territory Acknowledgment, Vivian's shared her commitment to sharing information about Siwal Si'wes activities in an honest and forthright manner & commitment to working toward equity for Indigenous learners of SD75.
3. Apologies/Regrets – Agnes/Priscilla
 - Marcy, Sharon, Randy, Bill Wells
4. Review of previous minutes
 - Accept: Dawn Styran
 - Second: Priscilla Wells
5. Financial Statement Review
 - Challenging spending all of the funding, as the pandemic has impacted the types and frequencies of activities we can do and have not had success with hiring extra staff even though positions have been posted for many months
 - Vivian will be meeting with Derek in the coming weeks to discuss remaining 2020-2021 budget and to discuss next year's budget
 - Liaisons received a summary of budget, including expended portions and remainder; encouraged to spend the funding before the end of the school year
6. Equity Scan Update – Vivian

- Next meeting is April 22, 2021 on Zoom from 1:00 to 3:30pm; please contact Vivian if you would like to attend.
- Potential focus for the Administrator retreat in August: Equity

7. Additional Updates:

- Good Medicine Stories Newsletter
 - Edition #2 is in draft form; should be available in a week or two; just waiting on some final submissions
- Good Medicine Song Partnership Project
 - Postponed until 2021-2022
- Stó:lō Sitel Stories
 - Two meetings left – one for the District Working Group, one for the Teacher participants, some of whom will present
- Salish Weave Art Exploration
 - In full swing – two schools participating – HMS & ESR – will be meeting in later April to reconnect and to discuss progress and challenges
- Anti-Racism Learning Series
 - Third presentation – April 15, 2021; final presentation May 13, 2021; will discuss next steps
- Xa:ytem Visits
 - Partnership with SWSW, SD75 and Stolonation
 - Offered to all students in Grades 5/6 split and Grade 6 students
 - Scheduled visits from May 7 to June 23, 2021
- Year-End Family Gift Bags & Year-End Recognition
 - SWSW will provide all Indigenous families with a year end gift bag filled with books, outdoor equipment, toiletries, gift certificates
 - Option to connect with FNHA; other organizations to see if they would like to contribute
- Partnership with Youth Leadership Society of BC/Steps Together Foundation:
 - Will receive refurbished desktop computers for families

- Food Security – currently 85 families who will be provided with weekly food hampers
- School Supplies – received enough school supplies to fill 98 backpacks for students in need

8. Scholarships & Bursaries

- Decisions made to give 11 scholarships and 10 bursaries and the Circle of Courage award
- Recipients names will be announced at next Advisory meeting

9. Year End Graduation

- June 19 for MSS
- Riverside, Fraserview, Summit information to follow

10. Curriculum Update – Kilaksten (Peggy)

- Committee of the Whole presentation: The Project of Heart Canoe Inquiry Project (partnership SWSW, SD75, MTU & BCTF)
- SWSW Reading Challenge
- Collaborating with teachers, as well as other Mentor Teachers
- BCTF – Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being – posters to be distributed to all SD75 teachers

11. Additional Items

- Chief Joe Mathias Scholarship - <https://chiefjoemathias.ca/>
- Ucwalmicw All Nations Services Society – Contact Agnes for more information or general@uanss.com; 604 425-3455

Next Regular Advisory Meeting: May 11, 2021 at noon

Siwal Si'wes (Room 104) and Zoom (calendar invitation to follow)

(If you would like to attend in person, please advise Vivian, as there is a maximum capacity of 8 in Room 104 at SWSW)