

SIWAL SI'WES (SWSW) – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 9, 2024

Present:

Vivian Searwar	Nicholas Louie	Jeanette Phillips	Ronald Peters
Cheryl Gabriel	Priscilla Wells	Tracy Loffler	Sonya Williams
Kirsty LaRock	Marcy Buell		

On Teams:

Chris Silver

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

2) Land Acknowledgement - Vivian

a) Mission Public School District is located on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unsurrendered, and Shared territories of Stó:lō people, of Leq'á:mel, Semá:th, Máthxwi, Sq'éwlets and Qwó:tl'el First Nations, stewards of this land since time immemorial.

Halq'eméylem is the language of this land and of Stó:lō ancestors. The place from where Halq'eméylem (Upriver dialect) originates is Leq'á:mel. The language comes from the land, and it has been this way since time immemorial.

- i) Thank you for coming today
- ii) Some faces have been here for awhile
- iii) Some faces were away but are now back
- iv) Some new faces
- v) We have a blanketed chair for those who have passed
 - (1) They are here in one way or another, guiding us to do this work
- vi) Appreciate you all

3) Apologies/Regrets – Priscilla/Nicholas

- a) Angela Magon
- b) Bill Wells
- c) Sharon Syrette is unable to attend due to other commitments, but will still receive emails and Minutes
- d) Sonya Williams introduced Kirsty LaRock
 - i) Sq'éwlets now has a new Education Committee
 - ii) Kirsty is one of the three new members
- e) Welcome to Chris Silver who is joining us on Teams

4) Ey kwese e'mi: Welcome Everyone & Introductions - Priscilla/Nicholas

5) Meeting Minutes

- a) Review of Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2024
 - i) Accept: Cheryl Gabriel
 - ii) Second: Jeanette Phillips
 - iii) Motion Carried

6) Presentations

- (1) None this month

7) Financial Statements Review – Vivian

- a) SWSW Financial Statements & Overall Budget
 - i) We are in good shape financially
 - (1) Mentioned last time that there was a bit of a shuffle of funds, due to the salaries of two former staff who didn't return this year
 - (2) If you have any questions, please ask
- b) Student Affordability & Food Security Fund Statement 2023/2024
 - i) We used a large part for schools for their School Based Funds
 - (1) We were down to a balance of \$171.63
- c) Additional SAFA Funding
 - i) Now have received another \$25,000.00
 - (1) Not to be spent on food
 - (2) To be used for clothing, bus passes, lessons, tutoring, grad attire etc
 - (3) No gift cards, rent or utility bills
 - (4) Must be student specific
 - (5) Must be spent by June 30/24
 - (6) Staff are looking into student needs
 - (7) Could be school supplies now for September
 - (8) Cooking programs?
 - ii) If you know of any families who could be supported, let Vivian know

8) Information, Updates & Reminders – Vivian

- a) JCAM – May 9, 2024
 - i) Jointly Convened Annual Meeting
 - ii) For Superintendents and Indigenous Education Council Chairs
 - iii) Vivian and Priscilla will be attending
- b) Métis Education Service Agreement – Representative(s) from Local Nations
 - i) Métis Nation and MNBC would like to co-create a Métis Education Service Agreement
 - ii) Would like representation from our Advisory Council table and from each Nation to take part in the meetings
 - iii) Meetings are every second Wednesday, starting at 8:30 a.m. on Teams
 - iv) If you would like to participate, you will receive an Honourarium
 - v) If you are interested, let Vivian know
 - vi) They are keen to have voices from this room
 - vii) Next meeting is on May 8th
- c) Important Dates
 - i) April 11, 2024 – Culturally Responsive Classrooms with Carolyn Roberts
 - (1) 3:30 p.m. – École Heritage Park Cafetorium
 - (2) If you would like to attend, let Marcy know
 - ii) April 23, 2024 – Scholarship & Bursary Selection
 - iii) June 5, 2024 – Indigenous Grade 12 Recognition Evening

- (1) Same time, same place
- (2) More info to follow
- d) Staffing
 - i) We filled one position in January
 - (1) Jaclyn Barrett is at Hatzic Elementary & Hatzic Middle School
 - ii) Alexis Christie has now left us to pursue a new career
 - (1) She is now the Student Coordinator for Indigenous students at UFV
 - iii) There is an interview planned for Thursday, April 11/24 @ 11:00 a.m. on Teams
 - (1) Would appreciate someone from this table attend
 - (2) If you can, please let Vivian know

9) New Discussion & Considerations – Vivian

- a) Sign Project
 - i) One of the Siya Ye Yoyes meetings were held at the new school in Chilliwack, Stito:s Lailem Toti:lt Elementary/Middle School
 - (1) They had signage that included Halq'emeylem
 - (2) Angus has approved signage form MPSD
 - (3) Starting with HMS, HPMS, two elementary schools and Fraserview Learning Centre
 - (4) The following year, will add five more schools, and five more the year after that
 - (5) Not doing MSS yet, as a new school will be built
 - ii) Would like Halq'emeylem on top, then French and English on the bottom

10) Follow Up Discussion, Considerations & Standing Agenda Items – Vivian

- a) Scholarship Proposal for the Late Agnes Giesbrecht
 - i) Vivian followed up with Joe Heslip on what was done for the Virginia Joe Scholarship
 - ii) Siwal Si'wes is on board with this
 - iii) Vivian contacted Agnes' daughter and the family accepted this idea
 - iv) Won't be in place for this year
 - v) Will be started the next school year
- b) Will be a standing agenda item
- c) Consider what next steps there should be

11) Standing Agenda Items – Vivian

- a) No updates on any items this time
- b) Sonya sent Vivian pictures of a House Post that Robert Thomas did
- c) Vivian will reach out to Robert
- d) Would like to hold our June meeting at the Fort in Fort Langley]
 - i) Marcy to book with Tradish

**Next Meetings:
 May 14, 2024
 11:30 a.m. in person only
 Room 104**