# Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes

Monday, May 7, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.
École New Era School, 1020 Brandon Avenue

Present: P. Bowslaugh, Chairperson, J. Murray, K. Sumner, M. Snelling (Alternate)

Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services: Susie McPherson-Devendy
BSD and BSSAP: Delvina Kejick
Brandon Friendship Centre: Frank Tacan Sr.

Regrets: Dr. D. Michaels

## 1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson, Trustee Bowslaugh. Mrs. Bowslaugh welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Agenda was approved as circulated.

## 3. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the January 10, 2012 were reviewed.

## 4. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

### A) Establishment of Advisory Committee

The Chairperson reviewed the work of the Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee to date. She spoke to the 2012-2013 budget process noting the position for the Aboriginal Education Learning Specialist had been approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees. She confirmed the position had been posted and had been advised by the Superintendent that the Division had received four applications to date. Community representatives thanked Trustees for taking the time to go through the process of meeting with the community and making this position a budget priority.

Before discussing the establishment of the Advisory Committee, the Chairperson confirmed the purpose of the proposed Aboriginal Advisory Committee was to provide support and advice. It was agreed the Aboriginal Advisory Committee would form a “knowledge base” from which the Aboriginal Education Learning Specialist could draw information. It was also stressed this Committee would need to work collaboratively towards a common vision.

It was agreed a general “call” would be put our to the public for representation on the Aboriginal Advisory Committee. A discussion was held and it was recommended that a letter be forwarded from Senior Administration to the following:

- Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council
- Manitoba Métis Federation
- Brandon Friendship Centre
- The City of Brandon Police Department
- The Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council Police Department
- City of Brandon
- Brandon Regional Health Authority
- Brandon University – Native Studies

- Child and Family Services
- Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School, Vincent Massey High School, École Neelin High School, and Neelin High School Off-Campus Program.

It was further agreed the letter would include the following information:

- The Committee is looking for a mix of representation in age and gender;
- It is a volunteer Committee;
- The Committee will meet every few months;
- The first meeting of the Committee will take place in late September;
- Commitment to the Committee is for the school year.

The Committee requested the letter also include a copy of Policy 6039 – "Aboriginal Education Learning Specialist", together with an Organizational Chart which notes the position will answer to the Associate Superintendant.

It was noted further possible volunteers could be found through networking by Community members during the summer months. Therefore a package, as described above was, to be prepared and forwarded to Delvina Kejick, Brandon School Division, Frank Tacan, Jr., Brandon Friendship Centre, and Susie McPherson-Devendy, Dakota-Ojibway Child and Family Services, for distribution throughout the Aboriginal Community.

Final discussions revolved around the importance of the Associate Superintendent attending the meetings of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee together with the Aboriginal Education Learning Specialist; the need for the Aboriginal Education Learning Specialist to be connected locally in terms of Professional Development; and the importance of sticking to the Committee's mandate.

## 5. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

NIL

## 6. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

NIL

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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| P. Bowslaugh, Chair | J. Murray |
| K. Sumner | M. Snelling (Alternate) |