

Aboriginal Education Council

Thursday February 16, 2017

Sutherland Campus; B3330

13h00 – 15h00

Attendees: Elder Shirley Williams, Chair Liz Stone, Mark Gray, Cristine Rego, Trish Schneider, Tony Tilly, Judith Limkilde, Letticia Amyotte, Adam Hopkins, Kristi Kerford, Joanne Green, Kylie Fox, Karrie MacMurray

Guests: Nick Duley, Madeline Whetung, Sylvia Cashmore, Lou Ann Hanes, Carrie Truman, Trina Qaqqaq

Recorder: Cindy English

Regrets: Nancy Marsden-Fox, Brad Hodgson, Deanna Jacobs

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| **Agenda Ref.** | **Key Points / Actions** | **Action Item Details** |
| 1. | Smudge and prayer provided to the group by Elder Shirley Williams |  |
| 2. | **Call to Order at 1h16**  Welcomed guests and round table introductions  **Indigenous Governance Explanation** –Chair Liz Stone   * purpose is to gather together as equals * we are here to represent students and the Indigenous Community |  |
| 3. | **AEC Meeting Agenda – February 16, 2017**  Motioned to approve by Trish Schneider  Seconded by Cristine Rego  **AEC Meeting Minutes – December 22, 2016**  Motioned to approve by Joanne Green  Seconded by Mark Gray | Move Kylie Fox and Joanne Green to regrets on the previous minutes |
| 4.  5. | **Update –December Round Table**   * Meetings with Educational Managers and Registrar   Meeting date: Wednesday February 22/17  **Aboriginal Student Services and Aboriginal Counselling**   * Key point of contact currently is Kylie Fox (Sutherland) or Tommy Akulukjuk (Frost) and they can help direct students to appropriate service * Key goal for Aboriginal Services is to ensure we have access to traditional knowledge, elders etc. We have not received candidates that fit for our recent Traditional Knowledge Advisor posting. * (Chair Liz Stone) recommended we focus on skills with knowledge of the Indigenous culture, healing skills etc. and not titles (i.e. counsellor or elder) * (Cristine Rego) recommended hiring a PSW or SW with Indigenous Knowledge and Western Culture. | Kristi Kerford will provide an update at next AEC meeting  Mark Gray, to continue to find the right fit for hire. |
| 6. | **AEC BOG Presentation- Follow Up**  Trish Schneider and Kristi Kerford attend the recent BOG meeting. The following was discussed:   * Indigenous perspective in the curriculum * BOG is interested in more interaction with AEC * Ways to interact:   + Open invite to BOG members to AEC meetings and vice versa   + Fleming Indigenous related activities to be sent to AEC   + Board Secretary (Michelle McFadden) to forward Fleming Indigenous related activities to BOG * First annual report could be on how to incorporate Indigenous awareness into the curriculum * Outside of the annual report, AEC can be on the BOG agenda for other items as needed. |  |
| 7. | **Student Profiles - Letticia Amyotte, Trina Qaqqa**  Two students were invited to speak to the AEC about their experiences at Fleming.  Strengths identified:   * sense of a strong Aboriginal community * first contacts (Kylie Fox) were positive and backed up by our successful Biishkaa program.   Areas for Improvement:   * more supports within the college * breaking barriers between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Staff/Students - relationships / personal connection are important * language is a key for student identity * increased PD for staff and students - new hires need to be made aware and offered cultural competence PD * have Indigenous students speak at the beginning of each semester in various lectures * Elder on campus more frequently * circle support - need to meet with upper level mgmt. to voice concerns and share successes on an equal level * review college policies   - AEC was very appreciative of the opportunity to hear these stories. | Kristi Kerford to ensure Human Resources and LDS receive feedback regarding PD.  Mark Gray to continue to work on Elder presence on campus  Mark Gray to arrange a circle with students  College policy review will begin in March |
| 8. | **Provincial Updates: Mark Gray**  Draft TRC College Reporting Framework - Colleges Ontario   * framework is based on the medicine wheel * looking to create a report on what colleges are going to be asked to focus on and charged to work on. * Elders are present at these meetings.   **Indigenous Education: System Response to Truth and Reconciliation**  Event at Humber College - not discussed | Move to April Meeting |
| 9. | **Indigenous Outreach, Engagement and Recruitment**  Current Research Project  Madeline Whetung has been brought to the college on a 3 month contract to conduct research on Indigenous student recruitment. Madeline’s focus is on the following items and was seeking feedback from AEC:   * What has Fleming been doing well? * What have other colleges been doing? * What can we do and what are some of the best practices and strategies?   Feedback   * ask the students that applied and were accepted why they didn’t come? * use voice and in person vs letters brochures * identify the resources and programs that we have * - speak with an Indigenous person * target urban communities not just First Nation communities * partner with Trent * videos are being produced but not available yet they include all the colleges in Ontario * don’t focus on “Aboriginal recruiter” we need to have all our recruiters informed and trained * use an Aboriginal student to assist the recruiter | Further feedback from AEC can be forwarded email to Cindy |
| 10. | **Round Table**  -Open House April 1/17 10am -2pm | AEC Table/Members at Open House |
| 11. | **Other Business**   * Nominations for Chair will take place at the April AEC Meeting. | Cindy to send info out before next meeting in April |
|  | Meeting Adjourned at 15h15 |  |