
BC Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Partners

July 27, 2018

Draft Meeting Notes

Department of Indigenous Services Canada, 1138 Melville St. Vancouver, BC

PARTICIPANTS:

Association of British Columbia Deans of Education (ABCDE)

- Jan Hare, Associate Dean of UBC

BC Aboriginal Training Employment Alliance Member (BCATEAM)

- Deanne McLeod

BC Colleges

- Marlene Erickson, Vice-Chair

Department of Indigenous Services Canada (DISC)

- Catherine Lappe, Regional Director General
- Milica Nauman, Manager, IGR Education
- Wendy Rogers, Director of Programs and Partnerships
- Laura Langs, Advisor
- Gregory Miller, Program Assistant
- Sinead Stinson, Program Assistant

Service Canada

- Serene Waugh, Service Manager

First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)

- Debbie Jeffrey, Executive Director
- Thane Bonar, Director of Communications & Policy
- Emily Riddle, Post-Secondary Education Policy Analyst

First Nations Public Service Secretariat (FNPS)

- Christa Williams, Executive Director

Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA)

- Jason Wong, Board Member

Métis Nation BC (MNBC)

- Colleen Hodgson, Director

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (AEST)

- Deb Hull, Executive Director, Teaching Universities, Institutes and Aboriginal Programs
- Bryan Dreilich, Director, Post-Secondary Engagement and Partnerships

Ministry of Education

- Ted Cadwallader, Provincial Director/Aboriginal Education

Research Universities' Council of BC

- Jim Martell, Director

Queenswood Consulting

- Jane Worton, Partner

FACILITATION:

- Ruth Wittenberg, Acting Chair
- Nicolas Mejia, FNESC Manager of Post-Secondary Education and Training

1. Welcome and Review of Draft Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am. The draft agenda was approved.

2. Review of Draft Meeting Notes – April 11, 2018

The Draft Meeting Notes were approved with no changes.

3. Discussion: Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Policy Framework and Action Plan Refresh

Debbie Jeffrey gave an overview of the BC Tripartite Education Agreement (BCTEA). Partners expressed interest in learning about BCTEA, in particular its potential implications for post-secondary.

Action Item 1: FNEESC will prepare a presentation providing an overview of BCTEA for the next PSE Partners meeting.

The Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Policy Framework and Action Plan (Aboriginal Policy Framework) is being updated in order to align with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, and the current post-secondary education climate. The Aboriginal Policy Working Group has met every three weeks since May to work through the Aboriginal Policy Framework. Deb Hull led a discussion regarding the Aboriginal Policy Framework Refresh by reviewing the draft edits with the PSE Partners.

Debbie Jeffrey announced that FNEESC is hosting a Post-Secondary Education Gathering for post-secondary coordinators and First Nations leadership on October 15, 2018 as part of the development of a BC-Specific Post-Secondary Education Model. It was noted that the new Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Policy Framework and Action Plan must align with the BC-Specific Post-Secondary Education Model.

4. Discussion Indigenous Language Revitalization in BC

It was decided that this would be deferred to the next PSE Partners meeting due to Heritage Canada being unavailable for the meeting.

5. Discussion: Sustainable Teacher Workforce Labour Market Information Report

Jane Worton from Queenswood Consulting provided an overview of the Sustainable Teacher Workforce Labour Market Information Report. The purpose of the Sustainable Teacher Workforce Labour Market Project is to inform the design of labour force strategies to address the underlying causes of labour shortages experienced across the BC K-12 public school sector through a detailed analysis of current labour market conditions and trends in British Columbia. Though the report assesses the needs of rural and remote schools, it was noted that there is a need of northern-specific data.

6. Provincial Programs and Initiatives

a) Aboriginal Student Data Report

Deb Hull announced that the Aboriginal Data Report is now publicly available and reviewed the Report. This Report is the result of the collaboration between the PSE Partners. It was noted that it is vital to have First Nations, Metis, and Inuit specific data to draw upon in the future and separating out this data should be a priority.

b) Aboriginal Service Plan Review

Deb Hull provided an update on the Aboriginal Service Plan (ASP) Review. that is being conducted by Directions: Evidence + Policy Group (Directions), which will be completed in August 2018. Directions is making an assessment of whether the ASP Initiative is achieving systemic change envisioned in the Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Policy Framework and whether the Program aligns with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, and the current Post-Secondary climate. The Review includes Aboriginal student engagement, Aboriginal community and institute engagement, Aboriginal organization engagement, and public post-secondary engagement through surveys, interviews, and focus group sessions.

c) Adult Education Policy Framework

Deb Hull provided an overview of the Adult Education Policy Framework which was released in April 2018. The Adult Education Policy Framework is intended to provide the context, policy objectives, and key policies pertaining to domestic students at public post-secondary institutions in adult basic education, English language learning, and Adult Special Education.

d) BCcampus Project

Deb Hull provided an overview of the BCcampus Project, which began in 2012 with the goal of making higher education more accessible by reducing student cost through the use of openly licensed textbooks. Deb Hull noted that the resources developed for this project are now online and available for use.

e) Leading Practices

Deb Hull provided an overview of the Indigenous Leading Practices in Post-Secondary Education Report. This Report identifies practices within public post-secondary institutions that have led to successful outcomes for Indigenous learners. AEST is looking for feedback from the PSE Partners before the Report is finalized.

7. Federal Programs and Initiatives

a) Post-Secondary Partnerships Program

Milica Nauman and Gregory Miller provided an overview of projects accepted for 2018/19 Post-Secondary Partnerships Program (PSPP) funding. They noted that 46 proposals were received and 11 were funded. The total funding allocation for PSPP nationally this year was \$1.4 billion. One third of the funding was allocated to Aboriginal-controlled institutes or to projects that involve an Aboriginal-controlled institute. DISC does not expect to put out a call for proposals for next year due to the number of multi-year projects.

b) Federal PSE Review

Nicolas Mejia provided an update on the completed First Nations-Led Comprehensive Review of Federal Post-Secondary Programming and the subsequent Interim Report. Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Resolution 07/2018 - "First Nations Post-Secondary Review Report and Recommendations" was endorsed at the Annual General Assembly on July 27, 2018 and enables BC to develop their own regional First Nations post-secondary education model. In the fall, the AFN, will be working on a policy proposal that will be an addendum to a Memorandum to Cabinet regarding funding for First Nations post-secondary programming. The Memorandum to Cabinet will be developed with the input of both FNEESC and IAHLA.

c) Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association Funding

DISC has provided funding to the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) for core activities and projects for 2018/2019 in the amount of \$97,919. This will enable IAHLA to complete its External Institutes Evaluation and Data Collection Project. The Partners noted that they would like to learn more about the funding model for Aboriginal institutes in Ontario.

Action Item 2: FNEESC to invite representatives from the Aboriginal Institutes Consortium for the next PSE Partners meeting.

8. Updates: BC Teacher's Council-Ninth Principle

Ruth Wittenberg reviewed the BC Teachers' Council Draft Ninth Principle that focuses on the need for educators to have knowledge in, and promote the understanding of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples, communities, and histories.

Action Item 3: FNEESC to share the most current version of the Ninth Principle with the PSE Partners.

9. Future Meeting Dates

The next PSE Partners Meeting will take place on November 19, 2018.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Summary of Action Items

Action Item 1: FNEESC will prepare a presentation providing an overview of BCTEA for the next PSE Partners meeting.

Action Item 2: FNEESC to invite representatives from the Aboriginal Institutes Consortium for the next PSE Partners meeting.

Action Item 3: FNEESC to share the most current version of the Ninth Principle with the PSE Partners.