



School District #28  
Aboriginal Education Centre  
241 Kinchant St  
Quesnel, BC V2J 2R3  
250-991-5550

**Aboriginal Education Council Meeting**

Date: January 10, 2024

Location: Lhtako Red Bluff Band

Time: 9:00 a.m.

In attendance:

Lori Donald	Métis Association
Terri Boyd	Lhtako Red Bluff Band
Audrey Sinclair	?Esdilagh
Dorine Greene	Quesnel Friendship Centre
Thelma Stump	?Echen
Doreen L'Hirondelle	SD28 Aboriginal Education Principal
Tony Goulet	SD28 Trustee
Christine Kopetski	Administrative Assistant – Aboriginal Ed

Acknowledgement of Lhtako Dene Territory: We acknowledge we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Lhtako Dene.

Prayer

**AGENDA**

**Feb 2/24 Aboriginal Focus Day - *handout***

February 2<sup>nd</sup> is the replacement day of Nov 20<sup>th</sup>. We have confirmed with speakers/presenters with intention of a very similar session to what was originally planned. See revised brochure for layout of the day. Aboriginal Education Council members are invited to attend sessions in the morning and/or afternoon.

**Update on Human Rights Exemption Renewal**

Doreen has heard back from the Human Rights Special Program Renewal via email. They are reviewing our application for renewal and this will typically take 30-90 day.

**Aboriginal Education**

Doreen explained that SD28 (CSS & McNaughton) are undergoing an audit right now, which does involve Aboriginal Education as well. Doreen has put many hours into creating a binder for the auditors – What we do and have done within our department. The binder was received with well remarks.

## Community & District Updates

### ?Esdilagh:

There will be drum making and Healthy Relationship with children in the next month. Otherwise fairly quiet.

### Métis:

They have a new board of directors. Otherwise fairly quiet after Christmas.

### Friendship Centre:

Drum making – January 30 & 31 from 1-3, call Amy at 250.983.4626. There will be a bannock making contest February. The last Friday of every month from 11-2 is the Elders Circle. Some of the FC bylaws will be changing. During the cold weeks the hall will be used as a warming centre from 9-5 with the staff from Seasons House running the centre.

### Trustee:

There is a board meeting tonight. Changes from the Ministry regarding Aboriginal Councils are coming in the near future. SD28 Aboriginal Council is ahead of most districts, and the Ministry will be using our district and another as examples of functioning/well run council

### Lhtako/Red Bluff:

Looking into taking some students to Gathering Our Voices in Victoria. We have some of our youth in counselling and are connecting. There is skiing scheduled for our students. The office is back to their regular hours after the cold weather. Youth groups are held ever Tuesday and Thursday from 4-7 all youths ages 14-17 are welcome to attend. Will be taking some student to a 1 day Pow Wow on Jan 26<sup>th</sup> in WL at Columneetza Jr School. The grand opening of the Arbor and Pow Wow will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of August at the new site. Ron R is back to work after a health scare. Volunteers are still needed for the Lhtako Winter Games.

### ?Echan:

Thelma is trying to gather all the Urban/Off Reserve youth within the community and help teach the culture and be a mentor. This will be offered twice per week from 4-6/7pm. Pick up and drop off is available if needed. The Daycare is booming. The afterschool program is seeing lots of students attend. Thelma is helping support families with the MCFD/medical/water forms/travel arrangement etc.

Closing Prayer

*Adjournment: 9:45*

### **REMINDER OF MEETING LOCATIONS**

- Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – Friendship Centre
- Mar 13<sup>th</sup> – ?Esdilagh
- April 17<sup>th</sup> – Nazko (confirmation needed)
- May 15<sup>th</sup> – Metis
- June 19<sup>th</sup> – Helen Dixon