

Indigenous Education Council Minutes

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

8:30 am - 4:00 pm PST

In Person - Creston Hotel

The Indigenous Education Council will advise the Board of Education in providing comprehensive and equitable education and support service to all Indigenous students and improve all Indigenous student outcomes.

Present: Jared Basil, Yaqan Nukiy, Culture and Social Sector
Kat Coleman, Yaqan Nukiy, Principal
Nerissa Joseph, Splatsin, Education Director
Brenna Joseph, Splatsin, Education Coordinator
Janet Terbasket, Okanagan Nation Alliance, Council Member, Education Portfolio LSIB
Maddie (Matilde) Allison, Okanagan Nation Alliance, Executive Assistant, Education Dept. LSIB
Nicole Courson, West Kootenay Metis Society President
Laury Carriere, School District No. 8 Kootenay Lake, Director, Aboriginal Education
Nona Lynn, School District No. 8 Kootenay Lake, Learning Innovator (minutes)

Regrets: Marion Louie, Okanagan Nation Alliance, LSIB

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory

3. Welcome

Jared Basil provided a welcome to the group.

4. Introductions

A round table of introductions took place.

5. Overview of the Day

Director Carriere provided an overview of the agenda and day.

6. Approval of the agenda

Item 9 "Travel and Travel Reimbursements" was added to the agenda.

Item 10 "IEC renaming" was added to the agenda.

UPON a motion made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:**

THAT the Agenda of August 13, 2025 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

The motion carried.

7. IEC Terms of Reference

a. Finalizing details

The IEC reviewed the IEC DRAFT Terms of Reference line by line.

Nerissa Joseph provided an overview of the intent of the IEC and explained the approval processes that must go through the IEC.

Discussion took place around including a Trustee and the Superintendent as non-voting members on the IEC as they may bring valuable information.

9:45 am - Janet Terbasket joined the meeting



Discussion took place around adding wording at the top of each IEC agenda around the focus of the meetings being improving education for all Indigenous students.

10:00 am - Jared Basil left the meeting

Discussion took place around the IEC reviewing School District No. 8 Kootenay Lake (SD8) policies and administrative procedures as they relate to Aboriginal learners.

Discussion took place around the development of a list of vetted knowledge keepers. The knowledge keeper list may be managed centrally and should be vetted by the IEC. A procedure may be developed in order to streamline vetting process, website information, payment and school process with respect to knowledge keepers.

11:05 am - Jared Basil joined the meeting

Discussion took place around the IEC attending SD8 Board of Education Meetings. It was suggested to have a standing item on the SD8 Board of Education Agenda called IEC.

Discussion took place around budgeting and the importance of the district ensuring that all budgets related to Aboriginal students are reported to the IEC. It was suggested that the SD8 Secretary Treasurer be invited to a future IEC meeting to report on Aboriginal Education budgets.

Discussion took place around ensuring that teachers be made aware of the Local Education Agreement (LEA). Discussion took place around the IECs ability to help to provide SD8 schools and staff with learning opportunities, and the importance of sharing cultural protocols and traditional understanding with schools.

Discussion took place around the IEC identifying cultural resources (people, books, etc.) to be recommended to SD8 schools this year. The cultural resources list should be reviewed annually.

b. Establishing a budget consultation and review process

Director Carriere provided an overview of a proposed IEC budget for the 25/26 school year.

Director Carriere provided an overview of the IEC Capacity Funding and Indigenous Education Targeted funding provided to every BC school district.

Director Carriere provided the SD8 plan for Aboriginal Education Focus Areas for 2022 to 2027.

c. Selection of Chair

Jared Basil was acclaimed Chair of the Indigenous Education Committee.

Director Carriere transferred the meeting Chair position to Chair Basil.

d. Selection of Vice Chair

Nerissa Joseph was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Indigenous Education Committee.

e. Selection of meeting dates for 2025/2026

Bring forward to future meeting.

**8. SD8 Indigenous Education Program Presentation, Laury Carriere, Director of Instruction
- Indigenous Education and Learning Services**



- a. Overview of programming, goals, growth areas and celebrations
Director Carriere provided a presentation on the SD8 Aboriginal Education Program. Discussion took place around the importance of Indigenous Support Workers staffing in the program.
Director Carriere provided an overview of how progress of the SD8 Aboriginal Education program is monitored and the types of data that are used in reporting. Director Carriere shared that the annual Cultural and Identity Continuous Learning report will be brought to the IEC for approval prior to going to the Board of Education.

Discussion took place around working collectively to address student attendance issues. Discussion took place around the importance of additional Indigenous Support Workers at the elementary level to work towards bringing student learning up to grade level.

Discussion took place around the importance of family engagement. It was suggested that SD8 work closely with Yaqan Nukiy School on family engagement as well as working collaboratively to bring students together for events and activities.

- b. Overview of IEC consultation, reporting and approval requirements though the school year
Bring Forward.

9. Travel and Travel Reimbursements

Discussion took place around adjusting honoraria amounts.

10. IEC Renaming

The IEC was asked to give IEC renaming though and bring forward suggestions. Discussion took place around the creation of a SD8/IEC logo.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.