

**Indigenous Education Council
Special Meeting
Minutes**

April 21, 2026

9:00 am – 10:30 am

via: Teams

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

Present: Jared Basil, Chair
Kat Coleman, Principal, Yaqan Nukiy School
Nicole Courson, West Kootenay Metis Society
Trish Smillie, SD8 Superintendent
Laury Carriere, SD8 Director of Aboriginal Education & Learning Services
Nona Lynn, SD8 Learning Innovator

Regrets: Nerissa Joseph, Vice Chair, Splatsin
Brenna Joseph, Splatsin
Marion Louie, Lower Similkameen Indian Band
Janet Terbasket, Lower Similkameen Indian Band
Julie Bremner, SD8 Board of Education Vice-Chair

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory

We acknowledge, respect and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates, and all Aboriginal peoples residing within the boundaries of School District 8.

3. Changes to Proposed Agenda

Director Carriere suggested a change to the budget discussion to only focus on the salaries and benefits portion of the budget at this time. The budget can be approved in principal and then detailed allocations for the Supplies and Services line items can be worked out together at a later date.

4. Adoption of Agenda

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

THAT the agenda for the April 21, 2026 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

5. Adoption of Minutes

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

THAT the minutes of the December 16, 2025 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

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

THAT the minutes of the April 8, 2026 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

6. New Business

- a. Deputy Minister (MoECC) Kaye Krishna regarding HAWD data for SD8 and the province
Director Carriere provided an overview of the annual HAWD letter that is provided to all districts for information.



7. Old Business

a. IETF Preliminary Budget Presentation

Director Carriere provided a recap of the priorities of the IEC.

- Integrate district structures to increase local First Nations culture and language learning opportunities.
- Increase student and staff learning about the local land area.
- Increase student sense of identity, connection and belonging at school
- Increase connections with families
- Continue to support academic success and attendance
- Enhance Indigenous grad honourings

The budget will support all of these priorities.

Director Carriere provided a review of the preliminary budget for 2026/2027.

IETF 2025-2026 – 795 students - \$1,423,050
(actual)

IETF 2026-2027 – 759 students - \$1,358,610
(preliminary)

Difference of \$64,440

IETF amount per student: \$1790

Superintendent Smillie outlined that the Ministry of Education Child Care provides any changes to the IETF amount per student funding. It is reviewed annually by the Ministry. There is no change from last year in the per pupil amount.

Director Carriere provided an overview of the revised preliminary IETF budget.

Preliminary IETF 2026-2027 - \$1,358,610

Salaries and Benefits – 87% - \$1,185,205

Supplies and Services – 13% - \$173,405

Director Carriere provided an overview of the types of department positions for 2026/2027.

Types of Positions:

New – District Culture and Language Resource Teacher FTE and District Ktunaxa Language Resource Teacher FTE

Aboriginal Academic Success Teachers

Indigenous Support Workers

It was shared by the IEC that the adjustments recommended by the IEC have now been implemented in this second budget proposal. It was shared that the changes seem very responsive to what was suggested at previous meetings.

Discussion will take place at a later date with respect to services and supplies.

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

THAT the 2026/2027 SD8 Indigenous Education Budget **BE APPROVED** in principle.



8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:26

*****2025/2026 IEC Calendar**