

ALBERTA NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRES ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE

SIK-OOH-KOTOKI FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

1709 – 2nd Avenue

Lethbridge, Alberta

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

MINUTES

Committee participants:

Lucille Cook-Chair	Slave Lake Native Friendship Centre
Penny Van Vilet	Athabasca Native Friendship Centre
Vern John	Bonnyville Canadian Native Friendship Centre
Agnes Gendron	Cold Lake Friendship Centre
Valerie Findlay	Edson Friendship Centre
Melodie Wilton	Grande Prairie Friendship Centre
Yvonne Oshanyk	Hinton Friendship Centre
Donna Bedard	High Level Native Friendship Centre Society
Vicky Barselou	High Prairie Native Friendship Centre
Donna Webster	Lac La Biche Canadian Friendship Centre Association
Hinano Rosa	Mannawanis Native Friendship Centre
Peggy Yellowhorn	Napi Friendship Association
Pinki Yellowhorn	Napi Friendship Association
Roger Grondines	Nistawoyou Friendship Centre
Sheralle Graystone	Red Deer Native Friendship Centre Society
Merle White	Rocky Native Friendship Centre Society
Tracey Zweifel	Sagitawa Friendship Centre Society
Lydia First Rider	Sik-ooH-kotoki Friendship Society
Nelson Mayer	Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association, ED
Tina Martin	Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association, CDO

Regrets:

Carol Mason	Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary
Barb Maytwayashing	Canadian Native Friendship Centre
Claudette Harper	Lloydminster Friendship Centre

Presenters:

Elena Jacobs	Alberta Aboriginal Relations
Johnny Thunder	Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council

1. Call to Order

9:32 a.m.

2. Opening Prayer

Melodie Wilton

3. Adopt September 2009 Agenda

Approved by consensus

4. Introductions

5. Review and Adopt June 2009 Minutes

Approved by consensus

6. ANFCA Update: Nelson Mayer

Programs

Common Ground, New Dawn Rising, New Horizons, Edmonton Aboriginal Transition Initiative, Capacity Project-Financial Capacity-Canadian Native Friendship Centre Governance.

Promotions

Ways to increase the visibility and awareness of Friendship Centres in the province:

1. Calendar
 - a. 10 months showcasing 20 pictures of Friendship Centres, highlighting important dates at each centre; Anniversary, Christmas Dinners. Two months highlighting the Aboriginal Youth Council and the Elders Wisdom Circle. To be developed at the ANFCA, but distributed by each Friendship Centre around the province.
2. Indian Princess/Warrior Ambassadors
 - a. Reintroduce the concept and have the ambassadors available for all Friendship Centre events and promotions to heighten visibility and marketability.
3. United Friendship Centre Walk for Friendship
 - a. A 10k walk on the same day at every Friendship Centre around the province. Pledge sheets to raise monies, invite prominent locals. All money generated to be used at local level for Youth and Elder involvement to attend the Youth and Elder Gathering.

Action: See what the readiness is for the walk and the ambassador programs.

Accountability

- Our Friendship Centres continuously miss deadlines.
- 25% of Friendship Centres are reporting late.
- We need to demonstrate accountability to get increased funds.

NOVEMBER 15. Any centre that is late will be named in the Executive Director report.

New Accountability Policy:

1. *If any deliverable or submission is going to be late, then the Friendship Centre Executive Director needs to identify what date it will be in. An email will confirm new extended deadline.*
2. *If new deadline is missed then the ANFCA Executive Director will call to notify the Friendship Centre Executive Director that the deliverables are due in two working days.*
3. *If it is still late then ANFCA Executive Director will notify the Friendship Centre's Board Members to deal with the delinquent reports.*

Recommended Partnerships

- Women Building Futures
- Parent Link-Child Family Services-gap in programming from 6-12.
 - *Mixed feelings about Parent Link around the table noted.*
- Parent Advisory Councils

Action: Identify in your community what your potential partnerships could be.

Training

- Evaluation Training (Federal Government)
 - Ideal for Executive Directors or staff to do in-house evaluations of programs.
- Developing Board Training needs assessment to customize training to suit boards' needs.

National Association of Friendship Centres

- National Lobby Strategy
 - We need to collectively lobby our local governments.

Action: See your MP to give Friendship Centre update, highlights, successes, challenges.

- AGM Resolutions
 - 10 resolutions passed. It is our responsibility to follow up on these resolutions.

Action: Need to have full participation at the Hinton NAFC AGM for 2010.

H1N1

- Information being sent by the National Association of Friendship Centres.
- We need to educate our staff and clients.
- We need to have plan for dealing with the infected.

Diabetes Survey

Need more participation in surveys. Very few participated.

Aboriginal Human Resources Development Strategy Survey

Need more participation in surveys. Very few participated.

Aboriginal Friendship Centre Program update

The current year is under evaluation; a one year extension is forthcoming until the evaluation is complete. The evaluation will recommend another 5 year agreement. It is expected that a delay in funding will occur; we need to prepare for this possibility.

Urban Multi-purpose Aboriginal Youth Centres update

Current year is under evaluation; a one year extension is forthcoming until the evaluation is complete. The evaluation will recommend another 5 year agreement. There will be a disruption in cash flow for April 2010; likely funding won't come until June 2010.

Action: Need to discuss administrative funding distribution at next quarterly meeting. The group is dissatisfied with the funding allocation. Individual results need to be distributed ASAP! (Nelson)

New Ideas

New Model for the quarterly meetings and the annual meeting schedules.

Action: To be drafted and presented shortly (Nelson)

Friendship Centre Feedback

- *Supports the capacity building of individual Friendship Centres, not the Provincial Office.*
- *Support the accountability of late reporting.*
- *Partnerships-tired of well funded organizations wanting collaboration for nothing, there needs to be a fair exchange; we can't continue to do everyone else's work for free.*
- *Supports the streamlined new quarterly models for cost and for information efficiency.*
- *Only accept collaboration that is beneficial to us and our members, can't afford to subsidise and do these partners work.*
- *Want to be recognised as the go-to for providers of Aboriginal Awareness Training. Market ourselves as Aboriginal Awareness Training Consultants.*

Action: Nelson to follow up on ANFCA Aboriginal Awareness Training initiative.

7. Quality of Life Award (adjusted last minute): Elena Jacobs

- A \$25,000 award created by the Aboriginal Relations Minister to recognize Aboriginal Organizations that benefit their communities, which was judged on education , health, employment, justice, housing and cultural preservation.
- This year there was over 100 applications.
- The judging panel consists of a 5 member panel of non-government people.
- The cash award goes towards future programming.
- The Aboriginal Youth and Family Well Being and Education Society winner of this year's award.
- The award is currently on hold due to budget restraints.

**8. Urban Multi-purpose Aboriginal Youth Centres Quarterly Statistics:
Jeri Melting Tallow-Healy**

- Stressed the importance of keeping and maintaining proper statistics and submitting evaluations for the purpose of demonstrating community need for the continuation and extension of UMAC.

Action: Send in evaluations with quarterly reports from now on.

**9. Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council Meet with Members of ED Committee
Delaine Lambert-Karlynn Willier**

- Stressed the importance of maximizing youth participation at quarterly meetings and especially the NAFC 2010 AGM in Hinton, the goal is to have representation from all Friendship Centres at next meeting.
- Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council youth alumni survey is near completion.

10. Community Updates – Status Reports: Tina Martin

Discussion ensued about the purpose and usefulness and spirit of having a structured format for community updates and status reports. The Executive Director's thought that it is too structured and too informative to submit to Aboriginal Relations. Discussion focused on outputs in comparison to monies received from Aboriginal Relations. This opportunity should be for Executive Director's to share with each other and to learn from one another as opposed to communication with Aboriginal Relations.

What should be included in the Aboriginal Status Report? Only report on status of reporting requirements, all other information is already gathered in the Annual Report and can be shared that way.

11. Elect New Committee Co-Chairs

Tracey Zweifel

Vicky Barsalou

12. Other Business

13. Closing Prayer

Donna Webster

14. Meeting Adjournment

Adjourned 4:40 p.m.