



**DRAFT MINUTES for the
University of the Fraser Valley
INDIGENIZATION COMMITTEE OF SENATE**

April 7, 2017

9 am to noon

Aboriginal Gathering Place - CEP

Attendees: Robert Harding, Luanne Yellowfly, Wenona Victor, Eddie Gardner, Dianna Kay, Mark Point, Shirley Hardman, Peter Geller, Leanne Julian, June Quipp, Lorna Andrews, Eric Alex, Muriel Roberts, Colleen Hodgson, Judy Swakum, Geoffrey Carr, Kat Pennier

Regrets: Tracy Ryder Glass, Cheryl Gabriel, Bibiana Norris, Greg St. Hilaire

Guests: Sukhi Brar (Student Union Society), Taylor Nicholls & Melissa Ly (SOWK 380 students), Anita Vaillancourt (SOWK)

Resources: Carol Dickson (recorder)

1. Welcome and Opening

2. Approval of Agenda – with the addition of the following:

- 4. Business Arising – Structure of this committee to other indigenous committees at UFV
- 9. Dates for next meetings

3. Approval of Minutes:

- **October 17, 2016**

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED that the minutes from the October 17, 2016 meeting be approved as presented.

L. Andrews/L. Yellowfly. Motion carried.

- **December 12, 2016** – as this meeting had no quorum the notes from the meeting were accepted as presented.

4. Business Arising: Student Union Society Presentation on Indigenization at UFV

SUS Updates:

- The SUS building flag display was recently reinstalled in February and in addition to flags representing the home country of the current international student population, flags of the Stó:lō, Metis and Student Union Society have now been installed.
- A territorial acknowledgement plaque has now been installed in the SUS building.

- In an effort to support efforts towards Reconciliation, the SUS has created a new award titled the **Elizabeth Phillips Seeking Indigenous Reconciliation**. Hailey Peters Sam is the first recipient of this award.
- SUS is providing space for the Witness Blanket exhibition being planned for September to November 2017. The committee members would like to express their thanks to SUS for their important participation and generosity in supporting the Witness Blanket Exhibition and making it accessible to more people.

The committee endorsed the work that SUS has been doing, and thanked Sukhi for her leadership. It was noted that when initiatives come forward with a student voice, it is really important to listen.

Student Presentation

A group of students from SOWK 380 shared their end of term project - a Territorial Acknowledgement video encouraging reconciliation. The student group, with support from the SUS, would like all classes at UFV to include a territorial acknowledgement as part of the course content.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED that the Indigenization of Senate Committee recommends that Senate explore the ways that they can support and encourage territorial acknowledgement in every course.

S. Hardman/R. Harding. Motion carried.

This motion will go forward to Senate together with a rationale created by P. Geller and M. Point to support the motion and ensure that SUS is recognized as having brought this forward to the committee originally.

SUS/Student Membership

The SUS President requested that the committee members consider ways to involve the Student Union Society in the committee. The committee membership structure includes positions for two self-identified Aboriginal student representatives.

ON A MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED that one of the self-identified Aboriginal student representative be selected by the Student Union Society.

E. Alex/L. Yellowfly. Motion carried.

Structure of this committee to other indigenous committees at UFV

The bicameral structure of university governance was described to the committee, providing some background into how the ICS, as a sub-committee of Senate, fits into the overall structure. Anita Vaillancourt, Chair of the Faculty of Professional Studies Indigenization Committee, described some of

the work that is currently occurring in her area and asked the committee what they might do to support the work and direction of the ICS.

5. **Membership Updates** – This is the first meeting for Grand Chief Clarence Pennier, who was approved by Senate as a member of the committee. The membership committee members (M. Point, L. Andrews and C. Gabriel) will work towards filling the remaining membership vacancies on the committee.
6. **Indigenous Knowledge and Regional Universities Conference (VIU)**

The conference was well received by all attendees (elders, faculty, administrators and students) and a second follow-up conference is currently in the planning stages for Fall 2017. One of the main messages from the conference was that sharing Indigenous knowledge is critical; if you don't change the minds and hearts, you can't change the institution.

7. **Indigenization Report – Projects & Partnerships**

- Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies:
 - this major/minor degree program will officially be offered starting September 2017;
 - applications for the program are open now;
 - two students who have already completed the required courses have chosen to delay their graduation to receive the new degree; and
 - small course changes are currently being made and are proceeding through the Undergraduate Education Committee approval process.
- The NVIT/UFV BGS completion project, funded by INAC, continues in Bella Coola. At this time we expect six of the nine students who participated to be complete at the end of April, with the remaining three eligible for completion once they complete their outstanding NVIT programming. A community-based celebration for all of these students will be held in Bella Coola in late May. A group of instructors who participated in this program recently shared their experiences in a well-received Scholarly Sharing Initiative presentation.
- Handouts were provided on current and upcoming Indigenization activities at UFV and the work of the Indigenous Studies Curriculum Committee (ISCC): see attached.

8. **Mark Evered Honouring Ceremony**

Grand Chief Elaine Malloway had it on her heart that Mark Evered should be recognized for his work in indigenizing. Many Jewels had told Mark to connect with Frank Malloway who would help show him the way to do this. Elaine also desires to put a name on Mark at that time. The committee members will receive an invitation to this event.

9. **Next Meetings:**

- May 17, 2017
- **2017-18 meetings:**
 - Tuesday, September 26 from 9 am to noon (*this event will take place in Abbotsford and will include a visit to the Witness Blanket Exhibition*).
 - Tuesday, November 28 from 5 pm to 8 pm
 - Tuesday, February 27 from 9 am to noon
 - Tuesday, April 24 from 5 pm to 8 pm