

**Aboriginal Peoples Family Accord  
Interior Region Board Meeting  
Okanagan Nation Alliance Boardroom ~ Westbank, BC  
February 10, 2006 ~ 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

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**Attendees:** Lori Swanson, Debbie Abbott, Edna Terbasket, Marg Ahdemar, Deb Canada, Terrence Paul, and Leona Rabbitt (joined at 9:28)

**MCFD Staff:** Barry Fulton, Doug Hayman, Glenn Moffat, and Doug Hughes

**APFA Staff:** Eliza Terbasket, Jim MacArthur, and Dan Odenbach

**Recording Secretary:** Sandra Young

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**1. Welcome and Opening Prayer**

Edna Terbasket provided the opening prayer.

**2. Review and Adoption of Agenda**

The Executive Committee will meet together during the lunch break.

**Motion 1:** *To accept the agenda with the noted additions.*

*Moved by: Edna Terbasket. Seconded by: Lori Swanson. Question called; all in favour; Motion passed.*

**3. Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes and Review of Action Items**

The board reviewed the minutes and action items.

**Motion 2:** *to accept the minutes as presented.*

*Moved by: Pauline Terbasket. Seconded by: Marg Ahdemar. Question called; all in favour; Motion carried.*

Action item #1 should read: the APFA supports the Métis Nation BC within the service delivery plan. Action #4 is complete.

**4. Business Arising from Previous Meeting Minutes**

- Update from the Protocol Working Group.

To date there has been no response from the Ministry as to whether they will come to meet with the APFA and discuss the protocol. Frank van Zandwijk has informed the APFA that Arn van Iersel and Lenora Angel want to meet with the protocol working group, but have been busy. Lenora was informed yesterday of the importance of having this document signed before year-end.

There was a request from the Ministry that every region contribute \$25,000 towards the March 3 & 4 Provincial Forum. However the Interior cannot send a cheque for that amount.

The Political Committee has stated they are willing to negotiate with the Ministry on the protocol, as there can be some leeway. A simple protocol can be written without political innuendos or discussion around jurisdiction. It is now up to the Ministry to respond.

Regional Executive Director Doug Hayman requested further clarification from the APFA, which was provided. Doug will follow-up with the Ministry around the protocol.

- Update on Financial Management Agreement.

Both the APFA and the Ministry have signed off the financial management agreement.

- Discussion of Board Policy and Procedures

Once finished, the process policies will become a foundation for the other policies. There will be four sets of policies but the governance policy will outline how the board operates. The board reviewed the work done by the Policy Review Committee on pages 6, 20 and 37. The committee is asking for acceptance from the board on the policies.

Page 6 - Who can make recommendations to amend? Overview of Discussion:

- There could be a process to make recommendations so communities still have a voice, but cannot change policies.
- It may be helpful to have a briefing note address outstanding issues.
- Making recommendations to amend are generally embedded in operational policies and address how the board would conduct itself around constituents. If the policies do not fit, it is the board's responsibility to review the issue.
- Focus on the operational aspect rather than revising wording.
- Suggestion to delete the last sentence stating "in addition...can be made by any group..."

Page 20 - The difference between privileged and confidential information. Overview of Discussion:

- This could be addressed in the definitions section of the policy.
- There are rules for confidentiality in every organization; however, the notion of privilege is separate and a legal opinion may be necessary.
- Confidentiality could be like client information and privileged information, such as funding, can be shared at the board level. All privileged information could be treated as confidential until it is released to avoid conflict of interest.
- Privileged information may not be confidential, but it is not subject to freedom of information.
- Most boards like this one are open and transparent except around things that would give others an edge or get someone in trouble.
- Knowing the difference between privileged and confidential information will support any board member who is confused on how to treat any information.
- The Terms of Reference for the CEO can address this.
- Many transparent boards will have an in-camera portion of the meeting to discuss privileged and confidential information.
- More definitions and expectations around this policy item are needed.
- It could be addressed in the communications policy as well.

Page 37 – constituents. Overview of Discussion:

- Things like non-aboriginal people in common law relationships and non-aboriginal people living in an aboriginal community must be addressed.

- Funding will have to be sorted out between the APFA and agencies. This may be a provincial issue.
- In some cases we have used the word constituents to avoid using the word stakeholder, which is different than being a client. Constituents own the APFA.
- The Ministry cannot enforce child protection legislation on a First Nations agency delivering services. It is different than voluntary services.
- Services will have to be arranged when dealing with other provinces. Board communication with other jurisdictions has been addressed.
- Elsie Flett from Manitoba will join the Policy Review Committee at a future meeting.
- There should be a definition of whom the board member represents.
- Local protocol on capacity may be better than overarching policy. Who the APFA represents and whom they serve are distinct.
- The definition of constituents can be tightened. Remove the non-aboriginal portion from the sentence, starting from “aboriginal organizations” to “on reserve.”
- As a result of previous meetings with Adrian, there may be no need for the Executive Committee. As the policies stand now, there are only the Executive and Membership Committees.
- What works for the APFA may not be the generic model.

**Action:** The Policy Review Committee will research what the other regions and Manitoba have done with their policies and consult with a lawyer. The Committee will then bring their recommendations to the March board meeting.

Break 10:27 to 10:36

#### 5. APFA Financial Update - December 31, 2005 Financial Management Report

The \$656,383 noted in the FMR Roll-up does not include the \$106,000, which is the Interior's share of the \$500,000. In the FMR it appears we are over-expended but this is a product of our funding on the invoice system. The \$106,000 is still in Victoria, so we cannot expend this money as needed. Lenora Angel has said she will address this issue immediately. Dan Maskell has reviewed the report and said there are no concerns as long as we do not incur any major costs. Both the Administration and Mental Health FMR are on track; however, we must invoice UBC weekly.

Overview of Discussion:

- The reason the APFA is still on the invoice system is because the protocol is not signed. This could be negotiated locally. Doug Hayman will contact the APFA with more information.
- The UBC funding for mental health should be moved from MCFD to Other.
- Cyril from UBC had said he would pay the lump sum if the APFA sent him an invoice; however, he now says he can only pay the actuals. Barry Fulton will follow up with Cyril.
- The Mental Health dollars after March 31 will be \$185,000 for the next twelve months.

**Action:** Update the FMR to include UBC as Other.

**Motion 3:** *To approve the December 31, 2005 Financial Management Report.*

*Moved by: Deb Canada. Seconded by: Terrence Paul. Question called; all in favour; Motion carried.*

- CEO Limitations Policies

This item was initially to be discussed in Business Arising. This template is an FYI for tomorrow's meeting with Adrian. Jim outlined the addition on page 3 and the purpose of the document.

## **6. MCFD Update from Doug Hayman**

Doug thanked the board for inviting him to the meeting. He noted he would like to participate in all future board meetings. Glenn Moffat was introduced as Doug Hughes' replacement as Director of Aboriginal Services within the Interior.

Alison MacPhail has left the Ministry and Arn van Iersel is now a Deputy Minister with specific directives from the Premier's office on this process. Leslie du Toit from South Africa is now looking at how the Ministry can transform this system to aboriginal authorities.

A joint committee on legislation has been set up to develop legislation to hopefully be passed by the end of May. Doug outlined some of the directives the legislation will cover. It would seem the legislation is rushed because it has been on hold for so long and the Premier would like this process complete.

Overview of Discussion:

- The APFA board and Political Committee had a teleconference with the Legislation Advisory Working Group and as a result a letter has been sent to the leadership indicating the problems with the legislation such as the lack of time.

Doug Hayman continued with the update. A series of co-chaired cascading committees will be developed under this legislation. Doug will co-chair the service delivery committee for the province. Contract management will be developed in the initial stages and the Ministry will have to work closely with the APFA.

The APFA must decide what will work in terms of transformation of services and the broader context of service delivery. The relationship between the authorities and the Delegated Agencies is still to be worked out as well as the role of the provincial director. This board must demonstrate they can make this process work and have a positive partnership with MCFD.

One large item the Ministry is dealing with is the re-patriation of children who have been moved to the CLBC authority. Children under the age of 6 will return to MCFD by July 2006. Once they are 6 years old and if they have a developmental problem they will return to CLBC.

Overview of Discussion:

- The challenges felt by the Ministry are felt even stronger on the Aboriginal side.
- The Ktunaxa have been trying to gain control of services in their area and are reviewing legislation of children and families. They are interested in transforming rather than transferring services and are developing their own legislation to look at well-being.

**7. Lunch – 12:00 to 12:54 PM**

**8. ACYMH Interim Plan**

George Johnston and Janice Murphy introduced the Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health Interim Plan to the meeting attendees. This Interim Plan will act as a roadmap to help the Ministry with their work in Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH). The framework for the document was the medicine wheel. It is important to remember this plan will guide the Ministry until the APFA takes over. The APFA may implement an entirely different plan.

The five regions received funding for planners. The information for this plan came from community consultations throughout the region involving a total of 343 people.

Janice presented her findings from her community consultations to the attendees. She also explained the reasoning for hiring five coordinators and three clinicians under this interim plan, as well as their roles. There will be other means of prevention in communities, which are laid out in the interim plan. A project charter will be written to set out all the specific targets for the plan.

CYMH budget will contribute \$740,000 towards prevention, but the exact numbers will be available once the final plan is submitted. Treatment and support access will be part of the MCFD system until the APFA takes it over.

Training will be provided for the teams so everyone has the same philosophical base and understanding before going out to the field. This training will be developed through community consultation in each area.

Overview of Discussion:

- The plan must show how the community and regional health plans will fit together.
- More than just this Ministry should be involved when dealing with health.
- Community isolation must be taken into consideration when looking at funding.

***Motion 4: To adopt the Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health Interim plan in principle, as presented.***

*Moved by: Pauline Terbasket. Seconded by: Marg Ahdemar. Question called; all in favour. Motion carried.*

**9. Legislation Advisory Working Group Document**

Chief Bob Pasco has approved the letter to the leadership and it can be sent out under his signature. The APFA letter on legislation was reviewed at the Feb 9 legislation meeting. The leadership will not accept the timeline for the spring legislation. Information should go through the APFA before going to leadership, to strengthen

communication. This will avoid MCFD getting the leadership's approval before they fully understand an issue.

Overview of Discussion:

- The leadership does not speak for every nation and so should not be approving things without the planning committee.
- Amendments to the legislation have not been sent out, as it is strictly bare bones. This legislation must not tie our hands for service delivery.
- Look to other groups who are drafting their own legislation to avoid having numerous pieces of legislation in the region.
- The Provincial Forum will allow the planning committees to have a work plan and help the regions regroup.
- Leslie du Toit should be contacted to inform her of our challenges.

The board members discussed how to improve the relationship with the Delegated Agencies. It was noted Shawn Atleo should be part of the JAMC.

Overview of Discussion:

- We should lay out the APFA's legislation concerns and have the LAWG redraft it. To be proactive, our original budget and our own legislation as a recommendation should be included.
- The other regions may look to the Interior to lead the process.
- Other regions have concerns around legislation, which cannot be ignored.
- We must express to the other regions that readiness is not a race and a schedule of commitments for readiness is needed. We need a five year schedule to hold the government accountable.
- We should work with the Ministry to get ready rather than having them tell us how to do it.
- The Provincial Forum needs an agenda that will bring the regions together.

### **10. Community Gathering Report**

The gathering reports had two different cover letters. One was used for the organizations and the other for those who attended the gatherings. The attendees received not only the report, but also a summary of everything that was said. The attendees were asked to share this information with another community member. Our contact list is growing with each gathering. The APFA newsletters are currently at the printers and will be mailed out on Feb 11.

The community gathering dates will be confirmed by Feb 13. Staff is planning the agenda for the gatherings. The Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health Interim Plan will be presented and the participants will discuss how to set up their community table.

The board requested some changes be made to the gathering report for clarity.

***Motion 5:*** *To accept the Community Gathering Report in principle with the noted changes.*

*Moved by: Pauline Terbasket. Seconded by: Deb Canada. Question called; all in favour. Motion carried.*

### **11. Additional Agenda Items or Announcements**

There is a Vancouver Aboriginal Transformative Justice Conference February 20 and 21.

There has been little response for the host agency and the director of the Provincial Aboriginal Coordination Office.

The chairs of the Delegated Agencies will be invited to a meeting with the APFA board to build bridges and share information. This meeting will be facilitated. The board will meet with the Delegated Agencies for second half of the day on Mar 20 and the morning of Mar 21.

**Action:** Create a questionnaire for the Delegated Agencies to find out what their top concerns are for an agenda.

**Action:** Send out a meeting notice inviting the Delegated Agencies to a meeting with the APFA.

April Meeting: April 27 & 28 in Kelowna.

Edna Terbasket will check if the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society has meeting space available.

### **12. Closing Prayer**

Edna Terbasket provided the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.