

**Aboriginal Peoples Family Accord
July 22, 2004 ~ 9:00am
Okanagan Nation Alliance (Boardroom)
Westbank, BC**

In Attendance:	Debbie Abbott, Deb Canada, Donna Wright, Susan James, Robbin Lulua, Gwen Phillips, Marg Ahdemar, Faye Ahdemar
Regrets:	Pauline Terbasket, Eliza Terbasket, Edna Terbasket, Terrence Paul, Donna Steeves
Guests:	Lottie Lindley, Jeannie Bonville, Dan Ludeman
Staff:	Jim MacArthur, Dan Odenbach.
Recording Secretary:	Kim DuBrett

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Gwen Phillips opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Agenda

Additional Items:

- Safe Care Act
- Legal Service Update
- April 22/23 Board Meeting Minutes

***Motion 1:** To accept the July 22, 2004 agenda as amended (Additions: Safe Care Act, Legal Services Update, and the April 22/23 Board Meeting Minutes).*

Moved by: Donna Wright; Seconded by: Marg Ahdemar; Question Called; Any Opposed; Motion Carried.

3. Williams Lake June 10th Meeting Minutes

***Motion 2:** To Accept the Williams Lake June 10th meeting minutes as presented.*

Moved by Susan James; Seconded by: Faye Ahdemar; Question Called; Any Opposed; Motion Carried

Business Arising from the June 10th Meeting Minutes:

- Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes have not been sent to the board because the committee has not ratified them. The office needs one more response before minutes can be distributed.
- Audit Conference Call– a conference call has not been arranged because we have not received any information and the report will be presented at the ACC on July 26th. We have requested our own audit information to identify our strengths and weakness, as well as, being accountable to the Interior Region. The Board also requested to see an individual audit for the Interior because we do not want to be lumped into one and would like see separate regional audits.
- April 22/23 Board Meeting Minutes – A copy of the April board meeting minutes have not yet been reviewed or included in our last meetings agenda's because an office temp was hired to do the minutes for the two days and a lot of information was misinterpreted or incorrect. Therefore, we did not send them out. Recommendation to send out a copy of the minutes for the board to review and provide feedback and to help recall final decisions. (No time line or date was set)

Action: To send out the April 22/23 draft minutes to the board members as soon as possible.

Action: Email the last Executive Committee Meeting Minutes to Debbie Abbott to review and approve, then a copy can be sent out to the board.

4. Draft Interior Service Delivery Plan

Note: Leslie Varley will be joining in by conference call to discuss the Draft Service Delivery with the board.

Leslie joined at 10:47am

Summary of the Service Plan Discussion:

- **Recommendation** to keep the Service Plan as a living document and will stay as a draft.
- Revise the Interior Region Service Plan map (Motion was made).
- **Recommendation** to identify a process to implement changes into the service plan
 - i. Insert a template for changes into the Service Plan. This will help the office have all necessary information. E.g. Community requesting information, Supporting Motion;
 - ii. Formal Changes will happen twice a year by the APFA Board.
- **Recommendation** for the next APFA newsletter – Do a celebration and thank everyone for participating in the consultation and also acknowledging the Interior Region is ahead of the game.

- **Action:** Changes in the wording in the whole document to reflect Thompson/Shuswap/Lillooet instead of Thompson/Shuswap.
- **Action:** To change Page number 47 to say the First Nations use these two rivers instead of the Thompson/Shuswap.
- **Action:** To change Lillooet Tribal Council to say they represent 7 member bands – all 7 bands are listed but only say's 6 in the sentence.
- **Action:** correct page 46 that say traditional economy regarding the two rivers says the Thompson Shuswap but doesn't mention the Lillooet. Take out the Thompson Shuswap and add nation.
- **Action:** Changes page 49 to read, "They were not properly represented or acknowledged in the consultation.
- **Recommendation** to define the role of the Political Committee as they legitimize the role of the Board. (this statement was agreed upon at the Interim Board Training at the En'Owkin Center June 2003).
- **Recommendation** to have a "Thank you" letter from the Board to all of the communities for participating in the community consultation.
- **Action:** Leslie Varley will draft a one-page thank you letter and distribute to the board to review. (No time was recorded)
- **Action:** Write a letter to Glenn Moffat, former support member to the APFA Best Practices Committee, regarding the Draft Service Plan. Glenn Moffat has received a copy of the Interior Region's Draft Service Plan and he should be reminded he has received this in the highest form of confidence and this should not be used for any Aboriginal Response.
- **Recommendation** to include a summary or a conclusion at the end of the Service Plan to tie it all into together or leave open-ended questions.
- **Recommendation** to have more information in the budget section regarding what we'll need to deliver services such as what it might cost for capacity building, training, educations, etc and should include a cost estimate of delivering services
- **Action:** Share the Interior Region Draft Service Plan with the other regions.
- **Recommendation** to insert a section to describe an Authority versus an Accord.
- **Recommendation** to add what the APFA's role would be in the John Paul Story.
- **Action:** Jim MacArthur and Leslie Varley will incorporate all of the changes recommended and a draft will be available in the Fall Time.

Motion 3: *That we change the map to identify the four zones and a column on the side that identifies the nations in each zone.*

Moved By: Donna Wright; Seconded By: Gwen Phillips; Question Called; Any Opposed; Motion Carried.

5. Reclaiming our Children Video

Dan Odenbach, Communications Coordinator presented the APFA introductory video called “Reclaiming our Children” to the Interim Board for the first time. The Communications Coordinator did an over view of how the video was completed and let the board know there would 900 copies duplicated to distribute within the Interior Region and video and DVD copies would also be available.

Discussion:

- Board agreed it was a great video and commended Dan Odenbach on a job well done.
- However, Deb Canada said the video lacked Métis children footage and said Dan should have contacted herself or Donna Steeves because they have a dance group, which travels and performs at various functions. If Deb Canada was approached, she could have directed Dan to obtain the rights to video footage, which was held with the Kamloops Métis Family Agency. Dan said he used First Nation children in the video because they had consent forms signed off by their parents/guardians. Dan added, he doesn't have a budget left, with the lack of resources, to shoot additional video footage.
- **Note:** no motion or formal recommendations recorded.

6. Draft Multi-Year Work Plan (draft 4.3)

Dan Ludeman, thanked the APFA for inviting him here today, acknowledge the Okanagan Nation and their traditional territory and acknowledge the elders and children. Would like the opportunity to have dialogue regarding the document and explain my intent with an introduction.

Introduction:

- My Name is Dan Ludeman and has married into the Stolo Nation.
- Have worked in the Social Services sector for over 20 years. Dan has been an Executive Director for a delegated agency and has done consulting for the delegated agencies too and has been just recently hired as the Liaison Coordinator for the ACC. (See this job as being an interrupter)
- Believe this process can change from a government run service to community-based governance.
- This is going to be a challenging time and we need to find some common language, and tried to write this in a way to create some common ground and understanding. That is why I am meeting with the different regions and will also be meeting with Jeremy Berland to see what he thinks.
- This is a work in progress, we have had four substantial changes and three various different versions.

- Would like some kind of platform. This process has had so many false starts and has been frustrating was relieved when we had a chance to share this document during the June 24/25 Aboriginal Provincial Forum.
- After we review the document would like to have some discussions and feedback.
- The Political Leaders and the community have felt government has had so many changes to the process and lets have one document, because the last documents had too much level of detail.
- This document is not intended to drive the community process; this will describe the absolute key steps to drive the process.
- Would like to acknowledge Jim MacArthur and Eliza Terbasket for their input for their hard work into the document.
- Dan started by providing what the overall document was and what it was intended to do and also highlighted the major parts of the document.

Discussion:

- Gwen Phillips – the first paragraph doesn't mention the Aboriginal communities in there? This plan is contingent upon the community; those children are the inherent right of those communities. On page 5 there is a principle all by itself and not tied to anything else in the document.
- Page 6 - the relationship between the non-political signatories. Prioritize the tasks.
- Debbie Abbott– sense of respect and examples need to be in there. Identify the ladder and where will they fit and understand fully the role of each participant.
- Gwen Phillips–this morning we said we are not here as a person of the government, we are here for our nations and they are the ones that will pull out if this process does not meet their needs. The conversation from this morning needs to be reiterated and brought up to this level of the Provincial work plan. We are taking an interim step for us and its a transitional step to self-governance. It is reclaiming our inherent rights.
- Marg Ahdemar– in Vancouver the APFA has had several responses to the work plan. There are several principles missing like,
 - i. Implementing structural changes,
 - ii. Learning about each other, the plan should be holistic, be adequately funded and be pursued by all.
 - iii. It has been linear process and should be a dimmer switch approach
 - iv. Corporate model instead of community governance and should be built up from the communities
 - v. We need the terms of reference first before we can review the plan
 - vi. The Vancouver Coastal issues needs to be addressed before we can move forward from there,
 - vii. The planning process or the committee's need to be adequately funded. We have very few resources to meet as a board. It has

been hard to review documents as a board how can we develop or review and work on documents.

- Donna Wright – we are being undermined with the government and they are meeting with the delegated agencies and it should be us. We are a small population and we all have to wear many hats and have created a bureaucracy and what for? Put more effort into front line workers because we are diluting the resources.
- Kim DuBrett read out loud a letter on behalf of Pauline Terbasket that discussed her position on the Multi-Year Work Plan.
- Deb Canada – sometimes as the APFA we are truly our own worst enemies because when I hear a letter like Pauline’s it only references First Nations. There is no process with out the Métis and we sit here and support this process and I am frustrated and fed up because they don’t reference the Métis. When people are included in the process they stay but when they aren’t they will start their own process.
- Gwen Phillips – The unity legitimizes this whole process by having the Métis, Urban and Nations. Somewhere in the principles needs to build among the best practices. Defines the best practices and governance piece (pg 3).
- Susan James – don’t really have anything to add and haven’t gone through it thoroughly and don’t have anything more to add.
- Faye Ahdemar – this document help me see how everything is fitting together. Sometimes it is a real wonder how government works and how they operate? The APFA has said we don’t want to be a part of bureaucracy and have talked about budget and afraid we are going to miss what communities really want for them selves and that wouldn’t be identified until they set themselves up and are working, only then will they identify what they want. There is a lot of work that we haven’t started like Adoptions for example specifically “section 13 the Aboriginal Response”. If we are going to change anything it will be through legislation. The budget is just guessing? Concerned the government needs to sign this off. If the plan and argument is there, then there’ll be a budget. Support the community based approach and whatever that means? Remember how we fit together.
- Marg Ahdemar– we have created a whole new bureaucracy and have been worried about creating a brown bureaucracy. The Ministry should be creating with the regions and not at the other level. Each region is autonomous and we need the work plan to start.
- Robbin Lulua – Agree with what Marg was saying talking about bureaucracy. Are we back to square one again and find myself getting frustrated.
- Dan Odenbach – we have one chance at credibility with the Aboriginal community and they have been consulted to death. We have just started to build momentum with the Aboriginal Community and then our community links have been stalled. We can’t just turn it on and off.

- Gwen Phillips– community work is huge and that needs to be stated in the work plan and the recognition of the autonomous nations and implement cost factors. And is the Interior Region’s work plan going to get funded as we submitted and not get stuck with the outline that is in this work plan?
- Gwen Phillips – need to identify community for the responsibility and not the titles that are identified.
- Dan Ludeman: the Chairs are forever trying to decide their role and they don’t want to direct what’s happening in the region. The work plan was to provide some clarification of the process and will try and tie everyone together.
- Concerns of the four political leaders and the representation because they do not represent inherent rights of all children, the communities do, and George Holem does not represent all friendship centers. The Métis commission is the political voice for all of the Métis in the province.

Agreed Upon Recommendations:

- Communities need to be included as the participants.
- Regional Work Plan and budget should be included (as a cell)
- Build on the Best Practices Expertise that all ready exists in the community should be added to the principles.

Next Step: with the inclusion of these recommendations the accords board is supporting the direction and timing of the joint work plan. An overall draft with the incorporated changes will be sent out for review. (No time frame was recorded).

7. 2003/2004 Audit

Recommendation to wait for Eliza Terbasket, APFA Coordinator and Pauline Terbasket or Julie Dacre from the Okangan Nation Alliance to be present before reviewing the Audit.

The board has requested to receive an update on our current cash flow and would like to see the supporting documents such as the general ledger report, and or cash flow statement before the next meeting. Questions came forward as a result of recommendations made during the April 2004 Board meeting. Some board members want to know what the expenditures are to know where we stand financially and are we just paying staff wages?

Action: To email or fax a general ledger report for the Month of June 2004 and a projected budget, if there is one available.

8. Safe Care Act

The July 20th Meeting was cancelled due to lack of responses, most likely due to the short notice and will be rescheduled for sometime in the near future.

Unfortunately due to the short notice neither Robbin Lulua nor Tamara received the cancellation notice in time and attended the meeting in Kamloops. Tamara contacted the office to see if there was an opportunity to present on the July 22nd agenda? Due to the tight agenda we were unable to accommodate their request. Also during the conversation she mentioned they too, were also given a short time frame to complete the consultation and the window of opportunity was very short to provide input into the draft legislations but there would be another opportunity in the fall to discuss planning.

Debbie Abbott, provided the board with a handout, which has detailed questions in response to the draft legislation, Lytton Tribal Council will be presenting these questions at an August meeting.

Recommendation to reschedule another meeting in conjunction with our August 26/27 board meeting before consultation is complete to discuss the draft legislation for the Safe Care Act.

Action: Write a letter to Tamara to notify her the APFA board would like to reschedule a meeting for August 26th to discuss the Safe Care Act.

Note: If we are not able to reschedule the safe care meeting we will proceed with a two-day board meeting.

9. Legal Service Update

Jim MacArthur provided the board with an update on the Legal Services and the Ministry of Children and Family's have asked the APFA we could send an Aboriginal representative to assist reviewing proposals? Travel and Honoraria will be provided and the ideal candidate should have background or expertise in legal services field.

Action: Submit names of interested individuals who would be able to participate for two weeks in the month August with MCFD in reviewing proposals.

10. Chair Report

Debbie Abbott presented an update on the June 23rd meeting she attended in Williams Lake. Doreen Johnson, Director of Knucwentwecw had invited the Aboriginal Peoples Family Accord to present how regionalization for child welfare would affect the rights of treaty?

Action: Send a copy of the Power Point Presentation Debbie Abbott presented during the Williams Lake meeting to the board.

11. Closing

Lottie Lindley provided the closing prayer.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:10pm