

Aboriginal Peoples Family Accord
Interim Board Meeting
Sensisyusten Community Center ~ Westbank, BC
July 14-15, 2005

In Attendance: Lori Swanson, Gwen Phillips, Debbie Abbott, Terrence Paul, Marg Ahdemar, Edna Terbasket, Donna Steeves, Pauline Terbasket, Susan James, Deb Canada.

Guests: Bruce Dumont – MPCBC President, Keith Henry – MPCBC Executive Director, Kay Dahl – MPCBC Minister for Children and Family, Fred Storey, Métis Commission Executive Director, Glenn Parker – MPCBC Technician, Rick Wilmont – MPCBC Region #3 Métis Director, Michelle Duncan – MPCBC Consultant.

APFA Staff: Eliza Terbasket, Dan Odenbach, Jim MacArthur, George Johnston.

Recording Secretary: Kim DuBrett

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer provided by Edna Terbasket
Introductions

2. Review and Adoption of the Agenda

Addition to Day One Agenda: Métis

***Motion 1** – To adopt day one’s agenda and to review remaining agenda items on tomorrow (July 15th).*

Moved by:** Marg Ahdemar; **Seconded by:** Donna Steeves; **Question Called;** All in Favor; **Motion Carried.

3. Métis

Debbie Abbott announced our guests from the Métis Provincial Council of BC and provided them with an invitation to speak on the agenda first before regular business.

Métis Continued:

Bruce Dumont, President, Métis Provincial Council of BC, introduced himself and assured APFA they have come on friendly terms and that the Métis children are of the utmost importance to them. He further noted that the Métis have signed the Memorandum of Understanding, which has entered them into a partnership, and they are here to work with the APFA.

Kay Dahl introduced herself and thanked APFA for the invitation to address the committee and provided a brief overview of why they suspended their participation in December of 2004 and told the committee it was a hard decision to make. The Métis are an independent nation and that they do have the right to serve their own children and they have made a commitment to their people that they would create a service delivery plan for their children and family. The Interior Region has two service providers one in Kelowna and the other in Kamloops and they need to be recognized in the service delivery plans and Métis children need to be raised in their own culture. She acknowledged the Métis have signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and asked APFA if they supported the MOU and if we did then we should be able to show support to the Métis.

Fred Storey, Executive Director of the Métis Commission introduced himself and mentioned it was a pleasure to be here, and that it was an honor and a privilege to be here in the Okanagan. The Métis are here because we have signed the MOU. We are please with the APFA Service Delivery Plan and that you have acknowledged the nations and go further to recognize the Métis Nation. We want to look after our own children and have guardianship and we know this system hasn't worked for our kids or your kids. One of the biggest problem's that gets kids into care is substance abuse. We want to be involved and included and how do we do that? We have a partnership in Kootenay's that is working, in the Okanagan we are starting to take on that role and there is a agency in Kamloops. To help get back on track we'd like to get a clear statement from the APFA of how we will be included regarding the service delivery plan. The government is saying we can't move forward because they don't know if APFA supports us. We would like APFA to write a statement saying you support as a nation for service delivery and would like a copy given to the government and the other to MPCBC.

Rick Wilmont, Region #3 President introduced himself and mentiond that Dave Hodgson sends his regrets. He confirmed that both Dave and him are committed to being here, committed to working with this group and confident we can work out our common problems.

Métis Continued:

Keith Henry introduced himself as the *Executive Director for MPCBC* and provided an overview of the Métis plans to create a roadmap for service delivery provincially. The Métis are trying to establish a membership database provincially because there is a need to identify Métis children and provide them with culturally relevant services.

4. Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion 2 – to accept the August 26, 2004, October 21, 2004, January 14-16, 2005, March 3, 2005, April 11, 2005 and the May 30, 2005 meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by: Pauline Terbasket; Seconded by: Marg Ahdemar; Question Called; All in Favor; Deb Canada Blocks the Motion. Motion Carried

Note: MPCBC will review APFA correspondence and provide a written response within one week's time if there is a concern.

5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting Minutes**a. Draft Financial Management Agreement**

Recommendation to revise page 3 paragraph titled "Providing Funding" which the following changes:

- Omit the last sentence.
- Revise the second last sentence to read "the ministry further agrees to enter into a joint dialogue and decision-making regarding any funding changes."

Motion 3 – Move to adopt and sign off the financial management agreement (draft #7) put forward from the ministry of children and family development with the noted revisions.

Moved by: Pauline Terbasket; Seconded by: Marg Ahdemar; Question Called; All in Favor, Motion Carried.

b. Draft Board Policy and Procedure

Requesting committee members to volunteer to form a working committee to review the draft policy document and provide recommendations at the next board meeting for ratification.

Volunteers: Deb Canada, Donna Steeves, Marg Ahdemar.

Staff Support: Jim MacArthur

Action: Email the working committee as soon as possible to set-up a conference call to review the draft board policy and procedures document.

6. APFA Financial Update

Dan Maskell, Regional Finance Officer from Ministry of Children and Family (MCFD) will be presenting the 2004/05 Audit Report and the Financial Management Statements.

a. 2004/05 BDO Audit Report

***Motion 4:** Move to receive and approve the 2004/05 Audited Financial statements as supplied by the BDO Dunwoody Auditors.*

Moved by:** Susan James; **Seconded by:** Lori Swanson; **Question Called;** All in Favor; **Motion Carried.

b. Financial Management Report as of May 31, 2005

The May 31, 2005 roll-up report was reviewed and the additional reports (APFA, Supported Child Development and Mental Health) have been included for information.

Recommendation to format the financial management reports differently to separate the board and operation expenses. Example: moving the amount from wages and benefits to become apart of the professional fee's where appropriate.

***Motion 5:** Move to receive and approve the May 31, 2005 financial management report as supplied by the ONA.*

Moved by:** Terrence Paul; **Seconded by:** Marg Ahdemar, **Question Called;** All in Favor; **Motion Carried.

7. 2005/06 APFA Draft Conceptual Model

Jim MacArthur presented the draft conceptual model dated June 20, 2005 which describes what services APFA will be responsible for, how services will be delivered, who will receive the services, what the envisioned outcome is and the capacity desired to provide the services.

Overview of Recommendations/Revisions:

- *Section 1.0 Introduction (Page 1)* – revise the introduction to make a stronger statement and be clear on who has ownership. Reword the introduction to reflect what is really happening at the community level, state that the nations are taking on this task, and government shouldn't define this process because we are taking on the responsibility to look after our children and families.

8. Lunch Break

9. Continuation of the Draft Conceptual Model

Overview of Recommendation/Revisions:

- *Section 1.4 Parameters of the APFA Mandate (Page 3)* – revise this section to rearrange the order of the mandates.
 1. (c) Enhancing community participation over the design and delivery of services.
 2. (e) Self-Governance objectives of individual APFA constituents.
 3. (a) Relevant provincial legislation and regulations
 4. (b) Provincial Treasury Board and MCFD Funding Levels
 5. (d) Respecting individual community visions for child welfare priorities
 6. (h) Accountable relationships to Aboriginal governance.
- *Section 4.0 How Services will be delivered (Page 10)* – Recommendation to provide further examples and statements of the principles listed in Diagram #3 throughout the document.
- *Section 4.2 Community Tables (Page 12)* – recommendation to insert examples of the principles and elaborate on how they would become operational.
- *Section 4.4 System Partners/Collaterals (Page 16)* – include pre-schools and daycares.
- *5.0 Outcomes (Page 17)* – include 2 additional outcomes under diagram #5 (9. Measure Community Engagement 10. Measure Local Community Leadership).

Motion 6: *Move to approve the 2005 Conceptual Model as presented with the noted amendments.*

Moved by: *Marg Ahdemar; Seconded by: Deb Canada; Question Called; All in Favor; Motion Carried.*

Action: APFA staff to incorporate the noted amendments to the Conceptual Plan.

10. Preparation for Lenora Angels, ADM Visit

June 16, 2005 Briefing Note - Analysis of the Draft Protocol:

- The protocol should be clear whether this is a partnership document or a performance management document.
- It presumes we will report to MCFD and implement MCFD plans
- The protocol attempts to define/prescribe a “purpose” to the APFA. By attempting to define the APFA’s purpose in the partnership, the protocol moves closer to being a performance management agreement. Instead the protocol should define the roles and responsibilities of each party.
- MCFD has committed to “work in collaboration with the APFA” toward creating an Aboriginal Authority and has committed to “provide funding to carry out the work”. Yet the Joint Multi-Year Work Plan (JMYWP) still has no 3-year budget to supports it mandate.
- Recommendation to move towards “roles and responsibilities” content.
- Suggestions are to:
 - i. Request Lenora Angel, ADM to negotiate the protocol directly with the APFA planning committee – requesting her to come out to the region, or
 - ii. Have a Management Agreement with the Joint Aboriginal Management Committee (JAMC), or
 - iii. The protocol should be negotiated with the Interior Region Political Committee, or
 - iv. Sign the document as is.

Overview of Discussion:

- The protocol should be negotiated with our political committee to maintain the government-to-government relationship.
- Suggestion to have our political committee present or have Chief Bob Pasco to be here tomorrow to talk to Lenora Angel, and if not then maybe only have Debbie Abbott, APFA Chairman talk with Lenora Angel.
- Our message needs to be delivered in an organized manner.
- Concern if we don’t sign the protocol agreement it could be the hammer and maybe then we can’t move on. We need to have strong untied voice and tell her want a real protocol agreement and not a service agreement. As board we need to talk to Lenora as one voice and if there are difficulties then we can bring them forward to the political committee.
- Concerned these kinds of documents are being created at the provincial level with MCFD staff and they should be developed at the regional level. These kinds of tools should not be created in isolation – government keeps driving the process.

2005/06 Budget Confirmation:

- Need to discuss the budget because there is a significant difference between what we have submitted to what's actually been confirmed. (\$900,000.00 vs. \$425,000.00)
- Identify the inadequate resources that have been provided to this process.
- Ask what happened to last year commitment to which was made by the previous minister. Christy Clark's announced an additional \$600,000 to the process in June 2004 and it never materialized? Christy Clark also stated when the work plan is completed then it would be adequately resourced. APFA has submitted the workplan but has not been resourced as submitted
- Chief Stewart Phillip wrote a letter to the Deputy Minister, Alison MacPhail requesting the ministry to honor their commitment regarding the additional \$600,000. Alison MacPhail replied that we have accomplished all of our deliverables.
- During an inter-regional meeting with the Aboriginal Chairs Caucus and the Ministry for Children and Family it was mentioned that the ministry returned a certain amount of money back to treasury board because there were unused amounts. Vancouver Island Aboriginal Transition Team and APFA were the only ones that spend their 2004/05 Budget.
- We are being penalized because the other regions are not spending their resources. The ministry should not be penalizing us because the other regions are not spending their money and we are being held back and can't move on. If we have to mentor the other regions then so be it. We are being treated like second-class citizens and are not being trusted. This is either a partnership or its not.
- There should be a clear mechanism for budgeting and tables should be looked at individually and note globally.

Day Two: Friday, July 15, 2005

In Attendance: Lori Swanson, Edna Terbasket, Terrence Paul, Gwen Phillips, Donna Steeves, Marg Ahdemar, Debbie Abbott, Pauline Terbasket, Deb Canada, Susan James

Guests: Lenora Angel, Frank van Zandwijk, Doug Hughes, Patti Toleman, Doug Hayman

Staff: Eliza Terbasket, Jim MacArthur, Dan Odenbach, Janice Murphy.

Recording Secretary: Kim DuBrett

11. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Edna Terbasket provided the opening prayer.
Roundtable Introductions

12. Review of Agenda

Motion 7: To accept the day two of the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Susan James; Seconded by: Terrence Paul; Question Called; All in Favor; Motion Carried.

13. Lenora Angel, Assistant Deputy Minister, MCFD

Note: Lenora Angel was extended a letter of invitation to meet with the Interior Region to discuss the draft protocol agreement with the APFA board.

Debbie Abbott expressed the concerns of the APFA board and made the recommendation that we need to develop a meaningful process to review this document, as well as, others to ensure we have input as the AFPA – giving reassurance to our political leadership, constituents, and community members.

Overview of Concerns and Issues that were presented to Lenora Angel:

- Recommendation to not to call this process governance anymore because this has become a management process.
- Concerned the resources are being held up at the higher level and the resources should be coming down the community where the real works needs to happen.

- Individual regions should not be punished because another region is behind or have mismanaged their funds. We are being treated like classroom students – this is not a blanket process.
- We don't want to adopt and transfer an array of services from the ministry because those services do not make sense to us. We want the resources to come to the community level so it becomes the community's plan.
- Why has a generic protocol been developed for the regions? Why not create individual protocols?
- This process is not a true partnership – there has never been a joint decision making process. The decision-making seems to happen at the Aboriginal Chairs level and all of the members here have been given the responsibility to make decisions and we feel insulted.
- APFA has submitted our work plan and budget and we receive a letter stating we are only getting \$495,000. Premier Gordon Campbell's letter states the government will support Aboriginal community capacity building. What is your response now?
- We shouldn't get distracted by financial accountabilities because we are transparent and we recognize the accountability we have with government. It is difficult for the Executive and Finance committee to make decisions because government does not stick to their commitments and we have been acting in good faith. People in the communities have been waiting for 2 or 3 years for planning to start at the community level.
- APFA had facilitators out there in the community and we were the ones that made promises to our members as the planning committee not the ministry. We made the commitment to come back and sit down to talk about planning and it is not happening because the government is not acting in good faith at any level. There are different resources for different levels and there should be assurance we are going to get enough resources for us to do what we have promised communities.
- In June of 2004 APFA raised the issue of the lack of resources to this process and Christy Clark committed an additional \$600,000 to this process but it was never honored. It was confirmed earlier that the ministry sent back \$900,000 and then we hear that the Interior Region didn't request any of this money? Last year we submitted a \$1.8 Million Dollar Budget. The Aboriginal Chairs Caucus and the Coordinators did request additional dollars. We need a much better way of getting money to the communities.
- Concerned that we are not able to create a 3-Year Budget that would be attached to the Joint Multi-Year Work plan because we need stability for planning and capacity building.

Lenora Angel and Frank van Zandwijk both responded to the above concerns and issues. Lenora did confirm that the budget is prescribed and a 3-year budget could not be tied to the JMYWP because budgets are developed yearly. Lenora did confirm she would like to form a working group between APFA and MCFD staff to negotiate the protocol and the deliverables of the 2005/06 budget.

14. Lunch Break

15. Debriefing Lenora Angel's Visit

Recommendation to write a letter to Lenora Angel in response our 2005/06 budget confirmation to let her know that this budget is inadequate. Copy the letter to Minister Stan Hagen and Tom Christensen. Time Frame: ASAP

Recommendation to write a letter to Lenora Angel signed off by Chief Bob Pasco, Political Committee Chair, as a follow-up from today's visit and to include a budget outlining the cost for the working group. Copy the letter to Tom Christensen and Adrian Dicks, NDP, Opposition Party. Time Frame: ASAP

Recommendation to write a letter to Minister Stan and Premier Gordon Campbell from the Interior Region Political Committee stating the Interior Region does not have a signed protocol agreement and it will be half way through the fiscal year before one is signed off.

Recommendation to have two working committee's one committee will negotiate the protocol agreement and the request the finance sub-committee to negotiate the deliverables for the 2005/Budget. Request the working groups meet with Lenora by the middle of August.

Protocol Working Group – Lori Swanson, Debbie Abbott, Gwen Phillips, Pauline Terbasket.

2005/06 Budget Working Group – Marg Ahdemar, Terrence Paul, Deb Canada, Pauline Terbasket.

Recommendation to start spending \$70,000 per month to start engaging the community as outlined in our business plan and if APFA runs out of money and we go broke then lets let them (MCFD) shut us down and that will be sending them a strong message.

Action: Request APFA to develop a cash flow statement for the remaining of the fiscal year this will allow us to anticipate expenses and be proactive regarding our financial position. This information will also be used when the finance committee meets with ministry to negotiate the deliverables for the 2005/06 budget.

16. Implementation of the 2005/06 Business Plan

a. Briefing Note Dated June 2005 from APFA Staff to Board Members regarding community tables

Overview:

- Requesting community professionals to take on the responsibility of setting up the community tables and this person would also be responsible for hiring a technician to assist the table.
- Note: APFA would hire a Coordinator to help these community professionals set-up the tables.
- Proposing that mostly community members form the tables. Examples: single mothers, elders, parents who have children in care, youth and men/women who spend a lot of time taking on leadership roles.

b. APFA Community Table Terms of Reference

The draft terms of reference for the community tables outlines the general responsibilities, composition, mandate, resources, accountabilities, communications and linkages with MCFD.

Overview of Discussion/Concerns:

- Suggestion to look at host agencies holding the contract for the community facilitators? This process needs community ownership over the activity.
- Suggestion not to dictate to communities what the composition should be and maybe include suggestions or examples.
- Recommendation to include a broad statement regarding the resources of what can be offered and maybe include limits.
- Suggestion to let the communities mention what they would need to accomplish the deliverables.
- Recommendation not to be too prescriptive and maybe we should call this community dialogue instead of community tables?
- Need some kind of contract to start the planning and maybe we could have 8 mini conferences in the Interior Region to start informing the communities of the regionalization process.

Recommendation to start holding community forums in the Interior Region to start sharing information and creating dialogue with the communities.

Action: Request Dan Odenbach to create community notices inviting communities to attend information forums to start creating awareness and dialogue. Time Frame: N/A

Motion 8: *To implement the 2005/06 APFA Business Plan with the recommendation the finance sub-committee review the resources to see how far it can take us and to re-look at the budget and put it into the business plan.*

Moved by: Susan James; **Seconded by:** Donna Steeves; *Question Called; All in Favor; Motion Carried.*

Action: Set-up a finance sub-committee teleconference on Wednesday, July 20, 2005.

Action: Circulate the revised budget and business plan to the all of the planning committee to review and then organize a conference call to ratify the changes

c. 2005/06 Communications Plan

Motion 9: *To accept the 2005/06 Communications Plan with the revision of deferring the DVD to a later date.*

Moved by: Lori Swanson; **Seconded by:** Susan James; *Question Called; All in Favor; Motion Carried.*

17. Draft Vision and Mission Statements

Jim MacArthur provided an overview of the briefing note outlining some suggestions to revise our mission and vision statement and this came as a recommendation from the January 2005 at Manteo Resort.

We have suggested adopting our current mission statement to become our vision statement and have provided some options that have derived from the Tsawwassen Accord, Memorandum of Understand and the Strategic Shifts as possible mission statements.

The Board reviewed the memo outlining the different options and recommended to revise option “F”. Members can send in their suggestions to into office for consideration in order to help tweak the statement.

Action: Dan Odenbach, Communications Coordinator will revise and change option “F” from the Vision/Mission Memo and provide some options to the board to review via email and fax. Time Frame: N/A

Note: the recommended mission statement will be reviewed and ratified at our next board meeting.

18. Mental Health Update

Janice Murphy, APFA Mental Health Planner attended the meeting to provide an overview of her project and to present the draft terms of reference and an expression of interest for review and ratification.

Overview of Program:

- Goal of the position is to develop a region Aboriginal child and youth mental health plan.
- The plan is being develop in collaboration with MCFD CYMH. Specifically working closely with the Regional Health Manager, Barry Fulton and the Aboriginal Community Services Managers.
- The Regional Mental Health Manager and the Aboriginal Mental Health Planner meet with the MCFD Regional Management Team and the Regional Aboriginal Planning Committee's for input.
- Submission date for the plan is December 2005. In order to receive the implementation funds for April 2006 the plans must be submitted for approval.
- Due to the limited time frame for planning for 2006/07, the focus is short-term planning for implementation. This entails a needs assessment of current services.
- Community consultation (needs assessments) are in progress.
- Working with MCFD on developing a funding formula for local distribution of funds.
- Establishing a reference group – in progress.
- Literature review – using the Circles of Care model being used in the USA specific to planning MH services for Aboriginal Indian Children. 3-year planning initiative, at the local community level and grounded in culture. Planning grants are followed, upon approval, with 6-year implementation grants. This model appears to be successful and is building capacity at all levels.

Action: Send a letter to Premier Gordon Campbell from the Interior Region Political Committee regarding the mental health deadline and tell them that it is unacceptable and this should not be considered consultation. Copy the letter to Tom Christensen. Time Frame: N/A

Motion 10: *Move to accept the Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health Terms of Reference and the Expression of Interest as presented with the noted revisions.*

Moved by: Pauline Terbasket; **Seconded by:** Deb Canada; **Question Called;** All in Favor; **Motion Carried.**

19. Supported Child Development Update

The Ministry for Children and Family Development (Interior Region) provided resources to APFA to gather information from the Aboriginal communities and provide a quick snapshot of what services were being accessed and if not then where would be a good place to start.

Norma Manual and Rona Sterling-Collins were hired as consultants to visit the Aboriginal communities and write the final report. It was difficult for the communities to provide recommendations because they knew very little about the services and they have requested to learn more about the programs. There are currently 11 Non-Aboriginal agencies providing services and they do not want to lose any of their contracts and are asking us how they can do things differently.

The ministry is targeting some money for transfer for Aboriginal services we just don't know how much? We want to provide culturally competent services that could be offered in the community in any setting not just daycares.

The report recommends further long-term planning and not just focusing on short-term solutions because there is a lot of information missing such as actual numbers. The need for services is much larger because there are caseloads being missed because they haven't even been reported or detected. The next step is to develop some pilot projects.

20. APFA Regional Conference

Recommendation for this agenda item to be deferred to the next meeting and request all members to submit idea's of what the conference should be.

Requesting committee members to volunteer to help form the planning committee.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:08pm