

**Aboriginal Peoples Family Accord
Board Meeting
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
18 July 2006 ~ 9:23 am to 4:00 pm**

Attendees: Debbie Abbott, Edna Terbasket, Robbin Lulua, Susan James, Steve Knudson, Terrence Paul, Lori Swanson, Donna Steeves, Pauline Terbasket, Leona Rabbitt, Gwen Phillips (until 2:00 PM), Roy Christopher and Kelly Kubik (9:39 AM)

Staff: Eliza Terbasket and Dan Odenbach

MCFD: Glenn Moffat and Doug Hughes

Recording Secretary: Sandra Young

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Eliza Terbasket provided the opening prayer.

2. Review and Adoption of the Agenda

Motion #1: *to accept the agenda as presented.*

Moved by: Edna Terbasket, Seconded by: Leona Rabbitt. Question called, all in favour. Motion carried.

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

Motion #2: *to accept the meeting minutes of June 4, 2006.*

Moved by: Pauline Terbasket, Seconded by: Lori Swanson. Question called, all in favour. Motion carried.

The group reviewed the action items from June 4. Debbie still has two action items to complete, which she hopes to take care of this week.

Action #1: send the protocol agreement to the board as a final draft.

Although the protocol has been discussed with Lesley, it may not be necessary. We must decide if we still want a protocol agreement. Deb Foxcroft is looking for a separate agreement, keeping in mind the new funding arrangement. Both Deb and Lesley should come to a meeting to discuss and sign the document.

Action #2: Review policies where conflict of interest is discussed in order to clarify the board's position on matters when conflicts do surface.

4. Business Arising From Previous Meeting Minutes

5. Update from Doug Hughes, MCFD

Doug noted that Lesley wants people to work together and wants to change from a bureaucracy and hierarchy to a team concept. Lesley is working to remove historic barriers and avoid having people feel the ministry is in control.

Regional Executive Directors will now have input at a provincial level. Policy will be driven by practice rather than budgets or a child's death. Regional operations will also be working with community agencies to support their programs that have been working well. The region will work with Victoria, the APFA and the frontline workers to support families. The ministry is moving away from silos and branches to teams with children and families in the centre.

Doug presented the idea of a Transformation Team to the board members. Lesley wants everyone to support the new process, which she hopes will be independent of changing government. The Interior Region may need to have a group that will support the changes in communities. Deb Foxcroft is assembling a group to research best practices for children and families. Doug explained other ideas the ministry is working on, such as having Aboriginal community members be involved in the changes. .

Glenn informed the board members of his recent work. He also clarified that the APFA does not deliver services; that is still a ministry responsibility. The ministry should still consult with the APFA though. Glenn emphasized his desire to work closely with the APFA and Aboriginal communities to deliver the best services possible. He will work with the Community Services Managers to identify slippage and receive proposals or contracts to use the money.

Overview of Discussion:

- Could we look at having member bands make their own laws on child welfare?
- Although capacity must be built within the ministry in order to work with Aboriginal communities better, the capacity must also be built within the APFA and the communities themselves. The challenge is building capacity in service agencies.
- The ministry uses request for proposals, request for qualifications, BC bid and direct awards for their contracts.
- Who is "community" and who is the APFA? This must be clearly defined. There must be effective communications from the APFA and the ministry to board and community members.
- Client free choice could be an issue in the future when it comes to agencies.

6. Update and Discussion on Interim Authority and Legislation

Deb provided an update on her meeting with Jim, Lesley and Deb Foxcroft. The Chairs need to commit to working towards legislation for Spring 2007. There will be a Provincial Forum in September to work on this. Two of the regions have not put their budgets forward and we must support them. Two other regions feel ready to move to Interim Authority status, and we need to know how that will look. Deb continued with an update of her recent meetings as well as an update on the status of the Provincial Aboriginal Coordination Office (PACO). She noted Lesley has voiced her desire to speak with the federal government regarding agencies' funding, which to date has been based on children in care. The political leadership should be involved with this as well.

Overview of Discussion:

- The September Forum must have a meaningful agenda to make informed decisions.
- Jurisdiction is an issue that must be addressed if legislation is to be successful.
- We must be cautious we do not dictate to communities. An interior forum is needed to unite us.
- Do we want to move ahead with legislation? If so, how do we move forward? Service providers, agencies, communities and the APFA have to come together as the Interior.
- The APFA and the delegated agencies have to look at what they can deliver and have a needs assessment to review gaps in services.
- There must be a buy-in from communities in order to move forward, which means there must be better communication with them.
- We must be nations working together, supporting all children in the region. We should determine our expectations for legislation and make the province's agenda work with our own.

Action #3: Staff and board members will look at financial resources to host an Interior Regional Forum. This forum will allow us to move towards legislation, be clear on regionalization, roles and responsibilities, and delegated agency roles.

7. Lunch 12:30 pm to 1:14 pm

Overview of Discussion:

- The provincial forum may be premature if we are to have a good look at legislation. Legislation is a governance issue and could impact nations or agencies contemplating their own legislation. We must look at all ways of having input.
- Legislation is at the top of the premier's agenda and it may not be the last chance for legislation. The agenda must fit our time frame and meet all Aboriginal Peoples' needs.
- Perhaps a legislative committee may be necessary to inform the discussion on legislation.
- The delegated agency directors, supporting signatories and leadership should be included in the Interior forum.
- Lesley du Toit has noted she would like to attend a board meeting in September or early October. It may be of value for her to be invited to the Interior Forum as well.
- There should be a planning committee to support staff in planning for the Interior Region Forum.
- Communication must be open while planning for the Forum.
- Some chairs do not want Interim Authority if legislation is going ahead for the spring. We must be cautious about moving ahead with Interim Authority.

Motion #3: *The APFA will host an Interior Region Forum in September at a location to be determined. The Forum will include any interested parties or constituents such as leadership and the delegated agencies. The agenda will include the proposed legislative working group.*

Moved by: Lori Swanson, Seconded by: Gwen Phillips. Question called, all in favour. Motion carried.

Interior Region Forum Planning Committee: Donna Steeves, Roy Christopher, Leona Rabbitt, and Terrence Paul

Action #4: an analysis of the work done by the Legislative Advisory Working Group on the legislation will be done for the Interior Region Forum. Research of previous work done will help with the new legislation.

8. Ktunaxa Protocol Agreement with the APFA

This protocol will give the Ktunaxa Nation clarity at the APFA table.

Overview of Discussion:

- The board should sign the protocol, as the Political Committee is a non-entity.
- The Political Committee should review this political document as they have the authority to deal with nation agreements.

Motion #4: *as the Ktunaxa Nation protocol with the APFA is a political document it will be moved to the Political Committee agenda.*

Moved by: Leona Rabbitt, Seconded by: Kelly Kubik. Question called, all in favour. Motion carried.

9. Ends Policies

There is a need for the board to work on Ends Policies in order to establish a clear direction for the board. Ends Policies will give us a sense of how we interpret successes.

Motion #5: *APFA staff members are directed to coordinate a 1.5-day board meeting in September. One day will be reserved for board business and a half-day will be reserved for ends policies.*

Moved by: Pauline Terbasket, Seconded by: Leona Rabbitt. Question called, all in favour. Motion carried.

Note: Glenn Moffat will provide an update to the board every two months.

10. Discussion on Community Tables

Now that the ministry has approved the APFA budget the Community Tables can be set up. We will be hiring the Community Table Coordinators as soon as possible. These new staff members will receive an update on all the work done to date. If board members can find time, they can work with the coordinator to help establish connections with the communities. The Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health Interim Plan is moving forward and the five Aboriginal Wellness Coordinators will be hired soon.

Action #5: send the Community Table Coordinator job descriptions to board members.

Action #6: board members will provide input to APFA staff members for the Community Table Coordinators hiring committee. If the board cannot provide input, APFA staff members will move forward with the hiring committee.

11. APFA Logo Discussion

Dan presented the most recent drafts for an APFA logo. The board members discussed each option, including options for colouring, lettering, and general design.

Action #7: the APFA logo draft option “d” will go back to the artist for a final revision, as per the board’s noted changes. The board will then review it one final time.

12. FYI

Deb provided an update on the leadership meeting on July 11. The chiefs were double booked and so were unable to meet with Deb and Chief Bob Pasco to discuss the APFA.

13. Additional Agenda Items or Announcements

Next meeting dates: September 14 & 15
Kelowna

October 12 & 13
Kelowna

November 16 & 17
Kamloops

December 14 & 15
Kamloops

Overview of Discussion:

- If dates change it will be due to a lack of quorum. If the board cannot meet, the executive committee may be required to meet.
- Elsie Flett can send a board member for the September meeting.

14. Closing Prayer

Eliza Terbasket provided the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM