

# Advisory Committee for Yukon Education

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

Zoom

### In attendance

Nicole Morgan, Education

Elaine Taylor, AYSCBC

Sandra Henderson, FHC SC

Scott Kerby, Education (FHC)

Wanda Robbins, CEAY

Ted Hupe, YTA

Melanie Bennett, YFNED

Rebecca Bradford-Andrew, YFNED

Marc Champagne, CSFY

YFNED Elder

YFNED Youth

Lori Duncan, Education

David Wipf, Education

Michael McBride, Education

Nikki Yee, consultant

Barrett Horne, On Foot

Laurie Webster, On Foot

Holly Fraser, Education

### Committee business

- Discussed updated Terms of Reference for the committee for 2020-21, including co-constructed values from 2019, membership adjustments, and scope of work for 2020-21.
- Consider expanding Communication in Values section re communicating beyond the committee about the work of the committee.
- Highlighted communication e.g. regular calls with School Council Chairs and with Yukon First Nations education contacts during the pandemic, as good practices to carry forward.

- Scope of work for committee to include pandemic response and recovery for education, responding to Audit 2019 recommendations, early learning, supporting transition to postsecondary, and student voice in education. Not a comprehensive list; other priorities continuing at other tables.
- Membership adjustments will be an ongoing conversation.
- See draft updated “**TOR for Advisory Committee for Yukon Education 2020-21**” emailed to committee during the meeting.

#### About the new Yukon First Nation Education Directorate

- Melanie Bennett shared more information about the new Yukon First Nation Education Directorate:
  - Yukon First Nations Leadership directed the formation of this new directorate, starting in December 2019. July 2020 the Directorate opened their offices and CYFN education portfolio transferred to the Directorate (E.g. mobile therapeutic unit through Jordan’s Principle, First Nations Education Advocates to support First Nations students, early years nutrition program, First Nations Education Commission, etc.).
  - Its Board of Directors is the Chiefs Committee on Education, which feeds back to Leadership. The Directorate is the technical body for education.
  - The First Nations Education Commission is now administered by the Directorate and reports to the Chiefs Committee on Education. 1-2 reps were co-chairing which meant giving up their vote. Now an appointed Chair annually. This year, Melanie Bennett is the FNEC Chair.
  - FNEC still maintains the Tri-partite agreement with Canada, Yukon and all 14 Yukon First Nations, and the Joint Education Action Plan (JEAP).

#### Priorities for schools during the pandemic

- Health and safety of students and staff
- Ensuring learning continues for all students
- Supports for students with diverse learning needs and those needing different/additional supports
- Supports for students and staff for flexible learning environments, including access to technology
- Policies and procedures will need adjustments to reflect these priorities during the pandemic; and will organize and report financial and personnel resources through these priorities, including for the recent federal funding to reopen schools.
- Discussed connections between these priorities and the ongoing work to respond to Audit 2019 recommendations.

## Pandemic response and recovery in education

- Discussed monitoring response and recovery in education and adjusting over the course of the pandemic, and advice and collaboration with Yukon First Nations and partners in organizing response and recovery through the pandemic.
- Janet Welch shared update on Yukon University's transition from Yukon College, new President and their adapted programming during pandemic and supports for students.
- Talked about the change curve and emotions and strategies for system response and managing emotional needs during the pandemic.
- "School during the pandemic" doc is an overview of pandemic operations for Yukon public schools.
- Discussed tracking recovery, what indicators to monitor and developing a cohort dataset for the pandemic, including enrolment for 2020-21 as of end of September when enrolment is finalized, PPE and cleaning costs, readiness to learn in Kindergarten, Grades 11 and 12s, etc. See PDF of DM PPT for examples of data to track for pandemic recovery.
- Showed sample of data snapshots for Yukon Foundation Skills Assessments.
  - Consider a cohort of ELL students.
  - Clarify 'omitted' and 'unknown' categories for the datasets.
- Group break outs to discuss Michael Fullan's reflection questions about health/safety, well-being and learning in relation to tracking recovery for Yukon students and education. See DM PPT PDF for more information.
  - Health and safety: Ted, Nicole, David
    - Number of health and safety reps/committees across schools
    - Value-added e.g. their involvement in larger discussions and authentic leadership opportunities such as policy reviews at school level and ensuring guidelines are being followed.
  - Wellbeing: Lori, Elaine, Wanda
    - Group members to provide information
  - Learning: Melanie and team, Scott, Sandra, Nikki
    - Group members to provide information

## Review of inclusive and special education

- Discussed Spiral of Inquiry approach and updated draft timeline for the review into the 2020-21 school year, will work with the committee and Yukon First Nations on next steps of the inquiry in responding to the review report, etc.
- See "**Overview re review of inclusive and special education**" draft document distributed by email to the committee.

- Barrett Horne and Laurie Webster from OnFoot presented information about developing the online tool for the review of inclusive and public education, and setting up a working group from the committee to help develop the tool later in September.
  - Introduced Sensemaking methodology, narrative research, and capturing stories/experiences for interpretation and analysis to yield qualitative and quantitative data and then make sense of the data together including identifying patterns together.
  - Stories can be captured one-time, ongoing or at certain milestones.
  - Highlighted a sample data set from another project. Uses Tableau to visualize the story data collected and show patterns. Showed story prompts.
  - Questions about application, accessibility of tool for respondents, etc.
  - Discussed scope and options re offline data collection, language options, in-person supports to address literacy barriers, community opportunities with support from Bill Bennett and Lori Duncan, etc.
  - Working group from the committee of 8-15 people to help develop the online tool; and a session with the committee after the data comes in to make sense of the data together to identify patterns and build the analysis as results are compiled. Working group members include:
    - 1) YFNED representative (plus Elder as observers/advisors)
    - 2) YFNED representative
    - 3) FNEC representative
    - 4) FNEC representative
    - 5) YTA representative
    - 6) AYSCBC representative
    - 7) CEAY representative
    - 8) CSFY representative
    - 9) Yukon University representative
    - 10) AYSA representative
    - 11) Educator representative
    - 12) Student/ youth representative (YFNED)
    - 13) Student representative (CSFY)
    - 14) Student representative (Schools Branch)
    - 15) Department representative
  - Timeframe and process:
    - Working group sessions to design and shape tool (2 hours by Zoom) on mornings of Sept 29 and Oct 2 from 9-11am
    - Draft tool and questions/prompts

- Review and test with working group - “paper test”
- Beta version to small group of 25-30 stories - “pilot test”
- Launch tool for public in first or second week of November
- Open for four weeks and ongoing work to monitor/adjust; close tool in December
- Analysis begins with data and preparing post-workshop
- Post-workshop with Committee in mid-January to go over the data together to identify patterns and findings
- Then the data and findings goes to Nikki Yee for the review of inclusive and special education.

### **Action items**

- **All** - review and provide any feedback on updated TOR for 2020-21 to Nicole **by October 1, 2020**
- **All** - let Nicole know who will be your representative on the working group for the online tool, and if the November and January dates for the committee meetings works for your schedule **by September 23**
- **Nicole** - follow up conversations with each organization/association re representatives on the committee
- **Nicole** - send working group names to OnFoot and they will send Zoom invites to the group and short checklist for the working group
- **Nicole and Ted** - work together to cover educator reps for committee/working group re online tool
- **Nicole** - follow up re reps for youth/students and persons with different abilities for working group (see note in membership list above)
- **Amanda** - updating SharePoint site and permissions for members for 2020-21 and add today’s materials
- **Amanda** - add School during the pandemic overview doc to the SharePoint site