

Aboriginal Education Council School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes)

Terms of Reference

Mandate:

The Aboriginal Education Council is a community member-based organization representing the interests of Aboriginal persons and students in School District No. 91.

Members' Guiding Principles:

AEC believes:

- in holistic development of learners in which all learners reach full potential,
- the best interests of our students will only be served if we (parents, communities and School District No. 91) work together to that end,
- education needs to strengthen students and be reflective of who the child is and where the child comes from,
- learners must be provided the opportunities to achieve their full potential,
- education initiatives should be community-based, community-driven and focused on student achievement,
- prejudice and racism must be addressed,
- honesty, openness and respect should be fostered,
- accountability and responsible use of Aboriginal targeted dollars is necessary, and
- promotion of culturally appropriate policies and practices.

Goals:

AEC will work to:

- Advocate for quality and equity of education programs and opportunities
- Promote a holistic First Nations/Indigenous view of educations
- Promote First Nations (First Peoples) culture and language
- Promote student achievement, academic success and 21st Century competencies
- Promote initiatives that enhance Aboriginal understanding and awareness
- Promote integration of Aboriginal content into existing and new curriculum
- Advise on school district policy in relation to Aboriginal Education
- Ensure effective use of district and school level funds for the benefit of Aboriginal learners
- Develop short and long-range plans based on Aboriginal community input

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Membership:

- In each school year, at the beginning of August, the AEC members will be sent an appointment letter by the SD91 District Principal of Aboriginal Education. If there are changes in member reps, those changes will need to be initiated by the nation and communicated to the SD91 District Principal of Aboriginal Education.
- One representative from each of the 14 First Nations within School District No.91 boundaries
- One representative from the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
- One urban representative from the West End of School District No.91 (Nechako Lakes)
- One urban representative from the East End of School District No.91 (Nechako Lakes)
- Two Trustees of School District No.91 (Nechako Lakes), preferably one trustee from each end of the district)
- AEC community representatives cannot be an employees of School District No.91, unless grandfathered in. If employed and grandfathered into AEC they will sit out on agenda items that create a direct conflict of interest.
- One visiting PVP member will be invited to each meeting, they will be a non-voting member

Meeting procedures:

All decisions will be by vote. Meetings will be conducted in an orderly and timely process.

The District Principal of Aboriginal Education will:

- Call for agenda items prior to meeting dates.
- Prepare the agenda
- Record, prepare and distribute all meeting minutes including all additional attachments.

All votes are official when there is quorum of four (4) or more members. The quorum number is based on total council membership indicated by on-file letters from each organization. In the event quorum is not met, any items that need to be voted on will be sent out to all members of AEC and an email vote will take place. This vote will be affirmed at the following meeting.

Members of the general public are welcome to attend meetings but will have no voting privileges.

The meeting chair will be from the hosting community and will have an equal vote as all other AEC members.

Terms of reference will be reviewed at the first meeting of the school year.