



## **ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

16 January 2013

3:0 p.m. in conference room 2-070

**PRESENT:** Allen Berger                      Glynnis Hood                      Jerome Melancon  
Mike Clermont                      Brittany Lehman                      Petra Cegiely  
Mary-Anne Falk (Recorder)

**REGRETS:** Trina Harrison                      Michael Swampy

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:09 p.m.

2. **Welcome from Dean Berger**

3. **Business**

a. **Terms of Reference** (Allen)

Distributed the terms of reference for discussion and review. Regarding chair responsibilities; both faculty expressed nomination of the other and discussion followed.

In the future, the committee will make decisions based on consensus (majority agreement rather than vote).

**MOTION:**

That Jerome Melancon act as Chair of the committee for the remainder of his term. **Carried**

b. **Responding to the Provost** (Allen)

There is some time pressure but our presentation will be stronger with a consultative process. There is currently an event scheduled for 10-11:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan 28 which this could piggy-back. Add the possibility of approaching committee members to engage in conversations and offer suggestions.

Q. What improvements in programming, services or space do you feel are most needed to meet the needs of aboriginal students?

The key point we need to address is regarding an Aboriginal gathering place or smaller scale demonstration project (space, function).

*ACTION: Allen will send a message to the Provost to let him know we're working on our submission and clarify what we can anticipate in his offer of funding support. Jerome will put together questions to ask via email before the January 28 gathering. The committee will organize feedback from students and staff to steer submission information, both short and long term. All committee members should plan to attend the Jan 28 event. Brittany & Petra will distribute questions and an invitation to current students and then a different email to all previous self-identified students with just the questions asking for feedback.*

c. **Priorities for the Term** (Allen)

Open forum to meet with students, not a town hall but opportunity for students to provide feedback as soon as possible.

*ACTION: Bring forward at the next meeting*

d. **Frequency of Meetings** (Allen)

*ACTION: Bring forward at the next meeting*

e. **Committee Processes** (Petra)

*ACTION: Bring forward at the next meeting*

f. **Idle No More** (Glynnis)

A non-denominational religious organization approached Craig Wentland to see if we would support a one-day fast in support of Chief Spence. We could not pull it together in time, and then

a student on campus contacted Petra wondering why the University isn't more involved in the movement to support Chief Spence. The event planned for January 18 is geared to be an informal opportunity for students to gather in the F&L lounge. Patrick Buffalo (member of the Indian association of Alberta) has been invited by the student who originally suggested our involvement. The chalkboard in the Faith & Life Lounge has some information but information needs to be shared so people can make informed decisions about the movement. It was agreed that this event should only happen as a respectful, educational presentation so people walk away understanding what the movement is all about.

4. **Next Meeting Date**

ASAP, Mary-Anne will work to organize

5. The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

DRAFT