



## **ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

30 January 2013

3:30 p.m. in conference room 2-070

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

**REGRETS:** Trina Harrison

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

**MOTION:** HOOD/BERGER

*Carried*

3. **Approval of previous Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the 16 January 2013 Aboriginal Engagement Committee meeting were approved as presented.

**MOTION:** LEHMAN/CLERMONT

*Carried*

4. **Remarks from Committee Members**

Thank you to Brittany & Petra for organizing the conversations on Monday, and thank you to Mike for speaking at the event.

Welcome to Mark Chytrcek as an advisory member today.

5. **Business**

a. **Scheduling future meetings**

Tuesday at 3:35 p.m. meeting at least once per month. Mike busy 12, 26 Feb so schedule on the alternate dates. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb 5 at 3:35-4:30 p.m.

b. **Processes for the committee**

i. Inviting advisory members: When we want to invite additional members/guests to the next meeting it can be a discussion at the meeting prior. Depending on the issue and who is being invited, the chair can use his discretion. Suggestions can also be submitted with agenda items where the Chair could start an email conversation if required.

ii. Collecting agenda items: The Chair will send out a call for agenda items one week before the scheduled meeting.

iii. Disseminating agendas & minutes: The secretary will distribute the minutes by email to the committee and post them on MyWeb. Petra will print out the draft minutes and post them on the board outside the Aboriginal Student Office and Brittany will share them during the Monday sessions at the ASA office and post them in the office.

c. **Survey responses & conversations on space for Aboriginal students to gather**

Comments received seemed consistent. People are looking for comfortable space that is welcoming to everyone on campus and not just Aboriginal students, regular elder services, and a tastefully decorated space that can be used for smudging.

d. **Response to the Provost**

We need to articulate to the Provost our rationale for wanting elder services (need and value), then make it clear that the organization of these services would depend on our conversations with people who might serve in this role. If he will endorse the need and let us know if there is a budget we could dedicate to this, then we've got the parameters to work within. We could provide the percentage of self-identified students on the campus and reference support of parents and the decision of enrollment (to make it more marketable and poignant). The same would go for smudging. Two main things we will focus our request for support on: investment in

the Aboriginal Student Advisor position and the investment of Elder services.

Part one: one time money; hope to be able to use for space. Can we get a university architect to discuss space possibilities?

Part two: ongoing support for the programming. Consider administration of the space and location of the Aboriginal Advisement Office. When we speak with the architect about the space we could discuss the office location as well. Raymond Gosselin is a Metis architect who may still work at North Campus.

1. Facilities & operating – Jérôme and Petra
2. Programming – Jérôme and Petra
3. Long term plans – Brittany (Bridging program, childcare, housing, etc.)

Presenting the rationale right now and more general points of what needs have to be filled and what we hope to achieve with it. Specifics will be discussed with the space planner.

*ACTION: Jerome will work with committee members to prepare a draft for the Provost to review at the next meeting. Allen will write a cover letter outlining the consultative process, growth, feedback, etc. to supplement the submission.*

e. **Announcement of our plans regarding space**

It is important for students and staff to know what is going on as we proceed with planning. The student association could put it into their newsletter. Once we have something more definite, Brittany could share information through the DAG.

*ACTION: Brittany will work with Jerome once she speaks with her editor.*

6. **Next Meeting Date**

Tuesday, 5 February 2013, 3:35-4:30 p.m.

Mark Chytrcek invited to the next meeting.

7. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

**MOTION:** LEHMAN/CLERMONT

***Carried***