



Pahkisimon Nuyeh Library System

The mission of the Pahkisimon Nuyeh Library System is to provide library services and educational and cultural resources to the people in northern Saskatchewan in cooperation with the existing library and educational structures and to communicate the uniqueness of the north to other regions of the world.

Advocacy Committee Meeting MINUTES August 2, 2019

In Attendance: Lorna Black, Vice-Chair; Delilah Aubichon; Laura Custer; Barb Flett; Richard Thommes

Staff: James Hope Howard, Director; Harriet Roy, Assistant Director; Linda Collins, Financial Manager & Office Administrator

Unable to Attend: Darlene Morin, Chairperson

1. Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Lorna Black at 2:58 p.m.

2. Review and Adopt the Agenda

There are a couple of additions since the original agenda was sent out:

8.5- NITEP Program Establishment

8.6- Athabasca Denesuline Education Authority Establishment

MOTION AC2019-03:

That the agenda be adopted as amended.

D. Aubichon/B. Flett

/Carried

3. Review and adopt the Minutes of February 22, 2019

MOTION AC2019-04:

That the minutes of February 22, 2019 be adopted as presented.

D. Aubichon /L. Custer

/Carried

4. Advocacy Mandate

Since this is the first meeting of the new Committee since the AGM in March, the Advocacy Committee mandate was read through to ensure that the members understood with what the committee was charged.

We need to check on whether Adobe Connect is still being used.

5. Business Arising From the Minutes

**5.1 Ministry of Education / PLLO Saskatchewan Libraries Review
And Sector Planning Follow-Up**

The Documents from the public engagement are now available. There are eight engagement themes that have been taken from the consultations with the public and libraries.



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- **Funding Structure and Predictability**

We are dependent on the Provincial Government for our funding and we don't know what will happen year to year. This gives uncertainty to long term planning.

- **Provincial Public Library Strategic Plan.**

There is a public library sector plan being worked on. This will be treated as a Level II plan within the Ministry, giving the Provincial Libraries guidance and a strategic plan going forward.

- **The "One Card, One Province" system**

This is important to the stakeholders and the public library users.

- **Communication with Provincial Library**

Communication between the Provincial Library and the various library systems has been an ongoing issue. Who to contact for what position? Who is in charge when there are absences?

- **Governance Training**

Board governance training is needed, on all levels, to provide the members with their roles, responsibilities and accountability as a library trustee.

- **Indigenization**

Indigenous services are necessary, but presently are under developed and are still being working on.

- **Value of Public Libraries**

Public Libraries are shown to be an important piece to the framework of the community.

- **Legislation**

The Public Library Act and the Regulations have not been updated since 1996. Modernizing these will be an arduous task, and will be at least a three to five years process.

5.2 SLA Conference 2019, Saskatoon

James was recruited as emcee, and Harriet was on the panel on Indigenous issues. It was a good conference. It will possibly be going back to Regina for 2020. James has been asked to emcee the conference for 2020.

There was an elder present and it was acknowledged that the conference was being held on Treaty land.

Is there money available for the board to attend?

Action Item#1: James will check for available funding for the board to attend the SLA conference in 2020.

5.3 SCILS/OTC Strategic Alliance

There was an event in November of 2018, whereby the agreement was signed. There is a copy of the signed treaty hanging in the main library area. We received a plaque for each of the libraries in our system. Part of



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this is to strengthen the alliance with the OTC, by doing more workshops and having more Treaty Kits available. We will be approaching the alliance to do a presentation for the Northern Libraries Conference.

6. Ongoing Business

6.1 PNLS Branded Items / Stationary / Merchandise / Etc.

James has been looking for various items on the 4Imprint website. There has been \$3,000.00 in the budget for now. Some of this will be used to replenish the USB drives and get some triangle shaped key chains, which will be useful for our purposes. We will also look at mugs, since this was something that was not done before. Jackets will be looked at later.

6.2 Community Outreach Opportunities

We will look at this further when the school year starts up. We have a standing arrangement with the Ice Wolves whereby we have a table and giveaway items at the games.

6.3 PNLS Website and Social Media Updates and Engagement

6.3.1 PNLS Website Careers Section

The website will be updated to include a careers section, both for PNLS and the public and school libraries, and to provide information on the bursary available. There is a lot of money still available.

6.3.2 Major Website Infrastructure Updates Coming

The overall framework of the Public Libraries is maintained by SILS, and the part that we have access to and control over will be changed to a different framework. James will have to cut and paste the whole section that is our part, over to the new framework. This will take at least a full month to do this.

6.4 Makerspace Kits 2019

There is \$5,000.00 set aside for Makerspace kits. We will be replenishing a number of pieces that have gone missing, or have started to break down. If there are any STEM or STEAM pieces or kits that are of interest, please let James know so it may be purchased.

7. Fundraising Activities and Targets

7.1 Northern Saskatchewan Archives and University of Saskatchewan Digitization Contract.

There is a term contract in place with the U of S to have a portion of the Archives digitized. The contract is for \$3,200.00 and will be done as of the end of August.



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7.2 PNLS Rummage Weekend (indoor Book Sale, Table Sale and Garage Sale) August 16, 17

We will be having a Rummage Weekend of August 16 and 17. Whatever is made will be put toward the Archives fundraising.

7.3 Attempted Lake Country Co-Op Good Fuel Day Support

Each year, Lake Country Co-Op will choose a cause whereby a percentage of the fuel sold for that day is donated. We had applied for this, but were not chosen.

8. New Business

8.1 TD Summer Reading Club National Aboriginal Launch Kickoff Party, Montreal Lake Public Library, June 11

The TD Summer Reading Program Launch was done at Montreal Lake Public Library, since they wanted to do this on reserve. We got about 120 to attend the launch, which was very good. There was a BBQ and cake and a lot of activities, including Clayton Hamner; the illustrator of "UltraDog", Roger Boucher, the magician, face painting, button making, tie-dying, a balloon artist and bouncy castles. A good time was had by all!

8.2 PNLS & Alex Robertson Public Library Information Table, La Ronge Pride Parade, June 29

Brochures and other information were set out for the Pride event. The parade had about 200 people attend. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips and pop were available.

8.3 Presentation at Literacy Camp Coordinator Training, July 2

The coordinator training is usually done each year, and it was a little different this year. James did the demonstration but it was discovered that StoryBird is not available any more. James is not sure when the StoryBird website was shut down. TumbleBooks is much more popular but it is quite expensive at \$3500.00 per year.

MDLP is looking at shrinking the core of the database that may be more useful to the majority of the library systems. There had been discussions about splitting it into two separate cores.

This system is how the public libraries get Press Display, which is the most popular database, which is why the public libraries have opted to stay in. There are supplemental pieces outside the framework that may be beneficial to look at.

The E-access landscape is very volatile. For example, Macmillan Publishing has only one access to an e-book for the first several months after publication release.

It is a definite work in progress at this point.



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8.4 2019 Northern Area Teachers Administration (NATA) Conference, Mid-October

This is slated for October 13-17, and James will be checking whether he is to do a full presentation or an information booth. Jolene will be the coordinator. Our conference for NLC will be at the same time, because this is the only time that the library staff is available. The PNLS Certificates of Recognition need to have the proper number of years listed. It has been a struggle to get the correct information from the library staff member. We will have to contact each person directly to get the information or if we have a communications officer in place by that time, that information may be gathered by that person.

8.5 NITEP Program Establishment

The new northern teacher program-NITEP- has been established and Morris Cook is the Program Head. He stopped by to see James and he will do a presentation of the library services to the students at a later date.

There is a second program, DTEP in La Loche, and a third program CTEP, in Cumberland House starting in the fall with Lily McKay-Carriere as their program director.

8.6 Athabasca Denesuline Education Authority Establishment

This Education Authority has been established, and will launch next week. It encompasses Black Lake Denesuline First Nation, Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation, and Hatchet Lake Dene Nation (Wollaston Lake). Cumberland House First Nation, Shoal Lake First Nation and James Smith First Nation combined to establish their own Education Authority as well, which will begin in the new-year. James is slated to travel to Wollaston in the fall, so this may prove interesting. The library program used there may need out be changed out for something lightweight and free.

9. Policy Review and Approval

Advocacy related policies have not been changed for now.

10. Other Business: None

11. Next Meeting: In conjunction with the next Executive Meeting, this will be decided August 3, 2019.

12. Adjournment: 4:07PM