



**Diversity Committee – June 2, 2010**  
**Family and Children Services Committee Room**  
**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm**

**In attendance:** Anne McCoy (OPP), David Sharp (NWCDSD), Vic Novak (FACS), Carmen Atatise (FACS), Lind Plumridge (FF Times), Jim Cumming (FF Times), Anne Renaud (Confederation College), Nancy Daley Fulton (CMHA), Lincoln Dunn (Chiefs' Secretariat), Tammy Ryll (Chiefs' Secretariat), Sharon Tibbs (Town of Fort Frances), Randy Thoms (B93 FM), Bob Mainville (OPP), Trudie McCormick (NWLA), Sandra Whalen (RR Future Development Corp.), Diane Ross (RRDSB), Heather Campbell (RRDSB)

**1.0 Call to Order**

**1.1 Welcome to Randy Thoms, B93 FM**

**2.0 Approval of Minutes of May 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting** – moved by Trudie, seconded by Nancy

**3.0 Approval of Agenda** – moved by Nancy, seconded by Lincoln

**4.0 Mission Statement** – “Working together to create communities that celebrate diversity by actively practicing and promoting dignity, respect and inclusiveness.”

**5.0 Couchiching Toll Booth – discussion**

- 40% of postings on FF Times site were acceptable; 60% were hateful
- 1,000+ replies received regarding story – comment policy is now being changed as a result of this story
- Internet, Facebook pages – 1<sup>st</sup> anonymous sites with respect to the Toll Booth, but then people starting to sign their names to their comments signaling the growing frustration within the district
- Lack of knowledge of political nature of Toll Booth, as well as the political process & Treaties
- The element of the unknown caused escalating frustration, fear, anger
- Demonstrated the need to work together for greater inclusiveness for entire district
- Signaled a need for the Committee to further develop its mandate

**6.0 Continued Funding for Diversity Committee**

**6.1 Heather Campbell – Student Support Leadership Funding**

- Funding has been extended for 3 more years.
- The amount of funding for the region is yet unknown.

- The focus is to align with the Mental Health & Addictions Strategy which is under development.
- For the first year, the focus will be on deepening partnerships between schools and child and youth mental health agencies, while including health sector partners. For year two, the focus should be on expanding prevention of unsafe or inappropriate behaviors strategies, which aligns nicely with Anne's Project Sunset proposal.
- Questions about short-term personnel to support Diversity and/or Project Sunset in relation to this funding have been forwarded to the Ministry of Education and Heather is awaiting answers.

#### **6.2 Anne McCoy – Project Sunset**

- National Crime Prevention Bureau visited NW Ontario with respect to this initiative which ties together conflict resolution, diversity, community beautification, and youth (substance abuse prevention).
- The goal is to secure funding and begin efforts in January 2011.
- Various partners involved, with 50-100 students targeted.
- Letters of support have been gathered.

#### **7.0 Diversity Committee Executive Elections**

- End of October 2010 – transition from Anne to new Chair/Co-Chairs
- Hold elections annually.

##### **7.1 Co-Chair positions: Trudie McCormick & Anne Renaud**

##### **7.2 Secretary position – Linda Plumridge**

#### **8.0 Sub-Committee Planning**

- June 17, 2010 & June 30, 2010
- Small group to develop Committee goals in light of Lincoln's presentation on UNESCO
- Trudie, Nancy, Anne Renaud, Anne McCoy, Lincoln, Tammy, Linda, Heather all agreed to sit on the Sub-Committee.

#### **9.0 Other**

#### **10.0 Next Meeting: July 7, 2010 @ 12 p.m.**