

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting

Thursday, October 17, 2024

5:30-6:00 PM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Video Conferencing via Zoom

MINUTES

1. Welcome - Called to Order: 5:34 PST

We acknowledge, respect, and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District #8.

Attendance: Natalia Nazarov - DPAC Chair/Advocacy Coordinator DPAC Rep for MSSS; Colleen Bayly - DPAC Vice Chair & DPAC Rep for Erikson; Taryn Stokes - DPAC Secretary//DPAC EdCom Rep; Crystal Stankevich - KRSS; Caroline Cassar - DPAC rep Salmo Secondary; Chris Ryman - DPAC rep DESK; Chris Goggins - PAC Chair Redfish; Chase Leushner - DESK parent; Dee Anne Nadeau - Hume Parent; Jon Breisnes - TF DPAC Rep; Sheri Pawlyshyn - Salmo Elem DPAC Rep; Michelle Harris - MSSS PAC Chair; Mathilde Armour Piccirilli - Creston Wildflower DPAC rep; Lisa O'Conner - HL Nelson & South Nelson DPAC Rep; Lisa Wilkinson - CBESS DPAC Rep; Lorien Quattrocchi - LVR DPAC Rep; Nicole Rhynold - DPAC Rep JVH; Rosellen Munroe - DPAC Rep BK; Vanessa - ARES DPAC Rep; Tyler Dobie - JVH PAC Chair; Lesley Garlow DPAC Rep Hume; James Shaw - Winlaw DPAC Rep; Tyler Rice - Redfish DPAC Rep; Julie Bremner - Trustee Nelson/Bealby Point & Vice Board Chair; Allan Gribbin - Trustee Creston South Rural; Breanne Gaudreau - LVR Parent; Kris Smith - parent at LVR; Rachael Lesosky - Valley Voice (newspaper), observer; Nicholas Nay; Sonja Logtenberg; Trish Smillie - Superintendent of School/CEO; Deanna Holitzki - Assistant Superintendent; Tamara Malloff - District Principal Innovative Learning; Lenora Trenamen - Trustee North/East Shores; I; Breanne Gaudreau - LVR Parent; Marnie Lehr - LVR Parent; Jacqui Knapp; Phil Livingston DESK Parent; Jenni Stol; Trish Coft - BCCPAC Director (3rd Party); Susan Wilson - Parent Advocate Trainer (3rd Party)

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda accepted with modifications - appointing a third party teller

- Natalia motioned/Lisa O seconded - motion carried

3. Establishment of Quorum

- Yes, based on representatives identified in the chat as the duly elected DPAC rep for their PAC.

4. Third Party Tellers for Elections

- Natalia motioned that Trish Coft, Director from BCCPAC, be accepted as a Teller for the Election of Executives, seconded by Colleen, motion carried
- Natalia motioned that Susan Wilson, Parent Advocate Trainer, be accepted as Second Teller as needed for the Election of Executives, seconded by Sheri, motion carried

5. Approval of November 16, 2023 AGM Minutes

- Natalia motioned/Colleen seconded - motion carried

6. Chair's Report

- Natalia shared a statement. See full report at end of minutes

7. Treasurer's Report – presentation of Financial Statements

- See screenshot below
- Final balances as of September 30, 2024
 - \$60.23 Gaming
 - \$2,140.56 Regular Account
- Discussion that new Chair if applicable will need to speak to RCMP. A subcommittee could be appointed to be involved with the investigation.
- Past Chair, if applicable, could help as per C&Bs.

Kootenay Lake DPAC			Kootenay Lake DPAC			Kootenay Lake DPAC		
Statement of Operations			Statement of Financial Position			Statement of Cash Flows		
Oct 1, 2023 to Sep 30, 2024			As of Sep 30, 2024			Oct 1, 2023 to Sep 30, 2024		
Revenue			Current Assets			Bank Accounts Oct 1, 2023		\$985.58
SD8 Grant	\$4,900.00		Gaming Account	\$60.23		Deposits		\$5,401.83
BCCPAC Travel Subsidy	\$501.83		Regular Account	\$2,140.56		Withdrawals		-\$4,186.62
Total Revenue	\$5,401.83		Total Current Assets	\$2,200.79		Final Balance Sep 30, 2024		\$2,200.79
Expenses			Current Liabilities					
Parent Education	\$1,688.00		PAC BCCPAC Membership Fees (23)	\$225.00				
Bank Fees	\$160.00		Seminar & Conference Registration	\$2,168.12				
Zoom Subscription	\$240.69		BCCPAC 2024 Membership	\$200.00				
BCCPAC 2024 Membership	\$200.00		Total Current Liabilities	\$2,593.12				
BCCPAC Spring AGM 2024	\$980.12							
BCCPAC Fall Summit & Spring AGM 2023	\$1,735.93							
BCCPAC PAC Memberships	\$1,775.00							
Total Expenses	\$6,779.74							
* Updates after the year-end								
BMO has notified us that they will be crediting Cheques #216/217/218 to the DPAC non-gaming account								
This is a total of \$4,250								
This is because the deposits were not received by the payee as written on the cheques.								

8. Call for Nominations

- Three calls from the floor will be made.
- If only one candidate is named that person will be acclaimed
- Wildflower Creston normally shares a vote with Wildflower Nelson but as there is no named rep for Wildflower Nelson, Wildflower Creston will vote
- Biographies issued for known candidates earlier
- Motion made by Sheri, seconded by Lorien for contested positions to share a short verbal summary. Motion carries
- Teller has a list of all DPAC reps on a spreadsheet that was shared. This document also has other personal info on it so cannot be shared at the meeting.

9. Election of Officers (by Teller Trish Coft)

DPAC Chair

- Natalia Nazaroff & Sheri Pawlyshyn to be considered for DPAC Chair
- Call 3 times for nominations
- Short statement by both parties prior to vote
- Voting done using zoom poll system by DPAC reps
- Results of election - Sheri as Chair

Vice-Chair

- Call 3 times for nominations
- Michelle Harris is acclaimed

Secretary

- Call 3 times for nominations
- Taryn Stokes is acclaimed

Treasurer

- Call 3 times for nominations
- Chase Leushner is acclaimed

Confirmation of Elected Executive Officers

- Chair: Sheri Pawlyshyn, Vice Chair: Michelle Harris, Secretary: Taryn Stokes, Treasurer; Chase Leushner, Past Chair: Natalia Nazaroff
- Motion by Lisa O to confirm that elected officers, seconded by Lorien, motion carried
- Acknowledgements from Past Chair Natalia Nazaroff to our Tellers & Tellers signed off from meeting

10. Signing Officers - PROPOSED MOTION by Natalia Nazaroff: The signing officers shall be Sheri Pawlyshyn, Chase Leushner, Natalia Nazaroff and Taryn Stokes; and these shall be the only signing officers for the Kootenay Lake DPAC. All other previous signing officers will be removed.

Seconded and carried

Note that existing signers were Natalia Nazaroff and Taryn Stokes

11. Parent Volunteers for School District Committees

- Education Partners - Taryn Stokes and Natalia Nazaroff
- Policy, Ops & Finance - Lesley Garlow and Chase Leushner
- Alternates will be Sheri Pawlyshyn and Natalia Nazaroff

12. Adjournment 6:57 pm PST, next AGM October 2025

DPAC Chair Report Prepared for October 17., 2024

The year in review for DPAC is an interesting one. We had another difficult start last fall. There were concerns expressed in regards to our AGM and our outdated Constitution and Bylaws. The DPAC executive met and exchanged many emails trying to work out the kinks. We reviewed our Constitution and Bylaws and updated it to reflect past and current common practices. The draft was circulated in May. The membership adopted it at the June meeting.

Colleen and I attended the BCCPAC leadership Summit for Chairs and Vice Chairs in November. This is always a great learning and networking opportunity for our DPAC leaders. In the winter we ran the Advocacy 101 and Advocate level 1 training seminars, hoping to recruit more advocates for our Advocacy program. We have not heard back from those who attended this training. We are hoping they will reach out to the DPAC offering to become advocates for families. Although this very valuable program is being used as a model by many other DPAC's throughout the Province yet we are finding it hard to recruit advocates.

In the spring we offered to pay for 1 parent from each PAC to attend the Gordon Neufeld Conference titled "The current Crisis of Well being: What is happening to our kids" We had 11 parents partake. The conference was focused on holding on to our kids and making sure that our children had a strong connection to home, extended families and community to help them navigate today's world. The importance of having significant trusted adults in each child's life was highlighted.

In May I attended the BCCPAC AGM and Conference. The conference provided many opportunities to network with other DPAC'S and participate in workshops presented by Ministry staff. It gives DPAC'S a voice to ask questions of the Ministry directly.

In June our DPAC executive was invited to meet with the Board of education to discuss the strategic plan and how we can work together to achieve its goals. It was a great opportunity to provide the parents perspective to the Board. We talked about our advocacy program and how the parent voice is important in education.

Throughout the year DPAC representatives participated in Vice Principal, Principal, and Director interviews. We gave feedback on the candidates to the District. These are valuable opportunities to have the parents' voice heard in what we value in the people leading our district and our children.

I would like to thank the DPAC executive for the many meetings, emails, and discussions on how our DPAC operates and how we can support each other in our roles. Many of us came together and we got things accomplished this school year. The executive went through quite a few challenges and we didn't always agree yet we figured out how to work together. This year I have chosen to thank our executive and DPAC representatives at Committees of the Whole as a unit. We do what we do together and support each other through. We cover each other when one of us can't make the meetings, or needs help with a complicated situation or email. I felt that this collaborative effort needed to be recognized.

As an executive we faced a major challenge this summer. Upon discovery of a significant amount of money missing from our accounts our Treasurer resigned. The remaining executives came together to work on the investigation into the missing money. Taryn really worked long days with me dealing with the Bank, and the Police. Taryn stepped up and completed all the missing gaming reports, did a late application for this year's gaming grant, and created amazing spreadsheets to help with the forensic accounting. We are still in the process of investigating this matter and we will keep our members updated as information becomes available.

I would like to thank all the DPAC reps that attended our meetings and for their understanding of the need to adjust our meeting processes so our meetings could run smoothly. We understand that the formality of the meetings may not be what parents wanted but it was the reset we needed for our DPAC. We are a legislated body that contains one elected representative from each school in our district. We are one of the few DPAC's that allow non DPAC representative parents to attend our meetings. With the stricter controls we managed to keep our meetings open to all District parents instead of only DPAC reps, District administrators and Board members as is legislated.

Thank you to all the District Staff that came as guests to our meetings. Thank you to the Board of Education for taking the time to attend our meetings and hear the concerns of parents in the district. Thank you to Superintendent Smillie for supporting our DPAC and helping us implement the changes we needed to get us back on track.

We are the voice of PAC's at the District level. As such we represent the voice of all parents in our district. These voices are diverse and every voice is important. We hold an important position in the District and we all work hard to make the best education experience for our children. Let's keep working together to keep the parent voice heard.