

Kootenay Lake District Parents Advisory Council  
Thursday April 16, 2026  
6:00pm - 8pm PT  
Video conferencing Via Zoom  
Minutes

*DPAC Code of Conduct*

- a) At general meetings, members will not discuss individual personnel, students, parents, or other members of the school community.*
- b) Council will refrain from partisan political action or other activities that do not serve the interests of the school or the public school system*
- c) Open discussion is encouraged with orderly conduct & respect for alternative points of view.*
- d) Maintain a democratic process*
- e) Respect all confidential information*
- f) Work to ensure that the well-being of students is the primary focus of all decisions.*

1) Call to Order – quorum met

2) Land acknowledgement: 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.

3) Welcome and introductions – Superintendent Smilie unable to attend, Director Laury Carriere in lieu

4) Adoption of the Agenda – done

5) Approval of Minutes for February and March 2026 meeting minutes – done

6) Superintendent's Report by Director Laury Carriere  
- on SD8 website

7) Guest Presentation – Culture and Identity Continuous Learning Report – April 2026

- presented by Director Laury Carriere
- SD8 strategic plan goals checkin
- Alignment to Strategic Plan Priorities
- focus on indigenous/aboriginal ways of knowing, belonging, history, culture, diversity
- IEC – Indigenous Education Council made through changes to School Act, each district has to have an IEC
- this is the first year of it, having big conversations
- also looks at previous years' action plan and progress – cultural and language learning
- on the land learning, fish in schools, drum making, moccasin making etc.
- indigenous food programming like indigenous winter feast etc.
- dried bison pizza, cedar plank salmon, berry crisps etc.
- SD8 Pow Wow is the 13<sup>th</sup> annual youth pow wow Friday May 15, 2026 in Creston at the Rec Centre
- everyone is invited!
- SD8 indigenous graduation rates (82%) above provincial average (69%) which is good but we can continue to improve
- increased focus on literacy
- new areas of growth and focus for the IEC are learning about local indigenous cultures and language so the graduates know about the land and people, identifying knowledge keepers, connection and belonging

- work on careers and post-secondary pathways in grade 12 but will also look at grade 10 too
- increasing parent/guardian communication
- IEC has nominal roll students (on reserve) regular meetings with local bands
- anti-racism and cultural safety is a priority as work is still needed on unconscious bias and belief to reduce unintended racial inequality
- supporting schools in cultural diversity awareness and acceptance (such as ERASE report-it tool to report racism and bullying)
- capacity building = staff learning, student presentations and student anti-racism working group
- embrace diversity!

QUESTION: a group of young men were looking for a place to meet for a Bible study but that wouldn't be acceptable at the high school which seems un-inclusive. The director will take that back to the principal.

8) Treasurer's Report – provided by Treasurer Jon who gives regrets, he does have all bank paperwork done

- balances: \$18,611. In general account, \$2,313.47 in Gaming
- only expenses this year have been reimbursement of 12 PACs for their BCCPAC memberships
- he is about to apply for Gaming Grant
- in May he will have a more fulsome update

9) Correspondence/Read only items

a) BCCPAC AGM communications

10) Ongoing Previous Business

- a) Constitution & Bylaws and Policy committees renamed "Governance Oversight Committee". Priority to be given to the creation of a Fiscal policy.
- b) Collection of PAC contact information for 2025-2026
- c) Call for Secretary – please. Again. Or Lorien would be Secretary and someone else could be Vice Chair.
- d) Parent Engagement/Training – emails sent out, brief response from Selema Noon whose presentations are designed for younger kids but she is seeing if there is one aged for middle school ages
- parent request for learning for parents of kids with ADHD

11) New Business / Discussion items

a) BCCPAC AGM costs:

i) Lorien provided information on costs for AGM attendance for Jon and Lorien

- \$2,970. 94 for hotels, conference/AGM, and flights out of Trail (reasonably cheap option) of which BCCPAC will refund the \$800 travel fund and \$1,000 can come out of gaming

- Michelle motioned that we utilize \$1,000 from gaming to cover AGM costs to be split between Jon and Lorien to cover AGM attendance costs, 1<sup>st</sup> Natalia and Tilly 2<sup>nd</sup>

- Michelle motioned that we utilize \$2,000 from operating account to cover AGM costs to be split between Jon and Lorien to cover AGM attendance costs, 1<sup>st</sup> Natalia and Tilly 2<sup>nd</sup>

ii) dinner Friday and Saturday included in attendance fee, plus breakfast/lunch/snacks so that is nice

- only will not include dinner Thursday and lunch Sunday

- Lorien says she is sure her and Jon can handle those costs

- Natalia suggested we also cover the meal costs for the Thursday night and Saturday lunch and those expenses can be submitted in May 2026 meeting for approval – ok

b) BCCPAC AGM resolutions:

- reviewed and DPAC provided direction for proxy holders Jon and Lorien:

2026.01 adds clarification around who can be on the BCCPAC board

- this cannot be changed on the floor

- new policy should specify PUBLIC school and how are they defining 'attendance' vs. 'enrollment'

- decided we are broadly needing more information before we can decide
- ok for reps to vote based on clarification made at the event
- 2026.02 is a global cell phone ban bell to bell provincewide
- reps to vote no as what we have is working for our different schools and their different needs, schools already have this option if it is warranted
- 2026.03 change to resolutions procedures (presented by BCCPAC)
- could only be an improvement on the existing process
- reps ok to vote as they see fit

iii) determined who is DPAC's choice for nominees for election for reps (attached)

#### 12) Committee reports

- a) Education Partners – not happened yet
- b) Governance, Policy & Finance – board committee meeting 11-12:30, need a volunteer as Lorien is a maybe
  - Michelle sent the email to Lisa, Lorien & Natalia to see who can come
- c) General Public Budget Meeting – Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 6-7:30PT

#### 13) School Reports – yay!

14) Adjourn - Next DPAC meeting is our regular meeting Thursday May 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm PT