

Seycove PAC Meeting Minutes

Date: Dec 10, 2024

Time Start: 7:00 pm

Location: Library

Members in attendance: Lisa Stewart (President), Carla Cove (Vice President), Kara Guedes (DPAC Rep), Wendy Kennedy (Member at Large), Mandy Young (FOS Rep), Meghan Downie (Principal)

Regrets: Kim Tattrie (Treasurer), Julia Wagner (Secretary), Paul Ruben (Vice-Principal)

Agenda Item	Speaker	Discussion	Action Items
<p>Acknowledgment & Announcements</p>	<p>Mandy Young</p>	<p><i>Land Acknowledgement (Mandy Young):</i> <i>I have done a lot of work around my understanding of Indigenous best practices and how to do a meaningful land acknowledgment through different places that I've worked. It's always important when you have an elder come in and do a land acknowledgement, they often will tell a bit about who they are as a person, and where their ancestors are from, and that is a really good best practice to do when you're doing a land acknowledgment because if we think of Indigenous practices, it's about building relationships and connections. I am a fourth generation white woman who has ancestry on my maternal side from Ireland and England. I still haven't fully explored my heritage on my father's side. Those are conversations that are still in the works. I was born to Canadian parents who went to New Zealand for vacation. And so, I was actually born outside of this country in New Zealand. I never had the opportunity to learn Indigenous practices when I was in school, maybe similar to you folks as well. Those types of teachings weren't taught in school, and so I am proud to now be able to learn a little bit through my children and the teachings that they learn. We are situated today on the unceded and traditional territories of the Squamish (Skwxwú7mesh), Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm) and Tsleil-Waututh (səlilwataʔ) First Nations.</i> <i>I encourage all of you to look at how you'd like to do a land acknowledgment. It sometimes feels a little scary at first when you</i></p>	

		<p><i>haven't done one before because you're not sure what to say and how to honour that practice and it is much more than just saying the words and acknowledging the land. It's doing a bit of inner reflection and searching to see what's important to you when you do those land acknowledgments. Thank you for allowing me to do this tonight. It should often change in different settings that you're in and what you feel comfortable with sharing at the time. If you have noticed, elders don't have a time frame when they do their land acknowledgment. They often will talk about what is important to them and often do a prayer as well. I try to go to different Indigenous ceremonies and different events to just expose myself to learn how to be with one another and I learn from how they practice being people and I think it's a good practice to unlearn our biased and unconscious colonized ways. We all have them and often we don't like to acknowledge those in ourselves, but they're deeply rooted in each one of us just for the nature of our skin colour. And it is intentional work to try to steer away from those colonized ways. I work for the University of BC and it's a very colonized institution as is public school as well, and our health care system. Those types of things are all rooted in colonized ways and so we can try one person at a time to support the breakdown of that. We're working towards reconciliation.</i></p> <p>Thank you, Mandy, for introducing us to this personalized land acknowledgement.</p>	
Introductions	Lisa Stewart	No new introductions necessary	
Approval of Agenda	Carla Cove, Lisa Stewart		
Approval of Minutes	Mandy Young, Wendy Kennedy		
Principal's report	Meghan Downie	This time of the year, some classes in courses get into celebration mode or presentation mode, which is really exciting.	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drama performance last week. It was a unique and lovely experience that was inclusive and really amazing to watch. • Band and choir performing this week and into next week. I see lots of talent and amazing things to celebrate around the school. • School Planning session: to move away from “C.L.A.S.S”, Community, Stewardship and Creativity were the three umbrella themes that emerged in the students' voice, expressing how they felt. We wanted the words to embody who we are as a community. We welcome any feedback. Our next step is to share this with the broader student body and hear their feedback before we really start to use the language. Our Values Statement is on the school website. We will continue to embed those words in our agenda books and in our code of conduct. We are grateful to Fraser Wagner for creating the visual. He really tried to think about the name, <i>Seycove at sáyamətan</i>, so there's water included in the graphic. Students felt the importance of honouring the fact that we were gifted that name and how do we live into it? Hopefully by April, we have another school planning session, we'll have a story to share about how we've made this a part of the school and actually visualized it. Between now and April, we're hoping to really solidify the visual and the language of our value statements and start to envision the next step of making them a part of how we talk as a school and who we are. • Guest facilitator, Charles Lartey from Hope U (https://hopeu.ca). Charles is an anti-racist and anti-racism educator. He did some work at Handsworth when Meghan was there. He's done some work at Sutherland as well. He's a former Carson Graham graduate, so he's from North Vancouver. The three things we want to do are: 	
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Treasurer's Report	Carla Cove	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No financial report today. This is the transition month to our new Treasurer. • The PAC requests adequate time to review proposed budget and course/academy fee increases to enable a formal approval process at our next scheduled PAC meeting. We acknowledge there were unusual circumstances this year 	

		<p>that delayed the preparation of the fees budget for approvals and we appreciate the effort of all involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received \$1,500 RBC community grant for community work at the Deep Cove Winter Market. Thank you RBC! • PayPal’s partner, Tech Soup, is reviewing our application for charity status to register for PayPal Giving. • We are in the process of changing signatories for the Seycove PAC with BlueShore Financial. • The Gaming account has been at a different financial institution (RBC) to prevent or minimize the chance of accidentally taking funds from the wrong account. The PAC may transfer the Gaming funds balance to a new account at BlueShore after further research. 	
DPAC Report	Kara Guedes	No update this month.	
Social Media, Website and Fundraising Updates	Lisa Stewart	<p>Rules and parameters have been put up on the Seycove Parents Facebook page. In order to join this group, new members must answer questions. Posts require admin approval. Comments will be monitored.</p> <p>Rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be kind and courteous • No promotions or spam • No hate speech or bullying • Respect everyone's privacy 	
New Business	Kara Guedes	Seycove FOS Auction 2025: Jody Lightfoot has volunteered to run the event and will attend the January 14 PAC meeting. She also intends to participate in PAC meetings for our family of elementary schools.	
Adjourned	Approx: 8:30pm		
Next PAC Meeting: January 14, 2025 at 7pm in Library			

In Attendance: N/A