



Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights

Corporate Board Meeting – November 21 and 22, 2014

“Every student is a lifelong learner and successful in life”

www.nsd61.ca

MEMBERSHIP

Colin Kelly, Official Trustee Local School Board Committee Chairs

Julia Cardinal, Acting Chair ADCS
David Czibere, Anzac
Greg Gauchier, Bishop Routhier
Cora Weber-Pillwax, Acting Chair,
Calling Lake
Jason Yuck, Chipewyan Lake
Margaret Quintal, Conklin
Kim Courtoreille, Desmarais
Shelly Auger, East Prairie
Shelley Bartman, Elizabeth
Janet Lynn McDonald, Fort McKay
Ken Shaw, Gift Lake
Jesse Lamouche, Grouard
Joan Daniels, J.F. Dion
Alice Fontaine, Janvier
Kathy Omoth, Keg River
Dwight Gladue, Little Buffalo
Candice Calliou, Paddle Prairie
Louis Cardinal, Peerless Lake
Violet Carlson, Pelican Mountain
Rachelle McDonald, Susa Creek
Elmer Gullion, Trout Lake
Robin Guild, Wabasca

Advisory Committee

Elmer Gullion, Trout Lake
Ken Shaw, Gift Lake
Kim Courtoreille, Desmarais
Rachelle McDonald, Susa Creek
Robin Guild, Wabasca
Louis Cardinal, Peerless Lake

Senior Administration

Donna Barrett, Superintendent
Don Tessier, Associate Superintendent
Wes Oginski, Director of Human
Resources
Trudy Rasmuson, Secretary-Treasurer
David Cox, Division Facility Manager
Delores Pruden, Director of First Nation
Métis Inuit Education

Career Explorations Camp 2014 Presentation



At Northland School Division Board Meeting, Little Buffalo School Principal Brian Dewar shared an example of how partnerships benefit education! Over 40 students from Little Buffalo, Atikameg and Red Earth Creek attended a Career Explorations Camp at the Northern Lakes College Campus in Grouard and at the Tolko plant in High Prairie. The camp was organized through a partnership between NLC, Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council, Peace River School Division, Alberta Distance Learning, Alberta Education and Northland School Division. The purpose of the camp was to give students an opportunity to earn credits for high school graduation and experience careers such as carpentry, media studies (photography), culinary arts, oil and gas training, electrical, millwright and welding. During a four-day period, students earned two or three credits towards high school graduation. Dewar says the student engagement throughout the week was terrific and believes the Career Explorations Camp should continue in future years. View article on our new website!

<http://nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/career-explorations-camp-2014>



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Marten Lake Cultural Camp Presentation



Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council (KTC) Outdoor Education/Cree Specialist Jason Bigcharles and Northland School Division's First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Coordinator Joyce Hunt spoke to the Northland Board about the two recent cultural camps at Marten Lakes Wilderness Camp which is located between Slave Lake and Wabasca. The cultural camps (**October 20-24, 2014 Grouard Northland School, Atikameg School and October 27-30 Little Buffalo School**) expose students to land-based learning activities and address learning outcomes as outlined in the Cree Language Program of Studies as well as meeting benchmarks for literacy and numeracy. Click on link to view **Cultural Camp Reports** <http://nsd61.ca/download/22146>. 94 students participated in cultural camp activities. They used Cree terms for natural elements (stones and leaves), environmental art, rabbit snaring, moose calling, shelter making, archery and the basic skills of canoeing. Bigcharles says that these camps embody *Indigegogy*, a term coined by Stan Wilson, Professor Emeritus at the University of Alberta. Wilson expresses **Indigegogy as the Indigenous way of teaching and learning. There is no hierarchy and the teacher's main role is to introduce a topic for discussion and to share their knowledge and expertise. The knowledge and experience of all participants is acknowledged and put to use** http://legacy.wlu.ca/page.php?grp_id=2596&p=17715. Bigcharles added that feedback was positive from students and parents and more camps are planned for early spring.



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Northland School Division Launches New Website



Northland School Division launched a new website November 17, 2014. Curtis Walty, Communications Coordinator presented the new website to the Northland Board. The website design allows users to find information quickly and easily and it supports the division’s goal to keep students, parents, staff and community members better informed. “We believe the new website reflects the division as a whole,” said Donna Barrett, Superintendent of Schools. “The design showcases FNMI language and culture and input from the Northland family. We are very excited to use the website to communicate keys messages, success stories and as a tool to support staff and children.” Click on the link to view media release <http://nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/northland-school-division-launch-new-website>.

Education Quarterly Report

Superintendent of Schools Donna Barrett presented the Northland Quarterly Education Report which chronicles progress. The report highlights student enrolment, student attendance, staff attendance, school visits by staff and good news stories such as the Career Explorations Camp.

Procedure Approval Highlights

- The Northland Board approved the Combined Three Year Education Plan for 2014-2017 and Annual Education Results Report (AERR) 2013-2014 <http://nsd61.ca/download/22265>. You can also view the AERR Summary <http://nsd61.ca/download/22266>.
- The Northland Board approved changes to Procedure 426, Staff Leaves and Absences.
- The Northland Board approved changes to the Organizational Chart.
- The Northland Board moved to table changes to Procedure 404 – Recruitment and Re-Assignment of Certificated Staff.



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- The Northland Board approved the Northland Certificated Staff Recruitment Strategy. The strategy states that Northland will recruit teachers from university faculties of education, with an emphasis on those who provide or are affiliated with the Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (ATEP).
- The Northland Board approved the 2014-2015 revised Budget that includes a revenue increase due to enrolment, the inclusion of grant and industry funding and an increase in Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funding. The revised budget supports the hiring of staff to align with enrolment, for testing and achievement and for literacy. The revisions include allocation and dollars to support the *Attendance Improvement Initiative* <http://nsd61.ca/programs/attendance-improvement-initiative>.

November 26th Special Meeting

- The Northland Board Approved the Audited Financial Statements <http://nsd61.ca/download/22140>

View the Board Agenda on our NEW website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/board-agendas>

View the Board Minutes on our website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/minutes>

View Board Meeting Attachments on our website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/board-attachments>

Important Dates to Remember

January 30-31, 2015	Board Meeting, Peace River, Alberta
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Note: These writings do not constitute the official record of the Northland School Division No.61. They are however, provided as general information relating to action taken at board meetings. For further information, please call 780-624-2060 or 1-800-362-1360.