



# KEE TAS KEE NOW TRIBAL COUNCIL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

## Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 2022

Meeting Platform: In-Person/ZOOM (V)

**9:00am-3:00pm**

### Attendees:

<p><b>Board Members:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chief Ivan Sawan, Chair, Loon River First Nation</li> <li>2. Councilor Shayne Letendre, Loon River First Nation</li> <li>3. Councilor Cody Letendre, Loon River First Nation</li> <li>4. Chief Billy Joe Laboucan, Lubicon Lake Band</li> <li>5. Councilor Timothy Sawan, Vice Chair, Lubicon Lake Band</li> <li>6. Chief Gladys Okemow, Peerless Trout First Nation</li> <li>7. Councilor Corrine Alook, Peerless Trout First Nation</li> <li>8. Councilor Judy Sinclair, Peerless Trout First Nation</li> <li>9. Councilor Darren Auger, Whitefish Lake First Nation</li> <li>10. Chief Albert Thunder, Whitefish Lake First Nation</li> </ol>	<p><b>KTCEA Staff:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Daphne Mai'Stoina, Superintendent</li> <li>2. Pearl Calahasen, Deputy Superintendent</li> <li>3. Carmen Parent, Strategic Projects Specialist</li> <li>4. Gord Atkinson, Director of Capital Services</li> <li>5. Melvina Thunder, Director of Human Resources</li> <li>6. Terrylynn Cook, Director of Curriculum &amp; Instruction</li> <li>7. Melbourne Disbrowe, Communications Coordinator</li> <li>8. Yvonne Noskey, Director of Finance</li> <li>9. Brandon Okemow, Executive Assistant</li> <li>10. Elijah Ogato, Technology Specialist</li> </ol>
<p><b>Absent / Regrets:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chief Isaac Laboucan Avirom, Woodland Cree First Nation</li> <li>2. Councilor Clifford Laboucan, Whitefish Lake First Nation</li> <li>3. Councilor Jason Laboucan, Lubicon Lake Band</li> <li>4. Councilor Derek Auger, Woodland Cree First Nation</li> <li>5. Councilor Frank Whitehead., Woodland Cree First Nation</li> </ol>	<p><b>KTC Leadership, Admin Staff &amp; Other Guests:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. , Lubicon Lake Band Youth Elected Chief</li> </ol>

## Regular Board Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Introductions / Roll Call

9:00 am Chair, Chief Ivan Sawan  
 9:05 am Chief Albert Thunder  
 Board Chair

- [2022-06-02 # 1: Motion to accept the June 2, 2022 Agenda as presented.](#)
- [Moved by Chief Gladys Okemow. Seconded by Chief Albert Thunder. All in favor, motion carried.](#)



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### 4. Reading of the Minutes:

Yvonne Noskey, Director of Finance

- **2022-06-02 # 2:** The Board approved the Meeting Minutes of May 5-6, 2022 as read by Yvonne Noskey.
- Moved by Chief Gladys Okemow, Seconded by Councilor Darren Auger. All in favor, motion carried.
- There was a moment of silence for the late Laureen Letendre. Chief Gladys encouraged KTCEA to do something for the family of the late Laureen Letendre who worked at CJS school.
- Declaration of respect: board members were very pleased with the draft declaration presented and the importance of upholding these values and ethics in board meetings and in schools. Board members want a similar statement incorporated in schools, along with other Cree morales, ethics and values. It was suggested that we have a plaque at every school of the statement. There was also a request to make an audio statement of the recording and to develop the statement phonetically as well as syllabics. The statement can also be read on our radio station. Board members want the statement to be read at the commencement of every meeting.

- **2022-06-02 # 3:** Adopt the declaration of **manâtisiwi** in our governance as a living document, and ensure this statement is incorporated at each of our schools.
- Moved by Councillor Frank Whitehead. Seconded by Chief Billy Joe Laboucan. All in favor, motion carried.

### 5. Superintendent's Report:

- SAIT trip: 53 students visited SAIT in May. Tour created a real "buzz" for our students, and is helping them get excited about going to school again. These kinds of experiences can be inspiring for students. More of these tours will be planned next year. We will ensure there is participation from every school.
- Graduation: Dates for grads were shared. Graduates at each school this year include: 4 at Atikameg, 6 at Kateri, 5 at CJS, 5 at Little Buffalo, 2 at Cadotte and 1 at the Outreach School. The Authority wide graduation is being planned for fall 2022.
- Outreach Open House: Held May 19 was well attended. Tour of the facility took place for potential students, parents and elders.
- A Cree and LBL camp was held on May 4-6 with the Cree and LBL leads from each of the schools taking part in this professional development opportunity to walk them through what students experience. Lessons included tipi teachings, equine therapy, art and Cree immersion. Elders from KTCEA member nations shared stories and local history in Cree at Mihkowapikwaniy cultural camp.
- Student participation rates were presented by each school. In the last month as of the end of May, student participation is increasing slightly as you can see from the information on the chart above. Principals report that students who are coming are engaged but the students who have been away from school may be used to a new routine outside of school. Some schools are starting to see students come in that we haven't seen



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all year. The board requested that we consider a way to share best practices, as some schools (like PTFN schools) are seeing higher levels of student participation.

- WRAT results were presented, and board members received copies of results for their respective schools. 46% of all students participated in the WRAT 5. (roughly 500 students)
- School Learning Recovery Plans for each school were provided to respective board members of each school. Each school has developed a plan to help them prioritize how they address learning loss this year.
- Cree Language Assessments: To promote and encourage Cree language to be used and spoken across KTCEA we implemented a Cree language assessment and bonus for staff. This assessment is helping us to distribute a staff bonus that was approved in a Board Motion in January 2021 up to a maximum of \$2050 per staff person.
- Cree speakers and Elders from each Nation are assisting with the assessments. Staff volunteer to be tested for Cree fluency in speaking, comprehension, reading and writing in SRO and in syllabics.
- The Elders who are participating in this assessment say they are really enjoying the process. From the assessments done, we are finding that staff will need the most support in writing in Cree Standard Roman Orthography (SRO). Very few staff can read or write Syllabics.
- So far 57 staff have volunteered to be tested. The breakdown and levels (advanced, intermediate and beginner) of the Cree language bonus was provided. The amounts will vary for each staff person depending where they score. Staff can be reassessed each year to develop their Cree to move to a more advanced level. Clarification was provided that the assessments are not of staff performance but of their proficiency of the language. Board requested KTCEA consider a way to encourage parents to speak the language more frequently at home. A conference/forum with all five Nations could be planned to encourage parents to engage more in the language. It could also be used as a way to form a common approach/understanding for how to speak/spell certain words within the language.
- Information about upcoming events such as the High School CTS Camp with SAIT, KTCEA Student Award, KTCEA Spelling Bee (in Cree and English) and the Curriculum retreat were presented.
- The upcoming World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education was discussed. There was previously a motion passed for KTCEA to attend (this was March 5, 2020). Unfortunately, we were unable to attend due to postponement of events during the pandemic.
- Close contacts: Staff and students who are close contacts are no longer required to isolate. Staff who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive must test themselves every 72 hours for 14 days and monitor themselves for symptoms. If staff have symptoms, they must stay home as per the zero sickness policy.
- Household contacts: Staff and students who are in contact with someone who has tested positive who lives in the same household are now required to isolate for 3 days from the time the person in the home received a positive result. Staff must test themselves daily for 14 days and monitor themselves for symptoms. If the staff starts to develop symptoms, they must stay home as per the zero sickness policy.



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- Weekly on-site rapid testing: In person rapid testing for staff will no longer take place at the schools effective today. All staff continue to be required to rapid test themselves on Sundays and Wednesdays and report the results to their Principal/Supervisor.

- **2022-06-02 # 4:** The Board approves changes presented for close contacts, household contacts and weekly onsite rapid testing effective immediately.
- Moved by Councilor Shayne Letendre. Seconded by Chief Gladys Okemow.

- **2022-06-02 # 5:** The Board approves to make masks for students in schools and buses optional effective immediately.
- Moved by Chief Gladys Okemow. Seconded by Councillor Cody Letendre.

- Summer projects in each school were presented, along with an analysis of bussing contracts (details provided in the briefing note). Board requested a full list of buses for the next meeting and an estimate on the cost of air conditioning for buses.
- Updates were provided on Starlink, teacherages, solar panels and playgrounds. Lubicon Lake expressed interest in also partnering with Rotary Club which has access to used playground equipment.

- **2022-06-02 # 6:** Motion was made to go in camera for discussion on personnel needs .
- Moved by Chief Gladys Okemow. Seconded by Councillor Timothy Sawan.

- **2022-06-02 # 7:** Motion was made to add \$5000.00 to each salary on the teacher salary grid in September 2022.
- Moved by Chief Gladys Okemow. Seconded by Councillor Cody Letendre.

- An update on proposal based application that are being prepared for submission by KTCEA was presented, including on Structural Readiness, Jordan's Principle, and Specialized Learning Supports
- An overview of the May 12 meeting with ISC ADM David Peckham was shared. ADM Beckham asked KTCEA if we would partner on developing a business case to take to Treasury Board. The Board Chair sent a letter to ADM Beckham on May 25, 2022 to formally signal KTCEA interest in developing a business case for a needs-based funding model. A needs-based model reflects what we need as an Education Authority (e.g. actual costs of running an education authority as opposed to a model that is formula based (one size fits all)).



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- An orientation to PowerSchool was provided by data analyst Mohammed Mortoza. Board wants to ensure we really market the parent portal to parents, to ensure they know about it. Board requested a communications strategy for the release of the parent portal. Portal was discussed by the board as a positive tool for parents.

- **2022-06-02 # 8:** Board approves KTCEA attendance at the WIPCE conference in Australia in September 2022. KTCEA Administration will develop criteria and parameters based on operational needs and budget availability. Costs will be shared between attendees and the Authority.
- Moved by Councillor Shayne Letendre. Seconded by Councillor Timothy Sawan.

- **2022-06-02 # 9:** The Board approves the Superintendent's Report as presented.
- Moved by Councilor Timothy Sawan. Seconded by Councillor Darren Auger.

- Finance Update
  - Year to date expenditures for the REA and targeted programs was presented, showcasing which programs are spending at their targeted schedules as there are 3 months left in the fiscal year.

- **2022-06-02 # 10:** The Board approves the Finance report as presented.
- Moved by Councilor Timothy Sawan. Seconded by Councilor Shayne Letendre.

### 7. Adjournment:

- **2022-06-02 # 11:** Motion to adjourn the meeting of June 2, 2022.
- Moved by Chief Albert Thunder. Seconded by Councillor Timothy Sawan. All in favor, motion carried.

**Closing Prayer:** Chief Albert Thunder