



## LEADERS FOR LEARNING NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Year End Report 2013/2014

#### Context

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools (NLPS) is currently on its 3<sup>rd</sup> Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement (AEEA). The AEEA is a signed partnership agreement between NLPS, the Ministry of Education and our five Aboriginal community partner groups. This partnership agreement is an important one, as it ensures our Aboriginal partners are just that, partners in our educational mandate. Our NLPS Aboriginal partner groups are comprised of representatives from the three land-based First Nations: Snuneymuxw, Stz'uminus, Snaw-Naw-As; Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre; and Mid-Island Metis Nation.

The Aboriginal partners have been involved formally with the school district in the form of an Aboriginal advisory council. This council has had a few different forms over the years. As well, its membership has changed over the years.

This past year, 2013/2014, the council has reflected on its purpose and structure. In an effort to: increase engagement, become more responsive and nimble, and build relationships within the council, the council has changed the structure of the group to include only the five Aboriginal community partners and the NLPS designate.

Over this school year, this group has renamed itself, Leaders for Learning (L4L), created formal Terms of Reference (*Attachment A*), set key strategic direction (*Attachment B*), met with key leaders in the district, and hosted two significant gatherings (*Attachment C*) in addition to its regular monthly meetings. With the restructure, Leadership engagement is high with full meeting attendance achieved 86% of the time and strong working relationships between all partners. Results from the L4L Year End satisfaction survey (*Attachment D*) showed Leaders were 100% satisfied with their overall accomplishments this year.

The following report highlights significant work undertaken by the Leaders (L4L) between September 2013 and June 2014.

## **Meeting Highlights**

Leaders For Learning (L4L) attended 14 meetings between September 2013 and June 2014.

Agendas and pre-reading packages were emailed to Leaders in advance of all meetings. The Group was also provided with project binders that included their important reference documents:

- Terms Of Reference
- Calendar of Meeting Dates to September 2014
- Leader Contact Info
- Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement
- Learning Services Organization Chart
- Meeting Agendas, Minutes & Action Items

### **September 17, 2013**

L4L met from 8:30 am to 10:00 am at DAC Conference Room

- Review of the 2012/13 year
- Spoke to plans for the coming year
- Decision made by the Leaders to restructure AELC to just the 5 Aboriginal partners

### **October 8, 2013**

L4L met from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at DAC Board Room

- Confirmed need to re-purpose the Group
- Planned next steps for re-structure
- Decision made to host planning session with only the Aboriginal partners and the Chair (Director of Instruction, NLPS)

### **November 6, 2013**

L4L met from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at Tigh-Na-Mara for a planning retreat.

- Facilitator contracted to support Group's November and December meetings
- Confirmed new structure, vision and purpose
- Developed draft Terms Of Reference
- Created a new name, Leaders For Learning
- Defined Group's sense of Collective Responsibility and how to achieve it

### **December 11, 2013**

L4L met from 8:30 am – 11:30 am at the District Aboriginal Resource Centre, JBCS

- Updated on current and future activities within NLPS
- Reviewed draft Terms of Reference for final changes
- Group decision to hire facilitator, Toro Marketing to support Leaders For Learning January to June 2014

### **January 29, 2014**

L4L met from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at NDSS Meeting Room A.

- NLPS Assistant -Superintendent Robyn Gray and Deputy Superintendent John Blain attended as guests to provide highlights of their district wide, school visits where collective ownership was a topic.
- Confirmed Leaders For Learning scope for input into draft Terms Of Reference
- Developed plans to host a Historical Review of Aboriginal Education

### **February 12, 2014**

L4L met from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Snuneymuxw First Nation

- Tested and confirmed Leader's feel the change in structure is meeting their needs and that they feel well communicated with and consulted.
- Reviewed Feb 18<sup>th</sup> Historical Review meeting process and Group actions

### **February 18, 2014**

L4L and key Aboriginal Education Leaders met from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at NDSS

- Historical Review of Aboriginal Education within School District 68 dating back to the 1970s
  - 27 attendees, current and prior leaders in Aboriginal Education
- Historical Review of Aboriginal Education Report developed
  - Report approved by Leaders at the April 15 meeting
  - Report circulated to Leadership and NLPS

### **March 25, 2014**

L4L met from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at DAC Board Room

- Signed Terms Of Reference
- Debriefed Historical Review meeting and next steps
- Guest, Phil Turin, Secretary Treasury of NLPS presented a review of NLPS 2014 budget
- Group finalized scope and approved strategic meeting plan to September 2014
- Stz'uminun First Nation representative change on the Leaders For Learning group from Charlotte Elliott to Tim Harris

### **April 15, 2014**

L4L met from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at DAC Board Room

- Guest Patricia Trick, Associate Superintendent Human Resources presented an overview of human resource initiatives occurring within NLPS.
- Historical Review Report adopted and approved
- Developed meeting strategy for the May 7 Collective Ownership Discussion with NLPS leaders

### **April 23, 2014**

L4L met from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

- Plan and Group actions for May 7 Collective Ownership Discussion event with NLPS leaders.

### **May 6, 2014**

L4L met from 8:45 am to 10:15 am

- Final preparations for May 7 Collective Ownership Discussion event with NLPS leaders.

### **May 7, 2014**

L4L met from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

- Collective Ownership Discussion event with NLPS leaders and School Board Trustees
- Report developed (approved May 20)

### **May 20, 2014**

L4L met from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at DAC Board Room

- Aboriginal Education Program Review
- Leaders For Learning 2013/2014 Year End Report
- Leaders For Learning Year End Satisfaction Survey
- Overview & approved 2014/2015 L4L Plan
- Guest, Donna Reimer, Director of Communications NLPS

### **June 17, 2014**

L4L met from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at DAC Board Room

- Guests, Board of Trustees
  - Debrief May 7 meeting
  - Share L4L report and key milestones
- Presentation of result from Year End Satisfaction Survey
- Year End Report approved

# Attachments