

## SD61 Trustee Report January & February 2017

Diane McNally

Attended:

Feb 27 Public engagement committee

Feb 23 Saanich Arts and Culture: Attended as assigned liaison; voice but no vote; inquired about Saanich First Nations (Tsartlip, Pauquachin, Tseycum and Tsawout ) participation in upcoming Heritage events; discussion re taxation and Craigflower Schoolhouse, insulation of schoolhouse, Mrs Chessa's presentation re experiences of her class in the school house (March 10 10:30 – 2, UVic first Peoples' House). All agendas and minutes available on Saanich Municipal website.

Feb 22 Vic High PAC Gender workshop with Ambit Consulting. Vic High PAC used Parent Education Fund for this well attended interactive presentation. PAC Executive expressed their pleasure with ability to have school-based discretionary use of funds that SD61 allots to DPAC / PACs.

Feb 20 Public Engagement Committee; First attendance at Aboriginal Nations Education Council as appointed Board representative / liaison. McNally had comments about the importance of place and heritage / identification.

Feb 17 Met with Coordinator of Aboriginal Nations Education Nella Nelson as Board Representative to ANED and ANEC. This month's reading from the ANED library beginning with some K-5 titles: ShiShietko (Nicola Campbell), Home to Medicine Mountain (Chiori Santiago), When I Was Eight (Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton), Not My Girl (Jordan-Fenton and Pokiak-Fenton), The Secret path (Gord Downie and Jeff Lemire).

Feb 14 Public Engagement Committee, Choices Transitional Shelter . Choices still no word from BC housing re extension. McNally asked about transition to long term rehab which was put on the table some time ago. Our Place still hopes for that outcome.

Feb 10, 11 Where Are Your Keys endangered language method of learning and instruction at Songhees Wellness Centre, re Lekwungen language and other languages of the BC coastal region. Representatives from WSANEC, Musqueam, more. Song from the 40's about keeping languages alive very affecting; sung by a person who was given permission. Hul'q'umi'num' Elder Freda told a story and demonstrated how the language learning could work. Hul'q'umi'num' is a Coast Salish language that has been spoken by First Nations on Vancouver Island, including those in the Cowichan Valley,

since long before Europeans arrived in the area. There is an app with twelve words for cell phones. The Songhees Wellness Centre holds Lekwungen language learning sessions every Monday evening.

Feb 9 Leadership professional learning and discussion with Associate Superintendent Deb Whitten and Superintendent Piet Langstraat, SJ Willis.

Feb 8 Our Place Tour personal learning.

Feb 7 Oaklands School tour with Principal David Hovis

Jan 30 Public Engagement Committee

January 26 Vic High PAC substance abuse panel: In response to the fentanyl overdoses and ongoing dangers to anyone who uses street drugs, the Vic High PAC engaged a panel to speak to parents /anyone in the community and answer parent questions.

January 24 Choices Transitional Shelter: Meeting at Choices (former YDC)

January 18 Sir James Douglas PAC : Class configurations possibilities given the BCTF Supreme Court of Canada win; head lice strategies.

January 17 Vic High Stadium meeting : Alumni, Vic High principal. Attended as Vic High group of schools liaison. Long term plan, very active alumni group, big plans for the future with this stadium project.