

EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, October 14, 2014

The Education Committee met on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. In attendance were Trustees Harman Pandher (Chair) and Ron Burnett, President Rae Figursky, DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei and Assistant Superintendents Roberto Bombelli and Heather Hart.

1. Aboriginal Youth Leadership and Mentorship Program

District Vice Principal, Aboriginal Education, Brandon Curr presented a proposed new partnership initiative with Outward Bound Canada and the Burnaby School District. Outward Bound Canada is planning to deliver an Aboriginal Youth Leadership and Mentorship Program in Burnaby Schools. The yearlong program will be focussed on Aboriginal students who are District Student Advisory Council members (DSAC), as well as emerging Aboriginal youth leaders from each secondary school. The goal of the program is to develop student self-esteem and self-confidence through shared group experiences, while working collaboratively to give something back to their schools and community.

Students would be recruited into the program through a series of workshops and referrals from Burnaby secondary school teachers, counsellors and administrators. The first cohort would involve 53 students with a focus on increasing numbers in the second cohort.

**YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, October 14, 2014**

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

### **3. FORCE Society for Kids' Mental Health**

Sue Dorey, Manager—Youth Services, updated the committee regarding the work of the FORCE Society for Kids' Mental Health (FORCE), a provincial non-

program for all kindergarten children. The program, which began last year in Burnaby, has provided support to date for 131 families whose kindergarten children required glasses. Children are encouraged to get their vision examined and will receive one free pair of eyeglasses under the program by accessing one of the participating Doctors of Optometry. The program will be available again this school year and families can access this benefit until August 31, 2015.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

## **6. New Business**

### **a) Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative Congress**

The Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative Congress was held in Kelowna at the end of September. Sue Dorey, Manager – Youth Services, attended the Congress with participants from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Ministry of Education, Doctors of BC, Kelty Mental Health, The FORCE and Community Service Agencies. The focus of the Congress was to highlight the work of the Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative. The Collaborative has facilitated the creation of local action teams to identify system barriers which inhibit the number of children, youth and their families from rece

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