EEPSA Executive Meeting – Feb 2/2014
 Location: Unit 1- 7140 Barnet Road

In attendance : Selina Metcalfe, Jonathan Dyck, Vanessa Norris, Bruce Ford, Laurelei Primeau , Kerri Lanaway, Alyson Gilbert, Dallas Plensky
meeting called to order at 10:30 am
1)    Catching up (all)

2)    BCTF business
PSAC update (SM and JD) – still looking for feedback on new curriculum draft ; ongoing discussions regarding upcoming bargaining ; Jonathan will be speaking about environmental issues at the AGM. Selina will be at the next PSAC where she will be giving details of the “Actively Engaged” conference in Williams Lake.

Financials update (LP) – Laurelei - currently we have approximately $7000; upcoming expenses - Victoria teacher celebration event in June $1000, $1000 towards EECOM leadership clinic at Nipika Lodge (Bruce will send details)

Membership update (LP) – exec members need to make sure their memberships have been updated (some renewed at the Oct. conference ; current number is 186 – 84 BCTF members and 102 affiliates.

***ACTION*** : Selina will check into memberships that may not have been processed yet from Oct.

3)    Outreach and communication (VN) - Vanessa will take over updating members on the list serve from Patrick. On Twitter, EEPSA has 360 followers – Jonathan is in charge of posting items at this point. As a new goal, Vanessa is welcoming new members and connecting them with resources and social media links (this will be discussed at subcommittee meeting later today). Dallas suggested contacting district leaders to let them know what we are doing .

***ACTION*** : Dallas will contact each district to raise our profile and connect with teachers.

Call for action on an integrated response initiative about EE (or lack thereof) in the new curriculum documents with the IEL and other partners (SM). Milt McLaren has sent out a petition asking EEPSA to protest the removal of environmental education from the new draft. IEL can circulate the petition but more difficult for EEPSA to take charge of. We can certainly respond and give our feedback to BCTF by end of March. Bruce proposed that we put together a group to attend the “Walking the Talk” meeting in Feb. and provide our feedback. Vanessa will look at posting a discussion page on the EEPSA website and Jonathan encourages a conversation on our Facebook link. After a quick discussion it was decided that EEPSA should send a group response to the Feb meeting and to the PSAC.

 ***ACTION***: Bruce will take charge of this response and will share with the exec.

4)    Previous business

Reporting to BCTF about October pro-d (SM) – will be discussed in sub-committee and shared with group

5)    Upcoming business

New Teacher’s Conference (VL, KL, DB) – table has been reserved for Friday and Sat Feb 28 and March 1.

On Friday , Jonathan and Bruce can share duties. Donna will supervise the table on Sat. Vanessa and Kerry are presenting.

Annual General Meeting  (ALL) – members will check out possible locations and costs; tentative date May 24

EECOM Leadership Clinic (BF) - April 26-29 2014 Bruce thanked everyone for EEPSA’s contribution to the conference. There will be 8 teams in total including an EEPSA team. The application is due by Feb 12. Teachers attending would need to take off Friday, Monday and Tuesday. EEPSA could send an integrated team involving members from other partners. Bruce mentioned the Alberta Earth Council will be having a conference in Canmore just prior to the EECOM clinic. In 2015 the two groups will combine to co-present an EECOM conference*.*

Discussion followed : focus? Looking at the new curriculum or developing our communication strategies? Potentially Laurelei, Jonathan and Kerry may be able to attend representing eepsa. Members will check schedules and see who can make it.

“Actively Engaged” conference in Williams Lake (SM) May 2 – Selina will be presenting “Community Mapping” and “Place-based Creative Writing” for Grade 5-12.

Upcoming events:

Bruce will send out info on upcoming events with Metro Vancouver

Next meeting: March 11, 2014 at 5:30

General meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm with sub-committees meeting after a lunch break.