

EEPSA Executive Meeting

February 29, 2016

Location: White Spot, Lougheed Centre

In attendance: Selina Metcalfe, Laurelei Primeau, Bruce Ford, Kerri Lanaway, Jasmine de Vera-Pilling, Barb Hinton and Donna Boucher

Apologies: Dallas Plensky, Jonathyn Dyck, Ryan Barfoot

Meeting called to order at 6:11 pm

1) Catching up (all)

2) BCTF business

PSAC update (JD)- Jonathan could not attend so please see attached for details; Bruce provided more info on the “Superconference” in 2017 – some PSA’s are holding out on joining; every PSA with over 100 members would contribute \$10 per person; each PSA will provide workshops, ideas for keynotes etc.; concern is uncertainty around financials and memberships.

ACTION: Could Dallas solicit feedback about the draft curriculum on the EEPSA website and listserv using the questions listed by the bctf and circulate them as a survey monkey?

Financials update (JP)- EEPSA has Ed Hamill Fund \$3,223.70;

current surplus of \$10,731.29 which includes a grant of \$5,250.00

Expenses this month: Burnaby SD TOC expenses \$616.00

Website hosting	\$215.02
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Membership update (LP) – down to 130 members – 92 bctf and 42 are expiring in March; reminder to everyone to make sure all memberships are

renewed. ACTION: Laurelei will send out a reminder to members to renew their membership.

At the AGM we will consider membership renewals sent out four times a year with a preface by exec and attach it to anyone whose membership is about to expire. This would be done to time with the solstice sharing events.

3) Outreach and communication (DP) – Dallas was unable to attend

4) Previous business

New Teacher's Conference (DB, JD) Donna noted there seems to be a lower turn out than previous conferences, but many teachers did show interest in EEPsA and were given contact info through website. For future showcase opportunities, it was suggested EEPsA make sure they have more copies of Green Teacher magazine and bookmarks to give to participants (freebies). EEPsA members attending the conference also requested more info on the website regarding upcoming events and reminders as well.

CASJ conversation (JD, BF, DZ, KL) – great connections; they are very keen on being connected with EEPsA; various workshops and events – meet at least 4 times a year; Jonathan and Kerry are taking the lead on getting EEPsA involved. Kerry said we should make sure there is an EEPsA rep at each of their events. Selina noted they would like to integrate what EEPsA has to offer.

Responding to the new curriculum : Classrooms to Communities (C2C) and regional leadership clinics partners meetings (SM, RB, BF, KL, PR) – Kerry joined Ryan, Bruce, Patrick and Selina to put together a plan to support teachers on using place-based education in the new curriculum. Great fit with what has been developed. We are looking at resources and sharing with others who may need support. EEPsA is also trying to grow our own specialists to help with local connections. So we need affiliations with other PSAs to bringing EEPsA to small communities

5) Upcoming business (including budgeting release time, travel and funding for upcoming pro-d events.)

Selina outlined various events coming up (see event list below).

Discussion followed regarding the value of such events, workshops, networking etc. Selina suggested a map on the website that would list active EEPsA members around the province who people could connect with. Exec members present felt this is a worthwhile communication tool. Selina suggested we focus our energy on local stories and updating our website over the next few months since we already have the PSA connection at the Superconference.

Bruce noted the value of WILDBC workshops in making connections and memberships for EEPsA. "We build capacity by doing things". 50% of the population is connected to the Vancouver area, but we build capacity by expanding our reach to the other parts of the province through these workshops.

MOTION: Selina made a motion that EEPsA support funding at the Leadership Clinics at Invermere, Williams Lake and partnership at Barkerville. The \$5000 funding would be for travel and accompanying expenses, as well as potential release days. Motion seconded by Laurelei. Motion carried.

Event list:

April 23-26: Leadership Clinic with CBEEN in Invermere (SM, KL, RB)

May 3: Classrooms to Communities: using your watershed as a teaching resource at Surrey pro-d day (SM)

May 12-13: Leadership Clinic with Cariboo LSA and Rural Schools PSA in William's Lake (SM, JD)

June Solstice event – SPEC in conjunction with AGM on June 23. Selina will bring in Squamish connection and resource sharing.

ACTION: Bruce will confirm the date and book it.

August: EECOM 2016 in Manitoba, EEPSA members are invited to attend and present. Send invitation out on listserv.

September/October: Classrooms to Communities: Using stories of place workshop in Barkerville with local pro-d committee and BCTELA (SM, KL, JD, BH).

October PSA day: EEPSA and BCTELA co-presenting inquiry process on teaching stories of place.

Superconference : set for Oct. 2017 – several PSA's will join together; more details to come (all exec members will be involved).

WEEC- David will share info at next meeting; possible change of date.

ACTION : Jonathan asks steering committee at next WEEC meeting for update on the role EEPSA will play and the time commitment involved.

In other business:

Ryan Barfoot sent in:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MBIpo_ODY8wr6K6XU2yoBU8_5m-8bDhZMsM6dUisg0c/edit

Q1: Does the EEPSA Exec see value in this for its members / mandate?

Q2: If yes, the key organizations (OBC, AEE, OCC and DOE) would like to know how they could garner EEPSA support?

Ryan has already provided some feedback to the other team members based on the communications below and they were very receptive. He is available by phone if there are any questions/concerns.

Any other thoughts / concerns would be appreciated for Ryan to take to the larger group.

Discussion followed - Exec members thought this sounded like it could be a cool opportunity for our members for that day. Some questions that were raised were: How can we make sure this is engaging for a public school teacher who does not run a dedicated outdoor education program? Can the conversation be framed within the idea of engaging learning environments and pedagogies in the new curriculum? Can we generate EEPsA memberships for attendees? Is the organizing team looking for funding, organizational capacity, both? Updates on this saved for next meeting.

Next meeting in April- date and location to be sent out.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49.