

General Membership Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2017 at the Vancouver School Board



In Attendance: Kathren Clarke, Amy Shoup, Michael Frankowski, Danielle Warren, Shawn Silverstone, Karen Klein, Spencer Gray, Angela Ferraro, Sally Stacey, Lara Truong, Vicki Swan, Shannon Spencer, Angela Olson, Steve Knight, Tracy Godfrey, Laura Schwertfeger, Kevin O’Donnell, Lynne Bolen, Rick Oliver, Steve Cann, Ramona Hamilton Cook, Sandy Prentice, Elizabeth Cho-Frede, Duncan MacLeod, Crystal Tanfara, Deirdre Annett, John Cunnian, Karen Symonds, Geoff Johnston, Gretchen Tomborella, Sheri Wakefield, Shawn Shahi, Reid Litster, Jeff Davis, Lisa Bartlett, Ronda Bell, Mark Leiper

Meeting called to order by Vice-President Amy Shoup at 8:59 am

9:00 am-12:00 pm – General Meeting

Informational items

1. Additions to and approval of the agenda

- Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Lynne Bolen, Seconded: Michael Frankowski, *Carried*

2. Review and approval of minutes from last meeting – Danielle Warren

- Motion to approve the minutes as circulated: Sandy Prentice, Seconded: Ramona Hamilton Cook, *Carried*

3. President’s Report – Michael Frankowski

- Budget: Simplified, transparent, and now includes a contingency fund
- Pro-D topics for 2017-18 (show of hands)
 - Outbound student mobility (KC to ask Rob): 5 interested
 - Intercultural competencies (DW/others): 8 interested
 - Internal marketing within Districts (RB): 10 interested
 - Homestay (no lead): 2 interested
 - Conflict resolution (MF researched Raj Dhasi for a December 30 min or 1 hour session, \$800-\$1000): 12 interested
- MOE quarterly update
 - Waiting period as the government transitioned
 - Meeting will take place November 14 (MF and KC to attend)
 - Relationship remains strong
- MSP
 - While relationship with MOE is strong, MSP not as much
 - Little interdepartmental or stakeholder engagement

- Several phone calls and letter sent has resulted in no change to MSP's plan to suspend coverage.
- Guard.Me has designed a stop gap solution (1 pm agenda item).
- Motion to approve the report as circulated: Steve Knight, Seconded: Sandy Prentice, *Carried*

4. Executive Director's Report – Kathren Clarke

- 2018 Mission update (Italy & Czech Republic October 2018)
 - Student Marketing will coordinate as BCCIE cannot accommodate organizing the event this year due to staffing challenges and neither of these areas are designated as BC government focus areas for business development.
 - If 18 Districts attend, the cost will be \$4992 per District. 20 Districts= \$4884.
 - The event will be held in Prague (include agents from Balkans/Russia) and Milan (Italy, French and Swiss agents)
 - 20 school districts will have the opportunity to participate with consideration given to the 2 districts that did not make the lottery draw for the Vietnam and Thailand Mission of January 2017.
 - Districts will be given the opportunity to put their names forward later this fall. If more than 20 districts apply we will draw names for participation and take a wait list.
 - Draft Brochure distributed by email with Sept 11th meeting documents.
- MOE
 - Slow over summer with the change in governments but communication remains positive and has picked up.
 - Next face to face with MoE Brian Jonker is scheduled for November 14.
 - There is a new Minister and Deputy Minister for Advanced Education that will need to be updated on the IE file.
 - Alan Schroeder accepted the new Director position in MOE and will be responsible for Global Development.
 - The Refresh of the 2015 homestay guideline is complete and will be publicized in the next few weeks. (Representation from IPSEA, FISA, AVED were consulted).
 - Marketing Packages complete and ready for distribution at 10:15 am.
 - IPSEA has been invited to put a formal request for funding for future projects.
 - **ACTION:** KC to put a letter together to ask for a grant from MOE
 - MOE pathways networking session for December will not happen, as feedback from stakeholders was not positive.
 - Staff at MOE IE are working on plan to divide Districts into regions and assign one staff to each region.
 - Grant Sheppard, Director
 - Alan Schroeder, Director
 - Dwayne Cover, Coordinator
 - Geoffrey MacDonald, Policy Analyst
 - Chrysstena Isaac, Project Manager
 - Elmas Atabay, Research Officer
 - Hold Dec. 5 as a Pro-D day. They will put together an engagement activity.
- BCCIE
 - Pro-D events

- Will continue to circulate a suggestion list for Pro-D events for the 2017-2018 school year. Jot down ideas.
 - Similar to past, BCCIE will try and coordinate Pro-D events to align with our IPSEA members meeting dates.
- IRCC
 - Very little communication from IRCC this past quarter, as focus was on restructuring and the refugee crisis. Angie Larocque, who used to be main contact is now Director of Policy. KC will start building relationship with new contact.
- MSP
 - Changes effective July 1, 2017 have a negative impact on our sector.
 - Conference call August 15 demonstrated a major disconnect between what MSP believes are good options for our students and what is actual.
 - MSP seems to have limited interest in engaging with K-12.
- Motion to approve the report as circulated: Karen Klein, Seconded: Deirdre Annett, *Carried*

5. Treasurer's Report – Shawn Silverstone

- Simplified line items in budget to 9 lines.
- **ACTION:** Budget to be sent out to members.
- Have received 50% of the invoices sent out. Please send in as soon as possible.
- If main contact for District has changed – please update list.
- Motion to approve the report as circulated: Ramona Hamilton Cook, Seconded: Geoff Johnston, *Carried*

6. Pro-D Presentation – Sandy Prentice

- Regulated International Student Immigration Advisor (RISIA) presentation.
- Sandy distributed 'cheat sheet' for members' use.

7. Distribution of MOE Marketing Materials – Alan Schroeder

- Goals for his role – develop relationships with global partners in an effort to diversify the international student body in BC and support offshore schools.
- Each District to receive 3 table runners, 3 table top banners, 100 study in BC pens and 6 lanyards.
- Table top banners left/returned to MOE as the majority did not function properly.

Discussion and Action Items

1. MSP/Private Insurance (members)

- KC - In discussions with MSP, we hoped to convey that K-12 is a significant sector and minor students are vulnerable. MSP not receptive, and there will not be any changes as they are creating policy for the larger population in mind.
- Guard.Me visited the executive committee meeting on August 16 to present an amendment to their top up plan which would cover the gap between study permit renewal-restoration.

- Leverage your relationships with local post-secondary partners who have already developed and established relationships with productive agents – perhaps they can help with recruitment, student interviews/testing or providing a pathway option.
- Working with good schools to develop partnerships will be key to opening this market.

2. Homestay Guideline Recommendations and BC Health Authority Regulations: Allowing 3 international students per homestay – Sandy Prentice

- Community Care and Assisted Living Act has changed and does not include homestay. No longer a 2 international student maximum, but a cap of 4 minors in a household (including resident children).
- MOE still believes a 2 student maximum is a good best practice, but it cannot be policed.
- Check municipal bylaws / tenancy branch as homestay guidelines may contradict your municipal laws.

3. CAPS-I Update – Jeff Davis

- Lisa Williamson is the new marketing and recruitment coordinator. She is currently working on the app.
- Conference is in PEI May 6-9, 2018.
- Bonnie McKie and Sheila currently in India on exploratory mission in southern India.
- Bonnie asked for members to submit survey data as soon as possible (it was sent out in June). Information submitted is private.
- There are four new committees – governance, conference planning, digital media and leadership competencies.

4. Graduation Requirements – Italian students – Ronda Bell

- Many Italian students want to graduate in one year. Technically this could be done with additional summer, night or online courses.
- Districts vary in what they allow. Some have allowed grad in one year for these students, others are still deciding how to handle.

5. YVR Reception

- Request for IPSEA to meet with YVR regarding new incoming international student reception.
- Can take up to 8 hours due to processing times for study permits and is a terrible welcome for new students.
- Can YVR create an international student area to connect with families?
- KC – was working with BCCIE to try and get a reception area (like YYZ).
- **ACTION:** KC will reconnect with BCCIE to get the conversation happening again and will put on the agenda for when KC and MF meet with the MOE executive in November.

6. Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) – Angela Ferraro

- Hosted by Burnaby in November.
- Participants can become a qualified administrator of the IDI for their District – this type of session is not normally available in BC.
- September 22 – BCCIE Symposium on Intercultural Learning would be good entry Pro-D into this area.

7. Volunteer Work Experience Hours for Italian Students – Spencer Gray

- Students need 300 hours to graduate in Italy (300 hrs).
- Agents often ask for 30 hours or x hours per semester/year.

- In some Districts students keep a spreadsheet and have the volunteer work hours signed off. Other Districts do not offer to do this or make any arrangements for students because it is not part of the BC grad requirements.
- Potential issues with students volunteering in workplaces as they are not covered by WCB.

8. Staff Pro-D event – Michael Frankowski

- **ACTION:** Strike a planning committee with a mix of staff and administrators.
- Please pass along this info to staff, or recommend someone to join.
- Tentative date: sometime in April.

1:00-1:30 pm – Guest Speaker – Jamie Hampson/Sean Harman from Guard.Me

1. Top Up /MSP disruption coverage

- Only applies to Districts that are on MSP, plus the “top up” Guard.Me Plus plan.
- Guard.Me will create a rider to cover students who have not received new study permits yet, are in restoration and experience a break in MSP coverage.
- This coverage only available for students who have applied for their study permit within 30 days of expiry.
- If students have permits denied, they will be covered for 30 days, giving them time to leave the country.
- Guard.Me requires consensus from all Districts. The plan is currently \$25/month a student, with study permit coverage gap included the price goes to \$28.50, and if Districts want to cover pre-existing conditions, it will go to \$30.
- No consensus. Districts should send Kathren their preferences by email.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:20 pm

Motion to adjourn: Amy Shoup, Seconded: Geoff Johnston, Carried.

Reminders

- ⇒ Next meeting is December 4th, 2017 at Vancouver School Board
- ⇒ Additions to the agenda can be made start of meeting prior to adopting the agenda