



Post-Secondary Education Joint Task Team Meeting

Minutes

May 16, 2017 – Day 1

55 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, ON
5th Floor Board Room

Attendees

First Nations: Thane Bonar (BC), Monique Carroll (NS/NFLD, ALT), Shirley Fontaine (MB), Rebecca Jamieson (ON), Treena Metallic (QC), Tracey O’Reilly (NB), Bernadine Walking Bear (SK)

AFN: Janice Ciavaglia, Julie Williams

INAC: Nicole Allegri (HQ), Barbara D’Amico (HQ), Anick Giguere (QC), Karen Martin (ATL), Alison Olney (BC), Maurice Pelletier (HQ), Don Scott (MB), Bernadette Wabie (ON)

Observers: Henry Bigthroat (AB), Eric Conlon (INAC), Evelisa Genova (COO), Sandra Waback (Universities Canada), Ninar Younes (INAC), Jean Yru (INAC)

Regional Perspectives

Region	Perspectives and Highlights
BC	Budget 2017 \$45M <ul style="list-style-type: none">- First Nations unanimously concerned about timing regarding release of \$45M PSSSP/UCEP Program Guideline <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 4.2 – many communities on both sides of border. This is not adding costs as

	<p>the FN bands still have their pot. This doesn't cost more money.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Propose: To stop review of guideline recommendations given the restrictions of the Yes/No - This conversation is about First Nations Control of First Nations Education and this should be the basis of the new program. <p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concern that there are multiple processes aside from this national Task Team. - We are not stakeholders. First Nations are partners in collaborative process. - Respect diverse needs of regional approaches. Not to impact work that has already been developed. - Evaluate data to understand trends: Where do students struggle? - Concern that INAC/Canada is already talking to Universities without involving FN. This process should be led here in this Task Team. - NIEC/CCOE to evaluate if this Joint Task Team will be the First Nations voice for the collaborative review of Federal PSE Programming. - There should be a review of Federal PSE programming as distinct from First Nations based on the unique relationship, not as part of the overarching umbrella of Indigenous.
QC	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review FN post-secondary institutes to evaluate what is working, best practices. - Co-defined commitment to implementation - Canada Student Loans is seen as an attempt of removing control away from First Nations communities and will not support the use of loans. - Accountability to First Nations. <p>PSSSP/UCEP Program Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QUESTION to INAC: What is the reasoning behind a yes/no on recommended changes? - Request: Terms and Conditions of the guidelines. What are program changes? What are policy changes? What has to go to Treasury Board? We would like to know which guidelines fit under each of these. -
MB	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns about the broadness of "Indigenous" in scope of comprehensive review. Indigenous is inclusive of First Nations, Metis, Inuit. - First Nations distinct lens to the review process. - Legislation to support core funding for First Nations Post-secondary institutions. - Flexibility, meeting student needs, supporting students. Deliverology theory: set goals and increase outcomes for FN students, without thinking inside a budget. - INDSPiRE: How many of their recipients are actually offered to FN students.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarity: Under budget the review is under the PSSSP and Metis, Non-Status and Inuit are considered under INDSPIRE. Clarity of language: Indigenous can sometimes mean specifically First Nations. <p>PSSSP/UCEP Program Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canadian Residency requirement: Many communities have people living on both sides of border. They are still counted in the Band allocation. - American Universities can be cheaper for students, allowing for greater PSE access. - Set of principles for moving forward: Student centered, not cost based. -
NB	<p>Budget 2017 \$45M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This year, students making case for funding, NB has to change the way they look at their budget for year because of choices from last year. Uniquely were forced to go through something that was sent by INAC last year through Free Tuition Access Bursary (formerly TAB). <p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Student voices: Capture reality for students. - Request: What will NOT be reviewed? Loans should not be an option of funding First Nations students. - Transparency of the Memorandum to Cabinet. Who controls this data and this review? - Process needs to be joint. From current perspective it is currently between Canada and Canada to do the review. FN need an equal place at the table. FN to be distinct table in ensuring that this is JOINT TABLE. <p>PSSSP/UCEP Program Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommend to put UCEP to extend from 1 year to 2 years. - Take the restriction out of guidelines and put the decision making power into the communities. - Proposed: “INAC PROVIDES LIMITED FUNDING” – truthful and protects the bands and it continues to speak to the question about why this is limited. - Request: Clarity about “official length of the program as defined by the post-secondary institution”. There are two interpretations a) Timing = 4 years or maybe 5. B) Student Centered approach as defined by institution based on credits. Concern that students are timing out without completing their degree. Concerns for interpretation. - Compliance is disconnected and program centered, not student centered. Interpretation challenges.
ON	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removing barriers to access and getting students through to completion. - Nation Building/Community Capacity Building and how community priorities can be part of student success.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider no tuition cost to First Nations students and look at income support in other areas. <p>PSSSP/UCEP Program Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If guidelines will not change immediately, ON would like to review and understand how this will affect students over next few years.
SK	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Question to INAC: What is the process for releasing \$45M funding? When will funding be released? - First Nations to be an equal partner in review process. <p>PSSSP/UCEP Program Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreement among First Nations that change to PSSSP will not happen quickly for 2017-2018 year. - INAC overruled a FN decision. When a FN is not following their own political guidelines of the First Nation students should have opportunity for appeal. - We're losing more students than we're graduating because the guidelines are too restrictive.
AB	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concern about surplus PSE funds. What happens to it? FN want access to it at a later date. - Core funding to tribal colleges, reinstating core funding?
INAC	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scope is for all Indigenous (FN, Metis, Inuit, Non-status) people, this table is a significant role for First Nations. - 2 years to review the current processes of federal suite of programming. - This is a review of the entire federal suite: training related to job creation, ESDC (E and social development Canada) programming, INAC PSE programming, ESDC assets, student loans. How can we build something that meets the needs of this demographic? - INAC and Employment Social Development Canada are leads on review, tasked by Government of Canada. - Recommends that this Task Team go forward with a recommendation to the CCOE that Task Team wants to be the First Nation lead. <p>Budget 2017 \$45M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focusing on equalization, those who have received historically less, these funds will bring them up to equality then whatever is left in balance can be distributed. - Block funded will be included as part of calculation that is included. - No date or firm commitment on how or when funds will be distributed.

	<p>Regionally Based Technical Discussion Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal based funding to support regional based technical discussion - IROs, FN, a few organizations are able to make proposal, but INAC would ideally like to see only one proposal per region. - 6 million for leadership dialogues (K-12) and Regional Technical Dialogues - Funds to be distributed by end of July 2017. <p>PSSSP/UCEP Program Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PSSSP Guidelines cannot be changed until 2018-2019 fiscal year. No changes will be made for 2017-2018 fiscal year. - 2.2 - remove word Canadian requires Treasury Board approval - 4.2 - removing Canadian residency requirement - cost containment approach. Change is not possible because funds are not available. - Going to TB in fall for source of funds. In that time frame use these recommendations to seek approval for 2018-2019. - Anything more than cosmetic will be *policy* changes and will need to go through cabinet. - TB = program change (Yes in the guidelines recommendations) - Cabinet = policy change (No because they need to go to Cabinet)
INAC BC	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will this review fund “secondary” items i.e. job creation, labour market agreement (ESDC). Or is this a strictly a review of INAC. - As civil servants we must remain open and not “protectionist” of the mandate. FN must lead and we must, as the government, need to understand how to work between “silos”. - <p>PSSSP/UCEP Program Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urgency is required in order to move forward quickly to affect change of programming and guidelines. - 4.2 / b FN want the flexibility to do what is best for them. This is another limiting piece.
INAC QC	<p>Comprehensive and Collaborative review of all federal post-secondary programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PSPP: Concern about what will happen immediately to create change? Will we have changes for the fall? Review of multi-year funding and who has access?

Agenda Item	Action or Recommendation
PSSSP/UCEP Recommendations to guidelines review	<p>ACTION: INAC to take 5.3C “Remove maximum number and it should be the true cost from their institution if the community chooses to do so.” Back for further clarification.</p> <p>ACTION: INAC to respond to NB about clarity surrounding language and interpretation surrounding “official length of the program as defined by the post-</p>

	<p>secondary institution” by confirming with the region about interpretation. Ensure that DCI interprets NB interpretation.</p> <p>ACTION: Barb with return for June meeting with further recommendations.</p> <p>ACTION: Any FN region who has not offered recommendations can do so now.</p>
<p>Collaborative Review of Federal PSE Programming</p>	<p>Action: INAC to understand how lifting the 2% cap will change and what the increase will be.</p> <p>ACTION: INAC to validate on INAC side that this Task Team will be the First Nations lead on the collaborative process along with INAC and ESDC.</p> <p>ACTION: FN to make FN recommendation to CCOE about this Task Team to be the First Nations lead on the collaborative process of reviewing Federal PSE programming as equal partner to INAC and ESDC, separate from Inuit, Metis, Non-Status.</p> <p>ACTION: INAC to confirm clarity of language that the collaborative review is indeed a review for FN, Non-status, Metis, and Inuit and that it is not just for First Nations.</p> <p>Action: AFN to work on wording for recommendations.</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Separate FN Recommendation to CCOE: Separate Reviews 1) First Nations 2) Inuit 3) Metis 4) Non-Status</p>