



**MINUTES for the  
University of the Fraser Valley  
INDIGENIZATION COMMITTEE OF SENATE  
September 26, 2017  
5 pm to 8 pm  
Student Union Building – Abbotsford**

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**Present:** Dianna Kay, Terry Prest+, Clarence Pennier, Peter Geller, Shirley Hardman, Lorna Andrews, Vandy Britton, Wenona Hall, Luanne Yellowfly, Tracy Ryder Glass

**Guests:** Sukhi Brar

**Regrets:** Eric Alex, Cheryl Gabriel, Colleen Hodgson+, Mark Point, Judy Swakum, Greg St. Hilaire, Anita Vaillancourt, Michael Chutskoff, Cody Dumas+

**Resources:** Janice Nagtegaal (recorder)

+ waiting for Senate confirmation

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**1. Welcome and Opening**

**2. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair**

Mark Point was nominated as Chair for the Indigenization Committee of Senate for this academic year. No other nominations were received and Mark Point was acclaimed as Chair. (S. Hardman/C. Pennier)

Luanne Yellowfly was nominated as Vice-Chair for the Indigenization Committee of Senate for this academic year. No other nominations were received and Luanne Yellowfly was acclaimed as Vice-Chair. (S. Hardman/T. Ryder Glass)

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Additions to the agenda:

- 5. Witness Blanket
- 6. b. Video Created by Social Work Students
- 6. c. Indigenous Studies Course

**MOTION:**

**It was moved and seconded that the September 26, 2017 agenda be approved as amended.  
Carried. (W. Hall/V. Britton)**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:**

**It was moved and seconded that the May 17, 2017 minutes be approved as presented.  
Carried (L. Andrews/P. Geller)**

**5. Witness Blanket**

The Witness Blanket will be exhibited at UFV until November 8, 2017 at Evered Hall in the Student Union Building (SUB) on the UFV Abbotsford Campus. The artist, Carey Newman, wanted the Witness Blanket to educate people's hearts and change their minds on the history of residential schools in Canada.

The opening ceremony for the Witness Blanket was on September 13, 2017 and included a number of speakers and an honouring ceremony for Josephine Charlie. The ceremony acknowledged Josephine for her work and appointed her as Honorary Care Taker of the Witness Blanket.

**6. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**a. Senate Motion re: Territorial Acknowledgement**

Senate supported the motion that came forward from the Indigenization Committee of Senate at its May 5, 2017 meeting. Senate asked that the Indigenization Committee of Senate bring forward ideas that will help support and encourage territorial acknowledgement in every course. The committee continued the discussion of ways this could be done and made a plan to move this discussion forward. Ideas included creating a teacher's guide for the territorial acknowledgement (webinar, PD workshop, Q&A video and/or document). Information about the territorial acknowledgement should be available any time (create or build on a website).

**ACTION**

P Geller will start an inventory of ideas shared to date and what has been done. This will be brought back to the committee to review and then the recommendation will be sent to Senate (as requested by Senate).

**ACTION**

To keep momentum going, P. Geller will also take what has been talked about so far to Senate as a part of the recommendations requested by Senate: endorsement of the territorial acknowledgement video & provide PD opportunity and information about the territorial acknowledgement.

**b. Video Created by Social Work Students**

The students who created the video made the suggested changes from the Committee and the final version is now ready. The revised version of the video was shown to the Committee. Making the video available should be part of the recommendations to Senate on how to support and encourage territorial acknowledgement in every course.

**MOTION**

**It was moved and seconded that the Indigenization Committee of Senate endorse the territorial acknowledgement video created by students in Social Work and encourages the video to be used widely. (W. Hall/C. Pennier)**

**Carried**

**MOTION**

**It was moved and seconded that a letter of thanks be sent to the students who created the territorial acknowledgement video recognizing them for their work. (S. Hardman/V. Britton)**

**Carried**

**c. Indigenous Studies Course**

The course noted in the minutes from May 17, 2017 under 6.b. is a course for faculty and staff that would be developed by Teaching & Learning.

## 7. Membership Update

There are a number of vacant spots for community members on the Committee. S Hardman is willing to approach individuals suggested by members. If members are willing, they can also help community members with the form and encourage others who may be interested.

### **ACTION**

Electronic membership form to be circulated to Committee members.

## 8. Strategic Planning for Indigenization at UFV

It was suggested that it is important for the University to work on a plan and then go to the community for feedback. The community has already identified their top priorities (including recruitment, transition support, and a degree Indigenous Studies) and the subcommittee should keep these in mind when discussing the Strategic Plan. It was noted that the University of Victoria has recently implemented an Indigenous Strategic Plan and could be a good resource. Other guiding documents would be the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the recent Principles respecting the Government of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples.

### **ACTION**

The subcommittee (M Point, L Andrews, D Kay, and P Geller) will look at the Committee's Vision & Mission statement and see where the University is and where it can make more progress.

## 9. Indigenization Update

As part of the Witness Blanket exhibition, there will be a President's Leadership Lecture Series in October. Speakers will be Shelagh Rogers, Cecelia Reekie, and Chief Dr. Robert Joseph. In addition, a course is also being offered which will incorporate the Witness Blanket and the Lecture Series (see Attachment #2 of meeting package for further details).

V Britton and S Hardman offered a PD event for teachers about the Witness Blanket.

The Reconcili-ACTION Forum (June 2017), organized jointly by UFV and Sto:lo Tribal Council had a great affect and members are hearing many good things coming from the event.

## 10. Dates for 2017/2018 meetings:

- Tuesday, November 28 from 5 pm to 8 pm (at CEP)
- Tuesday, February 27 from 5 pm to 8 pm (at CEP)
- Tuesday, April 24 from 5 pm to 8 pm (at CEP)

### **Information Items:**

- University of Victoria - Indigenous Plan:  
<https://www.uvic.ca/vpacademic/resources/indigenousplan/>
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>
- Principles respecting the Government of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples  
<http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/csj-sjc/principles-principes.html>