

DISTRICT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Fostering Discrimination-Free Working and Learning Environments

Tuesday, February 1st, 2022

Via Zoom

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Raquel Steen Central Okanagan Public Schools	Kyle Cormier Central Okanagan Public Schools	Kristina Luchka (recorder) Central Okanagan Public Schools
Jesse Bruce COPVPA	Violeta Malfair International Education	Simone Gauthier CUPE 3523
Leigh-Ann Yanow COTA, Harmony Day Chair	Kelly Hanson COTA	Lori Dawson Bedard COTA
Dr. Catherine Broom UBCO	Nicola Baker COPAC	Wan Wan Kelowna Community Resources
Mehak Parihar District Student Council	Shannon Rowe District Student Council	

REGRETS

Norah Bowman Board of Education	Shannon Gallivan COPAC	Jill Voros COPVPA
Joanne DeGuevara Indigenous Education	April Strickland Indigenous Education	Marilyn Green District SOGI Lead
Tracey Beckett Parents for Inclusive Education	Anima Anand Kelowna Community Resources	Deven Basdeo Kelowna Community Resources

GUESTS & PRESENTERS

Graham Johnson Learning Technology Dept. Central Okanagan Public Schools

This meeting is taking place on the Traditional Unceded Territory of the Sylix Okanagan People.

1. AGENDA

Raquel Steen

Approval of the **February 1st, 2022** Agenda – APPROVED by the committee without additions or changes.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Raquel Steen

Adoption of the **December 2, 2021** Minutes.

The committee ADOPTED the Minutes of the December 2, 2021 District Human Rights Committee meeting without additions or changes.

3. PRESENTATION

3.1 **Harmony23 Website Update**

Graham Johnson / Leigh-Ann Yanow

Harmony23 website: <https://www.harmony23.sd23.bc.ca>

The word harmony represents the commitment of Central Okanagan Public Schools to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for all individuals in our community. This website is a place where our school community including educators, students and parents can access information on DEI topics. The goal is to have one place for our community to access resources, learning stories, policy, list of terms and the connection to Harmony Day. Thank you to the committee members for their efforts.

The Committee was given a virtual run through of the Harmony23 website noting recent updates and an overview of changes made. Some feedback given was to add the Harmony Day website and maybe merging with the Harmony Day site.

3.2 Harmony Day (February 16, 2022)

Leigh-Ann Yanow

Harmony Day website: www.harmonyday.ca

(a) Harmony Day t-shirts:

Central Okanagan Public Schools will celebrate the 15th Annual Harmony Day on February 16, 2022. The theme this year is "H.O.P.E. We recognize that everyone in our school community is on a path towards the journey of hope. The canoe symbolizes our journey, and the paddles represent that we move forward as a community. Using the word HOPE, we share the acronyms of harmony, optimism, perseverance, and empathy. The Harmony Day logo is on the sleeve with the word HOPE in English, French and Okanagan on the back.



(b) Living Library Harmony Day Virtual Conference:

Details are still being finalized but on February 16th between 9:30 am -12:00 pm, we will be hosting a virtual Living Library opened to all secondary, middle and elementary schools with grade six students. Speakers from our community will be joining us through zoom to share their stories of hope. We are excited to share the amazing list of speakers that we have organized for the day. Schools will be receiving all posters to put up on schools.

Living Library Speakers

Carey Newman - Artist of the Witness Blanket
Brent Carmichael - Author of *Diversity & Empowerment*
Karah Hopgood (MBSS graduate) - Creator of *Humans of Boucherie*
Cheryl Bear - Award Winning Indigenous Singer Songwriter
Scotty Berg (KLO student) - Singer Songwriter
Frieda Whales - Drag Artist
Bree Sproule - Accessibility Advisor UBCO
Hakem Al Elesmer & Maysaa Al Mustafa (RSS student) - Stories from Syria

Information about the logistics of the conference including zoom links, list of the times for each presenter, speaker bios and directions on how to ask the speaker questions will be sent once finalized.

(c) Harmony Day Package:

Each school will be delivered a package before Harmony Day. The package will include a variety of useful resources to be used on Harmony Day and throughout the year. The list of resources can be found in the link and are listed in the Harmony Day Newsletter.

Information & promotional material (Harmony Day Newsletter and links) will be forwarded to Committee. KCR offered to post on KCR's social media and Eblast (newsletter) and DSC (District Student Council) members offered to post on student's social media outlets.

4. **DISCUSSION**

4.1 **Codes of Conduct**

Jesse Bruce / Raquel Steen

Schools were invited to submit their codes of conduct for review in the fall. Committee was provided with 6 school codes of conduct for review.

School codes of conduct reviewed: Canyon Falls Middle, Central Program & Services, Davidson Road Elementary, Ecole Glenrosa Middle, Okanagan Mission Secondary, and Pearson Elementary

Comments shared:

- Rights and responsibilities are clearly stated
- A few years ago schools were asked to add Rights & Responsibilities and information about Human Rights
- Inquiry regarding policies or admin procedures purpose around the Code of Conduct.
- Suggestion to have Student Council review high schools' codes of conduct.
- Suggestion to have PAC review individual schools' codes of conduct

5. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

5.1 **Multicultural Calendar**

Raquel Steen

Multicultural Calendar was distributed to all schools. Poster version sent to district sites as well as, HRES/SBO and CUPE/COTA offices. The electronic calendar has also been added to the District internal site and to the Harmony 23 website

5.2 **Human Rights Month (February 2022)**

Leigh-Ann Yanow

Can access on District website/dashboard.

Includes: Black History Month, Inclusive Education Month, Harmony Day, Random Acts of Kindness Day & Bullying Awareness/Pink Shirt Day

Additional Information Item

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - second community training session(s)

Dates: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 and Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Location: Rotary Centre for the Arts

E-module will be ready in March.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Zoom meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Upcoming District Human Rights Committee Meetings

Thursday, April 21, 2022 HES Room 3 (4-5:30 pm)

Thursday, June 2, 2022 HES Room 3 (4-5:30 pm)