



## MARIANNE VANBUSKIRK – ATTENDANCE REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

### BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION, THOMPSON-OKANAGAN BRANCH, FALL MEETINGS

Event Dates:

Fri. Oct. 4th 3:00pm-10:00pm

Sat. Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> 7:30am-12:30pm

*Respectfully honouring SD19's four nations on whose land we live and learn:  
The Sinixt, the Secwepemc, the Ktunxa, and the Syilx Okanagan.*

#### Sessions:

| Speaker/Facilitator                                                           | Background/Title                                    | Highlight                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alan Chell                                                                    | Trustee, SD19 Board Chair                           | Friday 3:00-5:30pm Welcome Ceremony – land acknowledgement, opening drumming song, exploring history, land, and well-being tour.<br>Revelstoke Performing Art Centre located at Revelstoke Secondary School and Begbie View Elementary School and Early Years Centre |
| Jade Berrill                                                                  | Director of Learning for Outdoor learning school    | Friday 7:45-10:00pm<br>How exploring this history relates to current day learnings. How honouring and taking care of the land is part of current teachings. Roots of Resilience                                                                                      |
| Tomo Fujimura                                                                 | Selkirk Tangiers Ski Guide & Avalanche Professional | Exploring history of Revelstoke including the climate/snowpack history as well as history of the Japanese workers                                                                                                                                                    |
| Allan Chell<br>Sarah Zimmer<br>Sasha-Emily Walsh<br>Wendy Rota<br>Jodie Allen | SD19 Revelstoke Board of Education                  | Saturday 7:30am Breakfast networking                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Tammy Sowinski                                                                | Executive Director, BCPSEA                          | Saturday 8:30am History, process, and Timelines for Bargaining with CUPE and BCTF                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Leah Ward, SD58                                                               | Professional Learning Committee Chairperson         | Saturday 10:15am Building Skills for Advocacy (Round Table Workshop) and                                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                        |                                       |                                                                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                        |                                       | subsequent sharing. Please see sample advocacy letter to the political parties. |
| Barb Sheppard,<br>SD67 | Thompson-Okanagan Branch<br>President | Saturday 11:00am-12:30pm Branch Business Meeting                                |

**Value of Conference/meeting:**

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| Friday afternoon – excellent tours of facilities. These are community schools which are the hub of the Revelstoke Community. State-of-the-art buildings with intense planning 10 years ago by educators, trades, operations staff, district leadership. |
| Friday evening – some applicable knowledge re: avalanche history. Meaningful thought with regards to outdoor education and the benefits to students by being outdoors as much as possible.                                                              |
| Saturday morning sharing, round table. Good to hear what other districts are doing. Similar “coping” measures with budget shortfalls and lack of Ministry funds.                                                                                        |
| Saturday mid-morning presentation re: Bargaining had some good information – slides/presentation to be added to the BCSTA Portal.                                                                                                                       |
| Saturday round table and full group sharing regarding building skills for advocacy. The sample letter is very useful, especially during the election. Group encourages Boards to send the letters to the candidates.                                    |
| Saturday Branch Business Meeting informative – good sharing of highlights by each district. Trustee VanBuskirk shared the development of SD83’s new logo and described the components and meaning of each one, as well as the colours of the logo.      |
| Grateful to SD19 for hosting and inviting speakers to our Branch gathering. Very honoured to hear an elder speak about the gratitude for the educators and their roles in positively impacting all students, Indigenous and Non-Indigenous.             |

**Materials available for other trustees (upon request)**

**YES**

**Recommendation or follow-up:**

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| Perhaps before configuration of schools it would be worthwhile to visit specialty classrooms.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Be familiar with advocacy letter and the three “asks” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruitment and Retention of Staff</li> <li>• Capital and Deferred Maintenance Funding</li> <li>• Inclusive Education and Student Success</li> </ul> |

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_SD 83 Trustee Marianne VanBuskirk\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_Oct. 9, 2024\_\_\_\_