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COALITION OF NUNAVUT DEAs

COALITION OF NUNAVUT DEAs MEETING  
OCTOBER 4, 2007  
MINUTES

**Executive Present:** Jeeteeta Merkosak Chairperson  
Simon Kuliktana  
Jake Ikperiar  
Johnny Kootook  
Jesse Idlout  
Berndard Putulik Sr.  
Lori Idlout (sitting in for Christa Kunuk)  
Alice Ladner – Executive Director

**Start – Meeting called to order by Jeeteeta Merkosak at 9:15 a.m.**  
**Opening prayer – Jeeteeta Merkosak**

**Review of Agenda**

No additions or changes requested.

**Review of DEA concerns from August 2006 and May 2007 meetings**

Hunter Tootoo (Iqaluit Centre MLA) is interested in hearing our concerns.

Some of the Coalition concerns were addressed and have been included in the new Education Act. The concerns not addressed were discussed at the Education Act Steering Committee meetings held on October 2 and 3.

One of the members asked if money would be made available for dialectical differences between communities. It was noted that all dialects were recognized in the new Education Act. Members noted that communities may have to hire someone locally to do translations.

A request was made to include recognition for elders as instructors – many elders teach courses such as sewing and building kamotiks (sp). Grades 6 to 12 lack Inuktitut instructors and Inuit cultural instruction. Elders could be used in these areas. This suggestion was discussed at the Education Act Steering Committee meetings and is under consideration. The executive would like to see it added to the document for the benefit of the minister.

**COALITION BUDGET FOR 2007-2008**

The Executive Director reviewed the budget with the members and answered any questions.

**Motion 04-10-07-01 that the Coalition budget for 2007-2008 be approved.**

**Moved by:** Bernard Putulik Sr.

**Seconded by:** Jesse Idlout

**PASSED**

## COALITION LOGO

The executive decided to hold a Nunavut-wide competition for a logo for the Coalition. It was felt this would be good exposure for the Coalition. Information on the competition will be sent to all schools, community newspapers and the CBC.

The winner will be chosen by the Coalition Executive, and will win a cash prize, plus two airfare tickets.

A letter will be sent to First Air and Canadian North asking for a donation of two return tickets from the community of the winner.

## COALITION POLICIES

The Executive Director had a policy prepared for the payment of Honoraria and Per Diems to be paid to the Coalition members for meetings and travel. The Policy was approved with rates set for Honoraria and one regulation added.

**Motion 04-10-07-02** that the Coalition Honoraria and Per Diems Policy be approved with the following changes: The rates be set at \$170.00 per day or \$85.00 per half day. One further regulation be added: "In the event that the executive members are prepaid, if the member does not attend the meetings, the payments received must be paid back." It was also advised that all members supply contact numbers for travel.

**Moved by:** Simon Kuliktana

**Seconded by:** Bernie Putulik Sr.

**PASSED**

## COALITION BY-LAWS

It was noted that when the by-laws were presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May, 2007, some clarification was needed for **By-law #5 – Obligations of Members** and **By-law #8 – Directors, Section b)** and **Section f)**. The changes to By-law #5 and By-law #8, Section f) were accepted. The suggested change to By-law #8, Section b) of extending members terms was withdrawn.

**Motion 04-10-07-03** that the following changes to the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs be made: ***By-law #5 – Obligations of Members – ‘Each member shall pay an annual membership fee at the time and in the amount determined by the members at each annual general meeting.’***

However, no fee amount was set. This line is changed to read: – ***‘Each member DEA shall pay an annual membership fee of \$100.00. This amount will be reviewed by the membership at each annual general meeting.’***

### ***By-law #8 f): Vacancies***

If a member of the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs executive resigns from the District Education Authority of which he/she is a member, there is no comment to any effect on his/her membership in the Coalition Executive. The following addition has been included in **By-law #8, section f): ‘If a DEA member resigns from his/her DEA or is not re-elected in an election year, said member must also offer their resignation to the Coalition Board and the Board will then appoint a replacement for the balance of the resigned member’s term.’**

**Moved by:** Bernie Putulik Sr.

**Seconded by:** Simon Kuliktana

**PASSED**

## ELECTIONS OF CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON AND TREASURER

The By-laws state that a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer be selected at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting. All the members agreed that Jeeteeta Merkosak should remain as Chair. As the Executive Director performs the duties of the Secretary, no election for a Secretary was necessary. Elections were held for Vice-Chair and Treasurer.

**Motion 04-10-07-04 that** nominations be opened

**Moved by:** Simon Kuliktana

**Seconded by:** Bernard Putulik Sr.

**PASSED**

**Nominations for Vice-Chair:**

Johnny Kootook

Jake Ikperiar

Jesse Idlout – Declined

**Motion 04-10-07-05 that** nominations for Vice-Chair be closed.

**Moved by:** Simon Kuliktana

**Seconded by:** Bernard Putulik Sr.

**PASSED**

**Nominations for Treasurer:**

Bernard Putulik Sr. - Declined

Jake Ikperiar

**Motion 04-10-07-05 that** nominations for Treasurer be closed.

**Moved by:** Simon Kuliktana

**Seconded by:** Bernard Putulik Sr.

**PASSED**

Johnny Kootook was elected as Vice-Chair

Jake Ikperiar was acclaimed Treasurer

**DEA Steering Committee**

Cathy McGregor was invited to attend the Coalition Executive meeting to talk about and explain the purpose of the DEA Steering Committee.

There is some confusion by DEAs with the DEA Steering Committee and the Education Act Steering Committee.

Cathy McGregor explained that these are two different Steering Committees. The Education Act Steering Committee only meets with the Department of Education (DoE) to discuss the new Education Act. The DEA Steering Committee was formed a year before the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs, and was supposed to be concerned only with Language of Instruction.

There is now some confusion over the purpose of the Steering Committee which needs to be clarified. The Coalition of Nunavut DEAs could decide to have the Steering Committee under their authority. If the Coalition chooses to do this, then the Coalition will decide who the members of the Steering Committee are. Also, money would be given to the Coalition to run the Steering Committee.

Cathy stated that the Steering Committee is like an advisory committee or working group for Language of Instruction. The Committee takes information back to the DEAs. She also felt it would strengthen the Coalition.

The Coalition would like NDMS to have representation on the Steering Committee to ensure that children with seeing and hearing disabilities are provided for.

Cathy McGregor will get information on support and funding for the Coalition if they take over the Steering Committee. The Coalition will consider this proposition.

**EDUCATION ACT – ROAD AHEAD**

The Coalition should meet to discuss the new Education Act, then take the information to the news media and the communities. After the new Education Act has been presented, the Coalition Executives will choose a date for a teleconference and have the executive director set it up.

Bernie noted that he would not be available between November 6-9.

The Coalition wants to develop a mechanism to ensure other communities voices are heard. They also want to look into how to use partnerships to strengthen the voice of the Coalition. The executive director will add these two points to the document: The Nunavut Education Act – the Road Ahead.

**RESEARCH PROJECT**

The Coalition reviewed the Research Project presented on developing a pilot project in fostering stronger school/community/parent partnerships in selected communities. The executive requested that the executive director get more information on the project. The Coalition Executive believes that the although the Coalition is set up as a watch dog for the DEAs, it also needs to expand into other areas to assist and inform the DEAs across Nunavut.

**GOALS FOR COALITION FOR 2007/2008**

Some of the members suggested a visioning workshop with their DEAs to develop goals for the Coalition.

It was decided to plan a Visioning Workshop for January with all the DEAs across Nunavut. The executive director will look for funding for the workshop. She will also develop a mechanism to find a way to reach all DEAs and have the information go back to the Coalition.

**Meeting Adjourned: 2:10 p.m.**

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Date

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Chairperson

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Date

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Office Administrator