



Celebrating Diversity Committee Minutes June 1, 2011

Call to order: 12:08

Present:

Trudy McCormick, Anne McCoy, Diane Ross, Kathy Mueller, Nicke Baird, Peggy Loyie, Sharon Tibbs, Sue Carlson, Heather Jarvis, Tammy Noble, Linda Plumridge, Steve Latimer

Mission Statement – “Working together to create communities that celebrate diversity by actively practicing and promoting dignity, respect and inclusiveness.”

Project Updates:

- **CCMARD: Trudy McCormick** - We are waiting to hear back from National office re first nation participation
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- **Respect Campaign – Trudy McCormick**- The Respect presentation was rolled out last meeting, The School board presentation is on June 24, The sub-committee is looking for more volunteers to practice the presentation on. It is scheduled to be presented to the inter agency meeting in Atikokan in September
- **Pepsi Challenge** keep voting,
- **Rachel’s Challenge: Steve Latimer** - The presentations are set to go in the schools Sept 28-30, Steve has been making presentations to community organizations for monetary support. So far he has commitments for slightly over \$6000. It will cost just over \$10,000 to bring in and present to all the students in the RR district. Hoping for additional support to have Banners for each school as well as books for school libraries. For more information contact Steve or check out www.rachelschallenge.org

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- **Young Women's Initiative – Heather Jarvis** – Self-esteem program piloting in JW Walker in September. Hope to have it in high school in January, She is applying for funding from RBC. This program is currently planned for after school working with small groups of girls. They will have 5 – 1 hour sessions that are designed to improve self-esteem and leadership qualities. She would like to have this in all schools in the district. Eventually she would like to have it develop into a part or fulltime position. She is looking for partners for program funding, Big Brothers/Big Sisters runs a similar program. In order to use their program an Agency would be needed to administer it. .
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- **Mentoring – Anne McCoy** – Is interested in creating an event which includes mentoring and celebrating women, Mia Person <http://fftimes.com/node/238716> is willing to help to develop a program to help young women. We should recognize and celebrate women in our district, who are achieving, whatever their field may be. Women need to be celebrated in the media, which will boost the image of women. Let Anne know if you are interested in taking part.

- **Adjournment**

- **Next Meeting** – Wednesday, July 6, Fort Frances Public Library Technology Centre The committee will not meet in August.

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