

April 20, 2024  
Yarmouth, NS

## Federation of Foster Families of Nova Scotia

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### Minutes

Call to Order

8:59 am

Attendance

Western - Rob Richardson  
Northern - Carolann Zegray  
Eastern - Sheila Hill  
Central - Patricia Cain, Anne Jennex-Roberts  
African NS - Iona Smith  
Mikmaq - Darlene Arseneau-Kennedy  
Executive Director - Gary Landry

Regrets - Maryann Burke, Lloyd Sweeny, Evelyn MacInnis,  
Cindy Poulette.

Land Acknowledgement, Mission Statement and Teamwork  
Agreement Read.

Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved with the following amendments  
-Jordans Principal.  
-Funding to inactive associations.  
-Orientation of New Board Members and Commitment  
form.  
-Update from Coordinator of Foster Care  
-Recognition of Foster Parents retiring and Board  
Members leaving the Board.

**Motioned SH(Eastern) 2nd AJR(Central)**

Approval of Minutes

**Motioned DAK(Mikmaq) 2nd IS(African NS)**

Approval of Financials  
Ending March 31,24

ED will ask Comptroller about posting to the Because You  
Care account. Not showing some postings on the  
financials

**Motioned SH(Eastern) 2nd AJR(Central)**

## ED Report

Motioned DAK(Mikmaq) 2nd IS(African NS)

Action Plan from Board Chair read. Will Be an ongoing obligation from Board Chair to maintain.

## Old Business

- Service Agreement - Met with the Coordinator of Foster Care. The Federation needs a financial letter with the budget to attach to the service agreement. Expected to have the service agreement April 22, 24 for the Board of Directors for review.
- AGM Update - Presenters have been locked in and an agenda has been finished. Honorary foster parents were approved.
- Strategic Plan - Information sheet for the AGM will be sent out with the AGM package.
- ED Succession Plan - Sending updated job description to the Coordinator of Foster Care by April 26, 24.

## New Business

- Did You Know Emails - Very successful informing Foster Parents. This month will be a combination of informative facts for foster families.
- Regional Elections - New Board members joining the board from Mikmaq, African NS, Northern and Eastern Regions.
- Clarity on Regional Election Voting online - Rules and Guidelines to be established. Legal Counsel has concerns about online voting, feels that voting should be done in person or by mail in ballot.
- Vote and represent regions - Looking for clarity on who can run for what regions. Will seek Legals advice on this matter.
- Correspondence from Lawyer - Legal feels as though the Board should be using the OHS policy that DCS uses for its employees for federation employees.
- Bylaw Revisions - By-law revisions completed by the board will be sent to the membership for review at the AGM.
- Community Members at Large - Board will seek meeting with Legal regarding this. Board members are very receptive to this idea providing DCS is winning to fund additional boards spots. Will send amended by-law to membership for vote at AGM.

**Motioned DAK(Mikmaq) 2nd PC(Central)**

**Motion Passed**

## New Business

-Inactive Associations - Inactive Associations will not have there room and expenses paid by the FFFNS to attend the Annual AGM. ED will send correspondence to all association presidents letting them know.

**Motioned PC(Central) 2nd IS(African NS)**

**Motion Passed**

-Update Coordinator of Foster Care - concerns brought forward about the PATH program and accountability around monies being sent out. DCS cannot attach parameters to this funding as it is a violation of human rights to do so. Board will continue to have conversations around monitoring the use of this money. The Board requested to meet with the individuals from DCS running the program.

- June Board Meeting - Will be held in person at the FFFNS office.

-Block Funding/Redesign - Frequently asked questions reference sheet provided by DCS distributed to Board members.

-Board/Staff Communication - All board staff communication should go thru the board chair to ED then to staff.

-Orientation New Board Members - Chair to look after this task and draft a letter of commitment for new members to sign.

-Retiring Foster Parents - The Board would like to develop a committee that tracks this and other personal foster family issues (ie death of a spouse, Board member parent passing etc) so that the proper card can be sent on behalf of the board.

Adjournment

4:05pm

Respectfully Submitted *Chelan Zegray*