

## **April 25, 2025, Federation Office Board Room - Dartmouth**

### **Attendance**

Darlene Arseneau-Kennedy (secretary)  
Lloyd Sweeny  
Mary Ann Burke  
Ann Jennex-Roberts  
Darlene Francis  
Patricia Cain  
Susan Pace (E.D)

Rob Richardson (Board Chair)  
Wendell Fraser (Vice Chair)  
Brenda Pettis  
Allie Pitre  
Glenda Marsman  
Sheila Hill (Regrets)

### **Committee Work from 6-9pm**

## **April 26, 2025 Board Meeting, Federation Board Room - Dartmouth**

**Attendance** - All those present on Friday night were present on Saturday meeting

**Approval of the agenda** -with a change ( to clarify that a call for nominations for the Mi'kmaq seat was sent out in early April)

**Approval of Executive Director's report** – Susan shared highlights including an update regarding the Ambassador Program

**Board chair action plan** – Rob's highlights were:

- AGM preparation – lots of planning for presenters and booths with Susan – virtual meetings to review presentations. Site visit to Best Western in Liverpool. Wrote intro letter for AGM package
- Communication and follow-up around service agreement – letter sent April 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Attended virtual committee meetings

### **Old Business**

- A request has been put into the Minister of Opportunities and Social Development to meet with the Board. The Minister will be attending the 2025 AGM.
- Discussion on how to best include foster caregivers with meet & greets.
- Hotel rooms for board members – Tabled to meeting at the AGM.
- Discussed child care expenses for board meetings.

### **New Business**

- AGM
  - Schedule of events
  - Discussed fees for non-foster caregivers.
  - Honorary foster caregivers and community partners at the AGM.
  - A motion was made to accept the AGM's committees' nominations for honorary Foster Caregivers at the 2025 AGM Made by Ann, seconded by Darlene F.

Dr. James Chandler and Gary Landry are Co -Honorary Foster Caregivers along with Brenda and Brian Wolfe

- Banquet will be 6-8:30 guest speaker Arydth Venoit ( fostered for 50 years).
- Discussion- Virtual component for workshops for those who couldn't attend.
- Request from DCS to add 2 community members at large will be shared at the 2025 AGM and voted on at the 2026 AGM.
- E-mail addresses – check to see that they are current for foster caregivers.
- Discussion – Post board meeting New mileage rate is .5923km, 1% increase in the cost of living for foster caregivers.
- Strategic plan update
  - Connect with hub homes
  - Block funding - Advocate shared issues
  - Promote FFFNS
- HR/OHS update – Ready for board and staff to review and send to lawyer before finalization.
- Policy committee – Executive expectations will go to FFFNS lawyer before changes are made.
- Compassion committee – a motion was made to accept the guidelines of the compassion committee. Allie moved, seconded by Brenda.
- Diversity committee gave an update on what they are working on.
- By Law changes- there are none this year's AGM.
- Mi'kmaq mainland board member seat - a call went out for nominations and no one has stepped forward.
- Kinship foster caregivers – Board chair will follow up with FFFNS lawyer.
- Board laptops – an antivirus program will be put on board laptops.
- Yearly board member self-evaluation will be completed and sent to the board chair.
- Governance training- Board chair will reach out to Wanda Herbert to schedule a new date

Ex-Director evaluation was successfully completed.

Meeting adjourned 1:50

Respectfully submitted,

*Darlene Arseneau-Kennedy*

Darlene Arseneau-Kennedy  
FFFNS Secretary