



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57
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For Immediate Release

COMMUNITY VOICES KEY DIRECTIONS
SECOND ANNUAL STAKEHOLDER EVENT HOSTED

School District No. 57 (Prince George) hosted its second annual Community Voices Key Directions stakeholder consultation on Friday, September 22, 2017.

Key stakeholder representatives were invited to join with SD 57 leaders at the Van Bien Training Centre for lunch and discussion. Board Chair, Tim Bennett welcomed participants, emphasizing the importance of community engagement within public education. Elder, Ronnie West, offered a traditional song, calling on a “new day” as we began our conversations in a good way.

The event provided an opportunity for Superintendent of Schools Marilyn Marquis-Forster, to outline the school district's ongoing plans for enhancing student success and to hear from community voices. Key priorities within the school district were highlighted and staff responded to questions from stakeholder representatives. Community members contributed verbal and written feedback to the work of public education within School District No. 57.

On May 16, 2017 the Board of Education approved specific goals and measures of progress to be used during the implementation of the ***School District No. 57 (Prince George) Strategic Plan 2016-2021, INSPIRING LEARNING ANYWHERE***. The plan is structured around four main goals: Learning, Community Engagement, Opportunity and Sustainability. Stakeholder consultation is an important community engagement strategy. School District No. 57 seeks to achieve; ***A community of parents, guardians, families, community organizations and community leaders who are broadly and meaningfully engaged in students' learning.***

The children and youth of School District No. 57 (Prince George) enjoy strong community support. In attendance were representatives from municipal and provincial governments, Mayor Lyn Hall, Councilor Garth Frizzell and MLA's Mike Morris and Shirley Bond. Also represented were, Lheidli T'enneh, McLeod Lake Indian Band, Prince George Native Friendship Centre, Carrier Sekani Family Services, Northern Health, YMCA of Northern BC, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Prince George Public Library, Office of the Fire Chief, early childhood services, as well as post-secondary partners, University of Northern British Columbia, College of New Caledonia and Industrial Training Authorities, North and South. Many in the group also brought along personal connections to public education in School District No. 57. School District Union leaders from CUPE Local 4991 and the Prince George Teachers' Association joined the conversation as did the PG Principal and Vice-Principal Association president.

School District No. 57 is excited by the work ahead and looks forward to reporting back to community stakeholders in September of 2018 at the Third Annual Community Voices Key Directions Event.

Further information regarding the ***School District No. 57 (Prince George) Strategic Plan 2016-2021, INSPIRING LEARNING ANYWHERE***, can be found at www.sd57.bc.ca. The school district ***FRAMEWORK FOR ENHANCING STUDENT LEARNING*** is also accessible on the website.

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