

Alberta Chinese Language Consortium
9:45 am, May 3, 2011

Videoconference Meeting: Confucius Institute in Edmonton, Woodcroft Learning Center, Edmonton and Manning Centre, Calgary

Chair: Stuart Wachowicz, Director of Confucius Institute in Edmonton

Attendees:

Edmonton: Stuart Wachowicz/Wei Li, Confucius Institute in Edmonton (CIE); Doreen Poon-Phillips /John Yee, Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association (ECBEA); Norman Sieweke, Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education (IISLE); You Fu, Chinese Language Advisor; Joe Wu, U of A; Magdalena Tundak, Edmonton Catholic Schools; Christina Bexte, Alberta Education

Calgary: Elaine Schmidt, Calgary Board of Education (CBE); Esther Di Gianvittorio, Calgary Catholic School District (CCS)

1. Call to order and welcome

Stuart Wachowicz welcomed everyone.

2. Approval of the Minutes from October 5, 2010

Amendment: Magdalena Tundak presented an update for Edmonton Catholic instead of Xenia Bubel.

Norman Sieweke suggested that handouts in the forms of attachments should be attached to the minutes when emailing out to members. Magdalena Tundak moved to approve the minutes, Joe Wu seconded. Carried.

3. Old Business arising from the minutes

Archiving of Consortia information

Wei Li had received information from Joe Wu and Norman Sieweke. CIE is in the process of organizing the archives. Elaine Schmidt will send previous minutes to CIE for archiving.

4. Updates

Chinese Language Advisor

You Fu suggested CIE to give lectures to students in the Catholic School District. You Fu will meet with Stuart to discuss details.

Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association (ECBEA)

- Doreen Poon-Phillips reported that ECBEA is continuing working on promoting the Bilingual program. Past events included: Chinese New Year celebrations, Ice on Whyte, fund raising for Japanese relief. Individual school has own fund raising event. All the fund raising money will be donated to the Red Cross's Japanese relief fund in June.

- ECBEA will help out farmer's market in end of May to promote the program to the main stream.

- The award ceremony will be on June 12th at City Hall.
- ECBEA thanked CIE's financial support on printing postcard for advertising.
- John Yee added that Peter Wong, Fred Locke and himself had asked Calgary consulate for support for the coming Heritage day in August. If not successful, ECBEA would like to have the support from CIE.

Calgary Board of Education

Elaine Schmidt thanked CIE for the support of book purchase in China. Another bilingual school, Midnapore School, was opened.

Calgary Catholic School

Esther Di Gianvittorio had met with You Fu. She looked forward to the project with Chungching province.

Edmonton Catholic Schools

Magda Tundak reported: China program suspended, rising awareness of Chinese for future generation. District works hard to promote Chinese language and culture. She hoped that district staff can visit China in the future.

Edmonton Public School Board

- Norman Sieweke reported that all 5 bilingual elementary schools' teachers participated in the "Can Do Statement" Workshop. They will meet again on Oct 7. You Fu would like to be involved in other meetings or sessions.
- Norman introduced Chinese Language Portfolio and Language Passport and will send updates to Elaine Schmidt.

Red Deer

N/A

Alberta Education

Christina Bexte reported that Xenia Bubel will be off 1 year. She will send attachments to Calgary.

University of Alberta

Joe Wu reported that the number of students minor in Chinese Language is still limited. He had contacted Ryan Dunch in regards to increasing the number of courses offered to students. Some staff in the faculty is interested in the Liaocheng summer camp project.

Confucius Institute in Edmonton

- Stuart Wachowicz presented the Confucius Institute Update.
- Christina Bexte will post the ASBA Bursaries information in ALIS site.
- Chinese Bridge Summer Camp in China registration deadline has extended to May 7, 2011. Wei will send information about the Chinese Bridge summer camp and the Chinese Testing Summer Camp to Elaine Schmidt, copy to Norman, to advertise in Calgary.

5. New Business

Suggested projects for consideration by the Consortium

Stuart Wachowicz suggested that anyone who is interested can write a one page idea, suggestion and guideline to circulate for feedback. Stuart, Norman and Christina will have a brief meeting on Thursday at CIE. Elaine Schmidt will send input through email.

6. Other Business

n/a

7. Next Meeting: Oct 17, 2011, 9:30am at CIE

8. Meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.