

**Alberta Chinese Language Consortium**  
**1:10 pm, October 29, 2012**  
**Videoconference Meeting: Confucius Institute in Edmonton,**  
**Learning Centre at Woodcroft, Edmonton**  
**Calgary Catholic School District**  
**University of Calgary**  
**University of Alberta**  
**(Amended on May 27, 2017)**

**Chair:** Stuart Wachowicz, Chair of Confucius Institute in Edmonton Board of Directors and Advisory Board

**Attendees:**

**Edmonton:** Stuart Wachowicz, Wei Li, Confucius Institute in Edmonton (CIE); Doreen Poon-Phillips, John Yee, Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association (ECBEA); Xinxin Fang, Chinese Language Advisor; Xiaoting Li, University of Alberta; Norman Sieweke, EPSB/IISLE

**Video Conference:** Helmut Kaiser, Micheline Theoret-Fernandez, Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD); Shu-ning Sciban, University of Calgary; Joe Wu, University of Alberta

**1. Call to order and welcome**

Stuart Wachowicz welcomed everyone.

**2. Approval of the Minutes from June 25, 2012**

Stuart Wachowicz requested a motion to adopt the minutes, Doreen Poon-Phillips so moved, Wei Li seconded. Carried.

**3. Old Business arising from the minutes**

Stuart Wachowicz will email Lillian Osborne and Queen Elizabeth's contact to Helmut Kaiser again (**Action**).

**4. New Business**

- ASBA will offer scholarships again this year; 2 for practicing teachers and 2 for teachers in training. These will be sponsored by the Confucius Institute in Edmonton.
- Stuart Wachowicz presented the summary of Professional Development responses.(see attachment)
- CIE will invite the Director of the Confucius Institute in Portland Oregon to hold a PD day in February. The topic will be Easy Learning Chinese Characters.
- CIE will invite Dr. ZHOU Fang to hold a PD workshop. The topic will be Modern Chinese Language and Teaching Methodology.

- If teachers cannot attend the workshops in person, the workshops can be recorded and posted in the CIE website.
- It was suggested to arrange PD workshops for teachers teaching subject areas in Chinese in the Bilingual program.

## **5. Updates**

### **University of Alberta**

- Joe Wu reported the language art program is under curriculum reform
- Xiaoting Li reported there are about 230 students taking Chinese language courses; this number does not include students in the Chinese Literature studies.
- A new IB transfer credit program will be expected in 2013-2014. Students obtaining a 6 or up in IB Mandarin will be awarded 3 credits. Placement in advance language courses will be based on interview.
- It was brought up whether Chinese 30 will be qualified for credit transfer.
- On behalf of ECBEA, Doreen Poon-Phillips thanked East Asian Studies for the effort putting in for the credit transfer for IB Mandarin.

### **University of Calgary**

- Shu-ning Sciban reported there are minor changes in the Chinese program in University of Calgary.
- An extra 400 level course is created. There are now 2 Chinese courses offered at U of C.
- There are 308 students learning Chinese; 17 students are majoring Chinese in the East Asian Studies program.
- U of C offered all 6 levels of HSK exams in October.
- U of C is planning to offer 2 HSK exams in 2013.

### **Calgary Catholic School District**

- Helmut Kaiser reported that by the end of the year, the Chinese program in Father Lacombe School will no longer be available.

### **Edmonton Public School Board**

- Norman Sieweke gave an update on IISLE:
- Enrollment in Chinese Bilingual and Chinese Language & Culture.
- Partnership work with Confucius Institute in Edmonton.
- EPSB Can-Do Statements for Chinese Language Arts
- Chinese Bilingual Cluster Meetings
- Literacy Foundations for Bilingual & French Immersion Programs
- Off to a Good Starts
- Second Languages Matter PD Day in Feb 15, 2013.
- Detailed report referred to the IISLE@EPSB update.

### **Alberta Education Chinese Language Advisor**

Xinxin Fang gave an update. See handout for detailed report.

## **Confucius Institute in Edmonton**

Wei Li gave a CIE update:

- Hanban Special Scholarship summer Camp in China was a success.
- The first on-line HSK test was done in October and a workshop for teachers was held.
- CIE Mandarin and culture classes to the community have started again for this year.
- Culture support to the school districts includes the EPSB, Athabasca, Camrose and Red Deer has begun.
- An intensive Mandarin pilot course for the federal government was started in September.
- Chinese Writing Contest award ceremony will be in November.
- The award ceremony for the Acupuncture Association Scholarship for 2<sup>nd</sup> language students will be at the end of November.
- 13,000 book and resources for the 5 high school Confucius Classrooms in Edmonton have arrived.
- Tourism Training program has started in October.
- Donovan project has started phase 1 and 2. This is a project to enable the CIE to better promote the learning of Chinese language and culture in the region.
- Wei Li informed the group about the Confucius Institute Conference which will take place in Beijing in December 2012.

## **Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association (ECBEA)**

- ECBEA participated in Canada Day Celebration, Capital X and Heritage Day in the summer.
- ECBEA had a discussion with EPSB regarding another school site in the southwest, not much progress.
- ECBEA continues to promote the program. Advertising bill boards will be up in January.
- A fundraising project for a new van for the Edmonton Chinatown Care Centre has started.
- Attended East Asian Studies' 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary at U of A.

## **6. Other Business**

- Norman Sieweke will share the Can-Do Statement information with Xinxin Fang to give support to a junior high in the Calgary.
- To maintain the partnership between the bilingual schools and their twinning schools is challenging. CIE is planning to invite Dr. Qi Tao, the Education Commissioner of the Shandong Department of Education to come to Edmonton for the renewal of the agreement between Shandong province and the CIE.
- The CIE will also sponsor a visit to China for the 5 new principals of Chinese programs in Edmonton Confucius Classrooms to enable them to

meet with their partner schools in China; in the hope of increasing the activities between the bilingual schools and their twinned schools.

**7. Next Meeting:** 9:30 am , Monday April 22, 2013 at CIE

**8. Meeting adjourned**

Norman Sieweke motioned to adjourn meeting; seconded by Doreen Poon-Phillips. Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm.