

School District No. 50 (Haida Gwaii)

NOTES of the MASSET SCHOOLS STEERING COMMITTEE
Via TEAMS

Date: **April 6, 2021** Time: **5:30 PM – 6:30 PM**

PRESENT WERE:

Claudette Lavoie, Tahayghen	Dan Schulbeck, GTN Rep	Verena Gibbs, TAH Principal
Warren McIntyre, HGTA Executive	Regina Williams, VOM	Kevin Black, Secretary-Treasurer
Tammy Gates, HGTA Executive		Lao Peerless, Operations Manager
Carey Stewart, Superintendent		

Absent:

Adeana Young, Trustee
Keshia Chutter, DPAC Rep

1. Welcome to Steering committee

Carey Stewart welcomed the group.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HAIDA TERRITORY

Carey Stewart provided an acknowledgement of the Haida Territory.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

4. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS NOTES

4.1 **February 9, 2021, Steering Committee Notes - consensus**

4.2 **March 1, 2021, Town Hall/Steering Committee Notes - consensus**

5. MASSET SCHOOLS UPDATE

5.1 **Notice of Intent update (NOI)**

The committee was advised that the district posted a NOI for Station One Architects (SOA). This document was posted on BC Bid for a period of time and the district had no challengers and were able to award architectural and seismic work to SOA

5.2 **Request for Proposal work**

The Committee was informed that SD50 has received 5 Letters of Intent indicating they will be submitting a proposal to the District. The RFP period closes on April 19, 2021.

Open discussion:

Question: The construction management firm will they have someone on site for every step of the construction process, will somebody be there to make sure that the plans are fulfilled for accuracy?

Response: Yes, there will be a representative of the construction management firm on site to make sure that the work is proceeding as planned.

5.3 Town Hall debrief

There was discussion that after the previous Town Hall it was clear that some stakeholders were not aware of the process to date or have seen the concept drawings to date. It was noted that should future town halls occur it would be prudent to review the concept drawing(s) or any other pertinent information the steering committee feels appropriate. In addition, it was noted, SD50 will need to ensure the virtual links work; we were advised that some people could not join the meeting which was disappointing.

General Comments:

It was stated that stakeholders have asked if the families related to the school name Tahayghen, would be invited to the discussions around the use of the name or not use of the name, and/or referenced to the Totem Pole. It was asked that the committee consider this approach as there are family members linked to the name Tahayghen.

There are members Edenshaw and Elizabeth still alive and that we should reach out to the grandchildren, it would be good to have them involved regarding the naming. Wanted stated into the minutes. Charles Edenshaw, Clairol Hugo. I can clarify at the next meeting the names.

It was suggested to share a condensed version of the project. Any concept drawing that could be shared out once we get to that stage. It was suggested to be like a newsletter shared out from the Superintendent.

It was also suggested to put up the timelines for the project and asked if the minutes could be posted on the website.

Question: Do you have any other knowledge that you can share with the committee about the changes that we cannot or can do (like the structures hallways?) That way in case questions come up at staff meetings or with community members we can address them. Do you have a synopsis of the items that we can do or items that we cannot do?

Response: There are restrictions regarding the layout of the plan for the Ministry. The architects will be following the building code.

Question: Was wondering about the footprint re: music room? Was this part of the footprint?

Response: That was like a bonus room. It will be up to the principal how it will be used.

Question: Has the discussion taken place with the school principal regarding the current library of the secondary school being converted into a small gym?

Response: Yes, this is an ongoing discussion point.

5.4 Totem poles

Looking at next steps for this process. The Manager of Operations has done some research around the process of acquiring a totem pole.

The Manager of Operations informed the steering committee that he connected with Jalaan Edenshaw to obtain information around costing, design, and protocols for consultation. The committee noted that this process should be deferred for now as the district has more pressing matter around the design and the project startup.

5.5 School name discussion

It was recommended that this discussion be delayed until the school is operational for a full one-year period. Then have a committee struck looking for input from school representative(s) and members of the community to ensure we follow protocols and allow stakeholders to be part of the process.

Open discussion:

Recommended that we bring the school's name over to the secondary school and put it on the other side of the building. Two names one school. It would be in the best interest to keep both names from the community/family.

Disagrees with the idea above: Noted that using the acronym GTN has been used for some time, it is important to use the Haida names.

It would be good to invite members (families) from the community around the table to discuss the school names or relationship to the families, possible sub-committee. A call out to people who are interested in the names to talk about it and give guidance to the process and culturally appropriate.

5.6 Tahayghen honouring and celebrations

This would be the process of closing the physical school space and moving to the new school. Would we need a sub-committee to help with this process? This committee and community will be needed for this process.

Open discussion:

A committee member noted that the Superintendent shared the idea of a school opening ceremony, with regards to the first day of school that would be open to the students and community.

The member noted this idea was well received. It suggested that with the opening of the amalgamated school this might be an excellent opportunity to start a new tradition with students of both schools. Right now, we have the opportunity and time to plan a traditional ceremony.

Dan noted he would commit to sit on a separate committee that aligns with the opening of a school at the beginning of the year.

5.7 Tahayghen - Future Plans

Per the Ministry requirements for this funding:

Upon completion of the seismic upgrade, amalgamation and tsunami preparedness project, the Board is responsible to formally close and divest themselves of Tahayghen Elementary School. The Board is also responsible for any costs associated with demolition or disposal of the Tahayghen Elementary School and if leased, the demolition of the seismically unsafe blocks.

6. NEXT MEETING TOPICS

6.1 To be determined

7. NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

7.1 To be determined upon finalization of Construction Manager tender.

8. ADJOURNMENT