



SD33 DPAC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

For February 27th, 2025, at 7 pm

In Person at the School Board Office and on ZOOM: [Join conversation](#)

Meeting ID: 690 3076 1946 / Passcode: 096903

Executive: A/ Chair & Vice Chair Deirdre O'Connor, Secretary Stacey Gould (Stitos DPAC Rep), DPAC Treasurer Jessica Clarke, Indigenous Liaison Gina Phillips (DPAC Rep Alt Imagine), Member at Large 1 Vrushali Khot, Member at Large 2 Matt Stevenson (DPAC Rep McCammon), BCCPAC Rep Cary Moore (DPAC Rep Strathcona)

DPAC Rep/Alt: Katie Bartel (DPAC Rep ADR & Imagine), Rachel Swedgan (Robertson Rep), Jen Hooge (CSS Rep), Diana Heidinger (CMS Rep), Dana Drope (Cultus Rep), Angela Wilkinson (Vedder Elem Rep), Jaime Kampman (Yarrow Rep), Kendy Michaloski (Sardis Elem Rep), Kate Healey (Central Elem Rep), Kalena O'Brien (DPAC Rep Alt Robertson), Karine Lemay (DPAC Rep Rosedale), Kendy Michaloski (DPAC Rep Sardis), Matthew Brown (DPAC Rep Evans), Tai Weatherhead (DPAC Rep Vedder), Tanya Cannon (DPAC Rep Cheam)

Parents: Dave Swankey, Jessica Sweeney

Special Guest: Michelle Dennill – Executive Director, Bowls of Hope

1. CALL TO ORDER (@7:10) - WELCOME, LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT, and INTRODUCTIONS

1.1. [Housekeeping for Hybrid Meetings.docx](#)

- Link will expire on March 25, 2025.

2. DISTRICT PRESENTATION – FEEDING FUTURES / BOWLS OF HOPE

- 2.1. Michelle Dennill Executive Director, Bowls of Hope (BoH), will join us to give us an update on the Feeding Futures Program and Initiatives in the District.

<https://www.sd33.bc.ca/feeding-futures-program>

- BoH - 20 years in the district and currently feeds 1050 children are fed a day in this district.
- **National School Food Program** - the federal government committed to invest \$1 billion over the next 5 years by partnering with provinces and territories to deliver school breakfasts, lunches, and snacks. These monies are available to us now, but *BC has yet to sign an agreement to access these funds.*
- *We encourage all parents/PACs to sign this 'letter' campaign asap!*
<https://www.ctf-fce.ca/take-action/schoolfoodprogramcanada/#take-action>
- The government has launched a brand new *The BC School Food Toolkit!* Full of resources to assist families and PACs with everything from meal planning to resources on what to serve at school and home. There is an incredible amount of info in here, please take a look!
- **BC School Food Toolkit - Building Healthy Inclusive School Food Environments**
- **School Food Infrastructure Grants Available:**
 - **School Food Infrastructure Fund:** Step 1. What this program offers - agriculture.canada.ca. - closes March 31st
- United Way – School Food Infrastructure Grant or from the main Grant Page at [United Way British Columbia Grants & Funding](#). Closes April 8th.



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- **Bowls of Hope** will be expanding their community garden on Wolfe Rd and starting a garden on the south side.
 - Volunteers are always welcome. You can apply to join the volunteer team here - <https://form-can.keela.co/volunteer-application-form4>.

3. AGENDA and MINUTES

3.1. Adoption of Agenda

- THAT this agenda for February 27th, 2025, be adopted as circulated.
 - MOTION – Dana Drope
 - Seconder – Katie Bartel

3.2. Adoption of Minutes

- THAT the minutes of the January 30th, 2025, General Meeting be adopted as amended.
 - MOTION – Matt Stevenson
 - Seconder – Kendy

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1. (Acting) Chair Report - Deirdre

- Thanks for your patience last meeting while we worked through our tech issues.
- Back on Zoom tonight, but likely will be moving towards Teams as district is not supporting Zoom for DPAC/PACs in the future. We will continue to update you but expect the April/May Meetings to be on Teams.
- PACs should know that means they will likely have to move to Teams as well, (or budget for a Zoom license if they choose), so we encourage PACs and individuals to practice and start getting familiar with it.
- Trustee By-Election – both advanced voting days have now passed, however, you still have one more day to make your voice heard! **March 1st**. Details are linked at the bottom of the agenda, and Chilliwack Election and District site, SD33 updates – many places to find this information. Voter turnout is traditionally low, even worse in by-elections, and costs the district a lot of money, so please go vote, and encourage others to do so. Information on candidates, and where to vote can be found at www.chilliwack.com/elections
- As we have previously stated, DPAC has chosen to stay out of the process for *this by-election*, though we do feel, as an executive, that it is important to highlight that we have been contacted for the opportunity to connect and have meetings with only one of the three running candidates. Candidate Bartel has requested a meeting with us to discuss the needs of parents, guardians, and caregivers in the district, and to understand what qualities we're looking for in a new trustee. While we very much appreciate that they did not want to assume they already knew what 'we' wanted as a stakeholder, DPAC Exec discussed, and again declined.



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- DPAC had previously decided not to engage in the by-election and will not be meeting with any of the candidates. All contact information for Executive is publicly available and equally accessible.
- Sadly, we have accepted the resignation of one of our beloved Executives, Vrushali Khot, Member at Large 1 (MAL1). She has been in this role for some time and has grown to be an integral part of our team, who greatly helped further the work of DPAC, and will be sorely missed. While she is no longer able to dedicate the time and energy required for this role, we wish her the best, and thank her for everything.
 - DPAC will be looking to temporarily fill this role through to the May AGM! Apply here if you are a [Rep/Alt](#)– link: <https://forms.office.com/r/jKBGRbbzNm>
- Preliminary Boundary Review Meetings have started to take place. Formal conversations are set to happen at Rosedale, Cheam, Promontory, Yarrow within the next week. Smaller meetings may happen at PACs. CMS, Greendale, possibly VMS after Spring Break.
 - These conversations are a good thing, imho, since they are doing all this info gathering ahead of time and involving the public in meaningful engagement and hopefully listening to them, rather than waiting for the fallout later. I will try to attend one if I can with my schedule.
- LETS – Workshop is on March 6th at 7pm – Heather McCain on Zoom and we are hosting. I will put the info in the chat to the FB event, but please share and mark your calendars! This month has zoomed by, and the 6th is THIS coming Thursday! We will have the ability to record, but only for a limited time. The title is: Disability-Neurodivergent Awareness + Crip Community Workshop:
- Cheam has now opened up its Before and After school care program as of Feb 5th! That means that Tyson Elem is the only remaining school without B&A – big accomplishments from where we were 2-3 years ago. I am told they have applied for grants and are doing all they can with spacing at that site though – fingers crossed.
- Attended the Feb 18th Board Meeting and spoke in support of our Trustee Liaison's [Agenda Item 4.2 - Public Transit Advocacy](#) - You can view the pertinent details at the following timestamps:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/live/WTnHe11696k?si=5yCbREmej5Hk4Vr-&t=1191>
 - Public Participation @ 19:52 and 22:30
 - Trustee Discussion and Motion @ 47:30
- Strat Plan survey that was circulated to all parents/guardians/caregivers is now closed as of last week (21st). 1600 opened, approximately 776 completed.



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4.2. Trustee Report

- Earthquake Preparedness:
 - A 5.1 magnitude earthquake occurred on Feb 21st.
 - No damage reported.
 - Schools were reminded of emergency procedures and encouraged to participate in drills.
- KSS UFV Trades Sampler Program Update
 - Half the day at UFV and half a day at a secondary school in Chilliwack
 - Provides hands-on experience in trades, including:
 - Carpentry, plumbing, electrical work, automotive, and welding.
 - Students earn certifications (First Aid, Forklift Training, WHMIS).
 - Encourages teamwork, problem-solving, and career exploration.
- Preliminary Boundary Feedback Process Update
 - Meetings held with PACs at: Promontory Heights, École Cheam Elementary, Rosedale Traditional, and Yarrow Community School.
 - Staff consultations completed at multiple schools.
 - Parent meetings scheduled: o Rosedale (Feb 24), Cheam (Mar 3), Promontory Heights (Mar 4).
- Substance Use Prevention: Mental Health & Decision-Making Sessions
 - Free virtual sessions for parents/guardians, led by Dr. Hayley Watson.
 - Focus on teaching youth (ages 0-19) practical skills to prevent substance use.
 - Sessions available on Feb 20, 25, and 26. Registration required.



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4.3. Treasurer Report

	Gaming Account 1465970		General Account 1465954	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Bank Balance as at July 1st, 2024	342.69	342.69	5,989.22	6,191.82
2024/25 Province of BC DPAC Grant	2,500.00	2,500.00		
Donation				
DPAC Summit Mileage Reimbursement				
BCCPAC Conference Mileage Reimbursement				
SD33 Funding			5,000.00	5,000.00
Total Funds Available	2,842.69	2,842.69	10,989.22	11,191.82
Expenditures Paid				
<u>BCCPAC Membership Fees</u>	200			
Katie Bartel - BCCPAC Membership e-transfer		200		
<u>Miscellaneous Office Supplies & Printing Costs</u>	500			
Katie Bartel - Cardstock chq#111		19.63		
e-transfer service fee bank		1.25		
<u>BCCPAC Conference</u>			2,000.00	
(23/24) Gena Phillips - BCCPAC Mileage chq#80				152.6
<u>BCCPAC Conference Travel Expenses</u>	500			
<u>BCCPAC DPAC Summit</u>			500	
(23/24) Vrushali Khot - Per Diem DPAC Summit chq#83				50
<u>Guest Speakers and Guest Speaker Recordings</u>	1,000.00		3,000.00	
Katie Bartel - Sue Robins Nov 21 2024 Presentation chq#111		525		
Safeteen: Powerful Alternative to Violence Corp Chq#112		420		
<u>Workshops/Training Seminars for DPAC/PACs</u>	500		1,000.00	
<u>Update DPAC Logo</u>			1,000.00	
<u>Honorariums for Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers</u>			500	
Katie Bartel - Honorarium - Peggy Janicki chq#82				100
Katie Bartel - Honorarium - Shawnee Kruger chq#82				150
<u>Refreshments for Meetings</u>			500	
<u>Bursaries/Gifts</u>			300	
<u>Social Media Marketing</u>			100	
Katie Bartel - Facebook Ads Sep 15 chq#82				6.3
Katie Bartel - Facebook Ads Sep 16 chq#82				6.3
Total Expenditures	2,700.00	1,165.88	8,900.00	465.2
Closing Bank Balance December 31, 2024		\$1,676.81		\$10,726.62
<u>Expenditures Committed:</u>				
Gina Phillips - Sep 2024 Meeting Refreshments Chq#81				18.8
Total Commitments on Account		-		18.8
NET Adjusted Bank Balance		\$1,676.81		\$10,707.82



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4.4. BCCPAC Report

- Planning 2025 spring parent leadership conference and AGM – May 23-25 in Prince George. <https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/events/conference-agm/agm>
 - Will also be hybrid.
- Awards program is open for nominations - [Awards](#)

4.5. Committee Highlights

- Budget Committee
 - Feb 7 meeting went over the Amended budget.
 - Ending accumulated surplus for 24/25 is projected to be 5.97M (3.02% of operating).
 - Feb 27 meeting went over current year expenses. On track for the year overall.
 - Public budget presentation for 25/26 budget is April 22.
 - Next meeting on April 10th to go over 25/26 preliminary budget assumptions before public presentation.
- ACIE
 - Met on Feb 10th - Discuss preliminary conversation on ADHD and ADD and what this looks like for students because they don't have the traditional categories. Next Meeting April
- IDEA
 - inclusiveschools.sd33.bc.ca
 - Joined students at CSS and saw a powerful presentation by Jeff AD Martin. Highly encourage all folks to take a few minutes to watch a shortened, similar presentation, and share - [Equity and Inclusion Workshop with Jeff A.D. Martin](#) 7 Mins
 - The BC Ministry of Education and Childcare offers a FREE, online, 7-module course. This introductory course is designed as professional learning to support everyone who works within British Columbia's education system.
 - <https://inclusiveschools.sd33.bc.ca/announcement/learning-be-anti-racist>
- SAGE
 - Resource cards were handed out. DPAC Reps are encouraged to bring them to their schools. Need help getting them out into community. If you need more, please reach out to Deirdre – dpacvp@sd33.bc.ca
 - Digital version can also be found [here!](#)
- Indigenous Liaison Update:
 - Gina's Indigenous Potluck. Traditionally, Indigenous parents/families have had less involvement with PACs. Hosted: We sourced locally made bannock and homemade jam and donated sockeye salmon.



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- April 8th Indigenous perspective on Restorative Justice by Hiwus Calvin Craigie. More information will be coming shortly – Details being arranged – will be online!

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1. DPAC Advocacy Action Plan and Next Steps

- PAC responses to signing the Anti-bullying and Anti-racism letter.
 - Next steps regarding anti-bullying and anti-racism advocacy.
 - Please come prepared with whether your PAC plans to add their name to this letter.
 - Schools that will sign: Cheam, LME, McCammon, Sardis Elem, Evans, Roberston, CMS, Imagine, ADR, Rosedale, Strathcona, Cultus, Yarrow, Watson, VMS, Vedder elem.

5.2. Outside Agencies in Schools

- Trying to organize spaces within the district that outside agencies can rent to provide services. This won't be available in every school – it will be specific spaces (like the NLC at CSS) that can be rented through our facilities department.
- Trying to increase the number of spaces available during the instructional day for this rental option but are encountering some challenges, which is slowing down the process.
- Next year, providers will be able to rent spaces in all schools an hour before the instructional day begins and directly after the instructional day ends (except for gym space which is often booked for sports).
- No other districts are offering this option. Given the struggles while trying to secure spaces, the district understands why.
- Continuing to encourage outside providers to rent spaces in local community options like the Cheam center, the Leisure center, local band halls, and dance studios.
- It is recognized that not all families were able to find workable options; as a result, schools now know that the new Administrative Procedure will roll out for **September 2025**. Meaning **services that were previously arranged can continue**.
- Parent feedback:
 - Inconsistency with implementation approach among schools.
 - Some families are considering switching schools to where there is space.

5.3. December Newsletter - Draw Do-Over **LAST CHANCE!** \$25 GC to Amble Coffee

- See January general meeting agenda for details
- Nobody was able to find it!



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6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Band Busing – Updated infographic [Band Instruments & Busing.jpg](#)

- Link will expire April 17th, 2025
- Next steps – Deirdre to talk to Rohan regarding results. Strive for consistency.

6.2. EA Letter

- PACs are encouraged to share the letter with their membership and vote on whether or not to sign the letter.
 - Note – can discuss at April GM, or give response also
- DPAC will be looking for signatory responses at the May 29th, 2025, AGM.
 - Robertson will sign.

6.3. Vacant DPAC Member at Large (#1) Executive Position – OPEN to current Reps/Alts - as noted in the Chair Report, this position is interim until AGM – test the waters!

- Click here to apply! - <https://forms.office.com/r/jKBGRbbzNm>

6.4. Strike a Constitution and Bylaw Review Committee

- Intention to have all the amendments and recommendations completed and posted ahead of the AGM in May so that members will be able to vote on the changes.
- MOTION to strike a C&B committee
 - MOTION Deirdre
 - Secunder Tai
- Committee members: Kate, Vru, Erin, Gina will be on the committee.
 - Please reach out if you would also like to participate or have suggestions for the committee

6.5. Strike a DPAC Executive Nomination Committee

- Except for people who plan to run for a DPAC Executive position, this committee is open to everyone.
- MOTION to strike a nominations committee
 - MOTION Gina
 - Secunder Stacey
- Committee members – Kate, Tai, VRU (if we are short)

6.6. Round Table - Emerging Concerns

- Q&A – please email any pressing issues ahead of time to dpacsecretary@sd33.bc.ca
- Rosedale Boundary Review meeting: Karine attended - Amy D, Rohan, Upper Dist etc did a big presentation at Rosedale PAC about possible considerations with the new site build ei: the split from two schools from one. ~ Approx 40 parents showed up. Gathered what parents were thinking about. Took that information back. Big consideration is that their PAC *will* be splitting up – currently, it is a K-8. Most of the parents are from the elementary side. This



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would have implications for the Gaming Grant too... Also – possible traffic concerns – Yale and McGrath. Advocating for a traffic light. Both schools will possibly become French immersion. (Looking at that as an incentive to fill 500+ seats?) Teachers are not automatically transferred.

- Dana - There are only three french speaking EAs in the district.

7. DATES OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

- March 6th - LETS Disability Workshop – 7pm online
 - <https://sd33-ca.zoom.us/j/68175050763?pwd=Nq285v3Yoq4P8aPFSeXxzLrByCBKf6.1>
- April 7th – A.I. Presentation – Tentative – Details Coming
- April 8th – Indigenous Family Circle at NLC – Details Coming
- General Meeting – April 24th, 2024, @ 7pm
- In person at the School Board office and online hybrid

8. ADJOURNMENT (@9:10)

Info Items - Ongoing Strat Plan Engagement:

Indigenous Community Forum for Elders, parents, Education Coordinators and Mémihelhel students – March 13, 2025

Survey for Parents, Guardians and Caregivers Feb. 3 – 21 – Now Closed.

Online engagement is now open for Chilliwack parents, guardians and caregivers who want to share their input on the district's strategic plan for 2026 - 2029. Take the survey:

<https://tejoin.com/scroll/572957092>.

For specific accessibility needs, email communications@sd33.bc.ca or call the district office at 604-792-1321. Paper copies are available at the district office.

Info items - Other

- Bus Registration is now open! Register EARLY to avoid fees, as well as the chance to win an iPad. Info is on the District Website <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/transportation-department>



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APPENDIX I – Detailed Committee Reports (addendum from Jan 30 GM)

ACIE

ASSAI Update

The ASSAI Grant (After School Sport and Arts Initiative) is a Ministry grant that school staff can apply for if they have a **new** after school program they want to pilot. • The features of the grant include: 1. New Sport or Art initiative 2. Minimum length of the program: 8 weeks 3. Grant covers initiatives at K-8 4. Occurs directly after school 5. Dollars for EA support can be included in the applications •

SD33 Enhancements being made this year to the ASSAI Grant: 1. New Sport or Art Initiative • Schools can apply for EA support for existing programs that may or may not be ASSAI Grant initiatives (for example, Beyond the Bells is already running at middle school) as well as new initiatives (ASSAI or other), that occur directly after school. • Schools can apply for EA support for programs based on Arts, Sports, or social opportunities. • Schools can apply for EA support for a student to participate in Extra-curricular sports at elementary or middle school. This is unique to SD33 and a pilot project within our district! Funds are limited, so we encourage you to connect with your Admin/Resource Team asap to make use of any programs that may fit into this exciting update!

Transitions Doc: <https://careereducation.sd33.bc.ca/sites/careereducation.sd33.bc.ca/files/2024-05/Career-Life%20Transitions%20Framework%20-%20draft.pdf>

CHC

Food Council: • Thank you to those who participated in the annual Plant a Row tradition! – 7,000 pounds were harvested on Harvest Day in October, and about 75,000 pounds were harvested over the growing season. Please keep us in mind as you begin to plan your gardens soon, as this year's goal is to bring in 100,000 lbs of produce from the community this year!

- Over the holidays, saw record demands, with over 2k hampers and 5k people served, not including other community, church, and toy programs in the city
- Even given the above, through focused efforts, and better coordination this year, feedback shows that most folks were able to be served; thank you for that. • Challenges & Demands – Streams Foundation is seeing a 50% increase in their emergency hamper program, so the need is continuing into the New Year.

- Highest areas of need: Seniors, the working poor, those newer to Canada

DTCM: (Downtown Chilliwack Community Market) Will be moving to Saturdays this season! This should assist with obtaining more meat/protein vendors. <https://chilliwackmarket.com/>

- The market nutrition coupons are in a renewal year, they won't find out until April if they are eligible.
- Approx 100k in fresh foods flows into our community yearly through this program

Bowls of Hope - has a newly updated website - check it out! <https://www.chilliwackbowlssofhope.com/>

Next In-Person Meeting – Feb 25th at Cultural Centre



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Next Partner Meeting – March 25th - Hybrid

CYC

Annual CYC Conversation 2025 · Save the date of April 25th for Pathways to Resiliency, this year's 33rd annual CYC (Child & Youth Committee) Conversation on Chilliwack's Children and Youth. Keynote presenter Dr. Paula Jacobs will speak about building resiliency through relationships. The planning committee is arranging interesting workshops on various topics. Location will be Stitó:s Lá:lém Totí:lt Elementary/Middle School 8:30am-pm. Registration and full details are coming soon. · CYC Website - *Chilliwack CYC – Together We Can Please* have a look at the refreshed website!

<https://childandyouth.com/>

· *Beyond Blankets: A Stó:lō Lands Exercise* - The Peace and Reconciliation Centre at UFV is able to offer this opportunity to CYC members. This is a new interactive lesson, initiated by Grand Chief Clarence “Kat” Pennier and Dr. Keith Thor Carlson. *Beyond Blankets: A Stó:lō Lands Exercise* offers a powerful and immersive learning experience, focusing specifically on Stó:lō culture, history, and connection to the land. Participants will journey through key moments in Stó:lō history, including life before first contact, the impact of smallpox epidemics, the fur trade and gold rush eras, colonialism in the Fraser Valley, and Stó:lō resurgence. This exercise aims to foster deep understanding, compassion, and motivation towards positive action. Workshop will be held either on Tuesday 18th March (during Spring Break) or Tuesday 8th April from 9am to 11:30 am, location to be confirmed, and limited to 35 participants. o If you are interested in this, please connect with Deirdre at dpacvp@sd33.bc.ca to confirm if there is available space

Middle Years/Youth Matters

- The Middle Years and Youth Matters have amalgamated into one group due to low partner attendance.
- The Middle Years will be hosting 2 parent nights: February 20th @ Mount Slesse Middle School and February 27th @ AD Rundle from 6 - 8:30. These events will be a sharing circle for youth and parents/ guardians to listen and learn from the youth. o Reach out to Kristy Jones if you would like further info: kjones@pcrs.ca
 - o Please share this within your PACs to increase awareness and attendance!
- BC Youth Week is the first week in May (1st to 7th). <https://www.bcyouthweek.com/>
 - o Planning is underway for Chilliwack’s 2nd annual “kick-off” event with YMCA BC on Thursday 1st May Cheam Centre and activities are planned for each day. Closing BBQ on Wednesday, May 7th north of the highway location.

Early Years

- Planning has continued for the Early Years Fair, which will be on June 4 from 1:00-3:00 pm at the Sardis Library.



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- Child Care Resource & Referral (CCRR) provided an update that adequate childcare spaces throughout the city are available in daycares. What is currently unknown is if they are in the correct locations that families need them to be, as some of them are in concentrated regions. This will continue to be monitored and assessed.
- The Chilliwack School District is working to strengthen its support networks for families and children by partnering with various service providers. They have initiated connections with the Early Years District Principal and childcare in schools, which has led to further collaborations with Sardis Doorway. Through Sardis Doorway, the district is reaching out to new moms who have recently had babies and are struggling to get their older children to school. Additionally, the district is connecting with the Bridge team to support children who are not attending school and to link families with necessary service providers. These efforts aim to ensure that families receive comprehensive support, helping children transition back to regular school attendance.

SAGE

- Resource Cards are finally available! The [digital copy is linked](#), and we would like to invite any reps or individuals who would like to have physical copies of these in their school or community to please do so. You can contact Deirdre (dpacvp@sd33.bc.ca), or your school's SOGI-lead and they should be able to connect you. Additional resources can be found [here](#).
 - As these links are plentiful, please let us know if any updates are required, the intention would be to update them every 6-12 months, or as the edits are deemed necessary.

We did not meet in Dec or Jan, as we are waiting for the launch of an internal survey to CHC partners, which should be going out shortly.

- Next Meeting TBD