



REPORT

Policies for Approval

- i. *That the Rainy River District School Board of Trustees approve Policy 4.65 Community Involvement Hours.*
- ii. *That the Rainy River District School Board of Trustees approve Policy 5.80 Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, and Pow Wows.*
- iii. *That the Rainy River District School Board of Trustees approve Policy 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment.*

RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Administrative Report
Policies for Approval

Date: November 7, 2023
To: Rainy River District School Board of Trustees
From: Policy Committee
Recommendation: *That the Rainy River District School Board of Trustees approve the following policies:*
i. 4.65 Community Involvement Hours
ii. 5.80 Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, and Pow Wows
iii. 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The below policies were reviewed at the Policy Committee meeting on October 31, 2023. Recommendations are presented to the Board for approval.

SUMMARY

4.65 Community Involvement Hours

Policy 4.65 Community Involvement Hours was approved for stakeholder consultation at the October 3, 2023, Board meeting. There was no stakeholder feedback received.

This policy is recommended for approval.

5.80 Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, and Pow Wows

Policy 5.80 Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, and Pow Wows was approved for stakeholder consultation at the October 3, 2023, Board meeting.

Stakeholder feedback on this policy requested that reference be included outlining where to find the current meterage rate and questioning the appropriateness of compensating student/youth dancers half of the approved adult honorarium.

The Committee agreed with including *Policy and Procedure 8.22 Expense Claims* in the cross-reference. However, the honoraria rates were recommended by the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Advisory Committee to align with other organizations in the District and set by the Finance Committee. Changing the honoraria rates would require referring the policy back to the Finance Committee. The stakeholder feedback will be forwarded to the Finance Committee for consideration during its next annual rate review of the policy.

The Committee did not feel that the addition to the Cross-reference section was significant enough to warrant further stakeholder consultation.

This policy is recommended for approval.

Policy 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment

Policy 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment was approved for stakeholder consultation at the October 3, 2023, Board meeting. There was no stakeholder feedback received.

This policy is recommended for approval.

ROUTING

Board of Trustees

September 5, 2023

<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 4 <i>Students</i>
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS	4.65

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will support safe and meaningful community involvement experiences for students.

RATIONALE

All Ontario high school students are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement by the time they graduate from Grade 12.

IMPLEMENTATION

As per Procedure 4.65 Community Involvement Hours, and Guidelines.

GUIDELINES

- 1.1 Community Involvement activities are intended to:
 - promote and encourage civic responsibility.
 - promote community values.
 - develop students' interests and skills.
 - guide and support students' career explorations.
 - introduce, reinforce, and nurture the importance of volunteering.

- 1.2 Students may begin to earn a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement as early as the summer preceding Grade 9. All students working to achieve this graduation requirement are responsible for:
 - submitting a Notification of Planned Community Involvement Activity form to the principal or designate for approval, prior to any involvement; and
 - submitting a Completion of Community Involvement Activity form to the principal within one year of the activity completion.

- 1.3 Community involvement activities must:
 - be completed outside of class time.
 - not be part of a credit course (e.g., cooperative education).
 - be unpaid activities.
 - not replace the role of a worker that would normally receive wages for the task.
 - involve any necessary health and safety training, equipment, and/or special preparation to ensure that the student is safe while fulfilling the community involvement activity.

- 1.4 Eligible Activities

The following list is intended to assist students and their parents/guardians in determining whether a planned activity is within an approved area. These community involvement activities

may take place in the community or be school based.

- An event or activity designed to benefit the community in general
- Any program that promotes unpaid tutoring, mentoring, coaching, or assists others in need
- Participation in an event or activity that supports ethical work of a global nature or that promotes positive environmental awareness (e.g., Earth Day Cleanup)
- Participation in an event or activity that contributes to the health and well-being of others (e.g., assisting with fundraising or awareness run/walk events, We Scare Hunger)
- Participation in an event or activity that is affiliated with a non-profit, club, religious or political organization, or arts or cultural association that seeks to make a positive and ethical contribution in the community (e.g., political campaign, Community Living, Canadian Red Cross)

1.5 Ineligible Activities

The Ministry of Education has developed a list of activities that may not be chosen as community involvement activities. An ineligible activity is an activity that:

- contravenes any other applicable legislation, regulation or policy
- contravenes the policies and procedures of the organization that is supervising the student's community involvement activities
- is a requirement of a class or course in which the student is enrolled
- promotes discrimination, harassment, or puts the safety of the student or others at risk
- takes place in a logging or mining environment, if the student is under 18 years of age
- takes place in a factory if the student is under 15 years of age;
- takes place in a workplace other than a factory if the student is under 14 years of age and is not accompanied by an adult
- any other activity that contravenes the minimum age requirements to work in or visit a workplace stated in regulations made under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
- would normally be performed for wages by a person in the workplace
- involves the operation of a vehicle, power tools, or scaffolding
- involves the administration of any type or form of medication or medical procedure to other persons
- involves handling of substances classed as *designated substances* under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
- requires the knowledge of a trades person whose trade is regulated by the provincial government
- involves banking or handling of securities, or the handling of jewelry, works of art, antiques, or other valuables
- consists of duties normally performed in the home (i.e., daily chores) or personal recreational activities
- involves activities for a court-ordered program (i.e., community service program for young offenders, probationary program)

1.6 The Rainy River District School Board has also determined that campaigning for the office of School Board Trustee is an ineligible activity.

1.7 Activities done for members of a student's family, or which are done on property owned by members of a student's family will not be considered as community involvement activities.

DEFINITIONS

Eligible Activities - Eligible Activities are activities that may be counted toward a student’s 40 community involvement hours, which must be accumulated as a graduation requirement.

Non-profit - Non-profit is a type of organization that does not earn profits for its owners. All of the money earned by or donated to a non-profit organization is used in pursuing the organization's objectives.

Volunteer - Someone who chooses to act in recognition of a need, with an attitude of social responsibility and without concern for monetary profit. It should be noted that students will not be paid for performing any community involvement activity.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CROSS REFERENCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Procedure 1.25 Use of Corporate Resources for Election 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Approved</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Resolution</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Review Prior To</u> 2028</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy/Program Memorandum No. 124 - Ontario secondary school diploma requirement: community involvement activities ▪ Ontario Schools Kindergarten to Grade 12: Policy and Program Requirements, 2016
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<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 5 <i>Curriculum and Instruction</i>
ELDERS, SENATORS, KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS AND POW WOWS	5.80

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will encourage the engagement and attendance of elders, senators, and knowledge keepers, as well as the presence of invited dancers, emcees, and drums at school pow wows.

RATIONALE

Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, and pow wows are valuable resources to develop the positive identity and enhance the self-esteem of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students, and to provide first-hand knowledge of Indigenous histories, cultures, and perspectives for all students and staff.

IMPLEMENTATION

As per Procedure 5.80, Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers and Drums, and Guidelines.

GUIDELINES

1.0 General Guidelines

- 1.1 Employees shall be mindful of conflicts of interest when inviting and/or approving honoraria for Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, emcee(s), dancers, and drums to avoid decisions/recommendations that may result in personal, financial, or material gain of a relative, friend and/or business associate.
- 1.2 The rates will be reviewed annually by the First Nation, Métis, Inuit Education Advisory Committee with any recommendations brought forward to the Finance Committee.

2.0 Elders, Senators, and Knowledge Keepers

- 2.1 This policy applies when Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, upon request:
 - speak or present to a class.
 - participate in an initiative, program, or project.
 - assist, lead and/or advise on cultural events and other activities, including but not limited to opening and closing ceremonies and workshops.
- 2.2 The Rainy River District School Board recognizes the importance and value of establishing fair levels of honoraria for its Elders, Senators, and Knowledge Keepers.

The honoraria are:

Description	Amount
Half Day Rate (up to three hours)	\$200
Full Day Rate (over three hours)	\$400

- 2.3 Metrage may be approved for travel to and from school/events based on Board policy.
- 2.4 Both full and half-day rates include morning or afternoon preparation, Opening Prayer, attendance at event, Closing Prayer/thoughts.
- 2.5 These rates do not include Bagichiganan (i.e., tobacco, cloth, and food offering).

3.0 Pow Wows

- 3.1 This policy also applies to dancers, emcees and drums when invited to a school organized pow wow.
- 3.2 The honoraria for invited dancers, emcees and drums are as follows:

Description	Amount
Half-Day Adult Dancers	\$40
Child/Youth/Student Dancers	\$20
Emcees	\$100
Drums	Up to \$600 per drum

Definitions:

Elders, Senators, and Knowledge Keepers are designated by their community after acquiring significant wisdom and understanding of Indigenous history, traditional teachings, ceremonies, healing practices and experience. Elders, senators, and knowledge keepers have earned the respect from their community to pass on this knowledge to others and give advice and guidance on personal issues, as well as issues affecting their communities and nations.

Emcees are masters of ceremony for the pow wow.

Drums consist of drum keepers and drummers.

Honoraria are monetary payments to show appreciation for the sharing of knowledge and respect for personal time given. Honoraria payments are considered taxable income under the *Income Tax Act* of Canada.

Personal Gain is something that an employee gains for themselves which may also include something gained for a friend, an immediate family member, or a business associate.

Pow Wow is a celebration of life; a cultural gathering where people join together in drumming, dancing, and singing.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CROSS REFERENCE</u></p> <p>Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3.86 Employee Code of Conduct ▪ 6.11 Tobacco Free Environment ▪ 8.22 Expense Claims ▪ 8.25 School Funds <p>▪ Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5.80 Elders, Senators, Knowledge Keepers, and Drums ▪ 6.12 Smudging ▪ 8.22 Expense Claims ▪ 8.25 School Funds <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First Nation Elders and Métis Senators Protocol 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Date Approved</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Board Motion</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Review prior to</u> 2028 (Annually for rates)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Income Tax Act of Canada</i> ▪ Ontario First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework (2007) ▪ Ontario Social Studies, History & Geography Curriculum (2023) ▪ Ontario Secondary Curriculum First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Studies Gr. 9-12 (2019)
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<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 6 <i>Facilities</i>
TOBACCO, CANNABIS, VAPING and SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT	6.11

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will provide tobacco, cannabis, vaping, and smoke-free learning and working environments.

RATIONALE

Students and staff have the right to learn and work in safe and healthy environments.

IMPLEMENTATION

As per Procedure 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment and Guidelines

GUIDELINES

1.0 Health Education

1.1 The Rainy River District School Board recognizes that one of the goals of education is to help students develop the skills that they need to make healthy choices. As such, the effects of using tobacco, cannabis, electronic cigarettes and vaping will be taught in accordance with the Ontario Health and Physical Education curriculum.

1.2 A summary of this policy will be included in all school handbooks.

2.0 Enforcement

2.1 The following items are prohibited on Board property and at school-related events:

- Tobacco and tobacco-related products
- Electronic cigarettes/vapour devices and products
- Cannabis, including medical cannabis, unless under a Prescribed Plan of Care.

2.2 A person found to be using a prohibited item on Board property may be subject to disciplinary action from the school and/or by Public Health including the issuing of warnings, suspensions, and/or fines.

3.0 Exceptions

3.1 The Rainy River District School Board recognizes that smudging and the offering of tobacco for Elders, Senators, and Knowledge Keepers are part of the Indigenous traditional way of life, and is, therefore, permitted in designated spaces, subject to proper health and safety measures.

3.2 A student or staff member who is prescribed medical cannabis may follow a Plan of Care provided the Plan of Care does not include smoking or vaping of medical cannabis on school

property and at school related events.

Definitions:

Board Property includes school and Board buildings and all adjacent Board property, including day care centers, Early Years programs, Before-and-After Programs, playgrounds, parking lots, Board-owned vehicles, as well as school buses when being used to transport students to and from school and on school-authorized activities.

Tobacco product means any product containing, made or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed or ingested by any other means. Common types of tobacco products include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, blunt wraps, chew, plug, snuff and snus.

Vapour Device or Product means any product that looks like their conventional counterparts or is used in a similar way, i.e. vaping; including electronic cigarettes, cigars and pipes as well as cartridges of nicotine solutions and related products. This includes the use of a hookah, waterpipe or any other apparatus to smoke medical cannabis, shisha or other plant matter that may or may not include tobacco.

Smudging - is a First Nation tradition which involves the burning of one of the four sacred medicines gathered from the earth: sweet grass, sage, cedar, and tobacco.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CROSS REFERENCE</u></p> <p>Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3.02 Progressive Discipline for Employees ▪ 4.11 Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions ▪ 4.16 Safe Schools <p>Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3.02 Progressive Discipline for Employees ▪ 4.30 Student Discipline 4.11 Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions ▪ 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment ▪ 6.12 Smudging 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Date Approved</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Board Motion</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Review Prior to</u> 2028</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Education Act, R.S.O. 1990</i> ▪ <i>Smoke Free Ontario Act, S.O. 2017</i> ▪ <i>Cannabis Act 2017</i>
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