



Seabird Island
Strategic Planning
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Education Jurisdiction; Cultural / Community Centre Reports

April – June 2022
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Education Law under Education Jurisdiction

Strategic Plan Leadership goal: the next step in self-government, where education includes the cultural and traditional identity of Seabird Island Band

- ✓ Seabird Island members have ratified Education Jurisdiction, whereby Seabird will make its own decisions regarding education policies and how we manage our services.
- The Seabird Island Education Law is the next step towards Education Jurisdiction. The Seabird Island Education Law-Making Protocol, ratified by community vote December 2021, outlines the steps needed to pass the Education Law:

Notify the community on how to access the proposed Education Law –
Facebook, website, hard copy by request

Community meeting to discuss proposed Education Law June 22 & July 13,
2022

Deadline for community feedback: July 21, 2022



Education Law summary

What is the Seabird Island Education Law?

The result of years of work on behalf of First Nations by the First Nations Education Steering Committee and the governments of Canada and British Columbia. Under the Law, Seabird Island First Nation will assume jurisdiction over First Nations education of Kindergarten to Grade 12 students on Reserve.

What does the Seabird Island Education Law say?

In essence it is the equivalent of the Provincial School Act which governs K-12 education in the public sector. The Law sets out the legal framework that will govern education on Reserve and covers a variety of important areas including:

Education Law summary cont'd

Areas covered in the Law:

1. Principles governing the education system,
2. The authority and role of the Education Committee,
3. The rights and responsibilities of parents and students, the establishment and role of a parents' committee,
4. The Education Program, including standards for courses, the school calendar, enrollment eligibility, approvals of policies, procedures and rules,
5. The appeal process
6. First Nations Education Authority role regarding teacher and school certification,
7. Diplomas

Education Law summary cont'd

1. Principles

the key principles that guide our vision for the education system:

the importance of a safe environment that fosters our students' academic, social, cultural, linguistic and emotional success;

the importance of family and the community for our students' success;

the need to give our young people the skills they need to survive in the 21st century and more.

Education Law summary cont'd

2. The Education Committee

oversees the day to day operation and management of Lalme'lwesawtexw (Seabird Island Community School),

develops policies and procedures for the education system, has the power to approve the development of local courses as per the First Nations Education Authority.

members are elected or appointed, committee is responsible for making its own rules and procedures

meetings of the Education Committee are open to Members of Seabird Island, and to parents and students attending the School, unless a topic is subject to privacy concerns.

Education Law summary cont'd

2. The Education Committee cont'd

develop a Code of Conduct, to act honestly and in good faith, to exercise care, diligence and skill, and to maintain confidentiality.

develop conflict of interest rules that apply to all members of the Committee.

develop policies respecting student discipline, bullying and harassment, anti-racism and illicit drug use.

develop policies concerning student record management and reporting suspected child abuse.

provide Council with reports,

hold an annual community meeting to report activities for the year, its financial report and an aggregate outcome report on student performance.

Education Law summary cont'd

3. The Rights and Responsibilities of Parents and Students

The Law requires students to comply with the Education Committee's policies and procedures.

It provides parents the right to be informed of their child's progress, attendance and behaviour, and to consult with a student's teacher or principal with respect to their child's educational program.

It gives parents the right to establish and to belong to a Parents' Committee, which can advise the school principal and staff about parents' views and feedback.

The Parents' Committee is, amongst other things, to organize Parents' Committee events, to encourage parent involvement in the school, to assist parents in advocating, and, at the request of the Education Committee, to be involved in the First Nations' Schools Assessment and Certification process.

Education Law summary cont'd

4. The Education Program

The Law contains provisions for the effective operation of the education system:

- A requirement that any Locally Developed Courses comply with *First Nations Education Authority Rules for Courses Required to Graduate*;
- That the Education Committee prepare a calendar for each school year that complies with First Nations Education Authority requirements;
- The rules around who may enroll in an education program provided by Lalme'lwesawtexw, including that students other Seabird members may enroll in Lalme'lwesawtexw provided Seabird receives funding for such students; and
- that the Education Committee must establish policies or procedures with respect to registration, suspension, attendance and inclusivity.

Education Law summary cont'd

5. Appeals

The Law provides an appeal mechanism of administrative decisions that significantly and directly affect the health, education or welfare an individual. The Law provides for the appointment of a reviewer to conduct the appeal, who must issue a decision within 45 days (unless extended). The Reviewer may establish their own rules for conducting the appeal.

6. Role of First Nations Education Authority

The Law provides that the *First Nations Education Authority Rules for the Certification and Regulation of Teachers* and the *First Nations Education Authority Rules for the Certification of Participating First Nations Schools* apply to Seabird teachers and to the Lalme'lwesawtexw (Seabird Island Community School).

Seabird is entitled to two directors on the FNEA board, one of which must be a Seabird Member.

Education Law summary cont'd

7. Diplomas

The Law allows the Education Committee to issue a Seabird Island Graduation Certificate to a student attending the First Nation school who has met the graduation requirements established by the Committee and in accordance with the *First Nations Education Authority Rules Establishing Graduation Requirements*.

It allows the Education Committee:

- To request FNEA issue a First Nations Graduation Certificate to a student who has met those same requirements,
- To request that British Columbia issue a British Columbia Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood) or a British Columbia Adult Graduation Diploma (Adult Dogwood) to a student if that student has both completed an education program at the grade twelve level at the Lalme'lwesawtexw and has achieved learning outcomes substantially comparable to those required for graduation by the British Columbia Ministry of Education.

Education Law summary cont'd

Community feedback is welcomed until July 21, 2022.

If there are no comments from community members, Chief and Council will pass the Education Law. If there are comments and requests, Chief and Council will discuss the proposed changes and the draft law will then go back to community for another vetting.

Education Law summary cont'd

	Steps	Completion date
✓	A draft of the proposed Education Law is shared with Council.	May 17, 2022
✓	Staff (on behalf of Council) notifies the community of its intention to pass an Education Law	May 18, 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Posted in at least one public area accessible to Members,• Posted on the website, and• Posted /mailed to each Member who resides off reserve for whom we have a current address	
✓	Staff (on behalf of Council) notifies the community of how it can get a copy of the proposed Education Law	May 18, 2022
	Community meeting to discuss the proposed Education Law (at least 30 days after notifications go out)	July 13, 2022 1/4ly meeting
	Community Members have 30 days to provide comments	July 21, 2022
	Council reviews community comments and votes whether to amend the law	
	If Council agrees with the proposed amendments, the process starts again at step 2 for the amended proposed Education Law	
	Future amendments will go through the same process.	



Cultural Center and BC Housing project

Strategic Plan Infrastructure goal: meeting infrastructure needs for future growth

The pre-planning and concept work has been done for the first phase of our BC Housing project. We are now ready for the next funding announcement.

The Cultural Center arch testing of the site will take place on July 12-23. The building location is the red box.

There will be a road extension of Pipeho:m, to serve both projects.





Thank you