

Member of the Chinese Language Education Consortium

Meeting Highlights – Friday November 22, 2002

Participants:

Christina Bexte	Alberta Learning
Janice Aubry	Edmonton Public Schools
Fred Burghardt	Alberta Learning
Sandy Cai	Red Deer Public School District No. 104
Sandy Chen	Norwood Chinese School
Weixi Chow	Cathay Community Foundation
Jeanine Kowalski	Alberta Distance Learning
Dr. Leung	University of Alberta
Mr. Ma	Heilongjiang, China
Roy Ripkens	Northern Lights School District No. 7
Amelia Turnbull	Alberta Learning
Mr. Wang	Heilongjiang, China
Alan Ward	Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association
Joe Wu	University of Alberta

Issues Discussed and Actions Planned

- **Memorandum of Understanding**

A proposed MOU between the Government of Alberta and the Government of the People's Republic of China was discussed. The impact on student transfer of credits, entrance to University and teacher certification and exchanges were included in this discussion. Amelia Turnbull will give an update at the next meeting.

- **Teacher Certification and Staffing**

A questionnaire was being sent to stakeholders about second language teachers, shortages and certification issues. A panel is to be set up to facilitate a one-day session on the issues of teacher shortages and certification in second language instruction. Janice Aubry will report on staffing at the next meeting.

- **Chinese Language Advisor**

Discussion about hiring an Advisor through the Alberta Government office in Beijing. Amelia Turnbull will update at next meeting.

- **Cathay Community Foundation**

CCF presented a request to join the CLE consortium. The request was reviewed, Janice Aubry moved that CCF be allowed to join the CLEC, motion was seconded by Alan Ward. Passed.

- **Online Support for Chinese Language Learning**

Discussion on the issues of using online learning and electronic aids in second language learning. Some of the issues discussed were the development of different types of interfaces, the speed of connection to the resources, lack of student interest in current resources due to speed or sophistication, many resources are available but most are not suitable. Janice Aubry recommended a sub-committee of the consortium be established to address technology issues. Approved. Sub-committee to meet prior to next CLEC meeting with a report to be presented at the next meeting.

- **Scholarships**

Cathay community Foundation made a presentation on the current conditions regarding scholarships for Chinese language learning. ECBEA provided input into their current scholarship program. Recommended that a sub-committee on scholarships be established. Approved.

- **Group Sharing of Current Initiatives**

Alberta Learning- Amelia Turnbull reviewed Minister's mission to Asia. Countries visited included China, Japan, Thailand and Vietnam. Several superintendents of Alberta School Districts accompanied the minister. The delegation was very well received in all countries but especially in China. Christina Bexte reported on the regional professional development consortium.

ECBEA- Alan Ward reported on scholarship plans and increases in student numbers.

University of Alberta- Joe Wu reported on the increase of Chinese Bilingual Students taking East Asian Languages at U of A. Development of English language modules for students in Harbin.

Edmonton Public Schools- Janice Aubry reported on curriculum development by EPS, both for EPS and Alberta Learning. Inservices planned for K-6 teachers on enhancing second language literacy. Addressing PD through Chinese Teacher's Association.