

TEFA eBulletin – Issue #10, April 14, 2015

The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the First Nations Schools Association (FNSA) publish this eBulletin to support BC First Nations communities and schools with Tripartite Education Framework Agreement interpretation and implementation.



TEFA Funding Update April 2015

In January 2015, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) made readjustments to the Tripartite Education Framework Agreement (TEFA) school funding for the 2014/2015 school year.

Section 4.11 of TEFA provides that the funding model “may be amended (...) from time to time as may be required to ensure the purpose of [the] agreement is met on an ongoing basis.”

Consistent with that provision, the TEFA funding model has been updated to reflect changes to the Province of British Columbia’s Operating Grants Manual (OGM).

Specifically, the TEFA funding formula now includes:

- a Vulnerable Students component for each school-age FTE student;
- a new Student Location Factor, which replaces the previous transportation funding component;
- Education Plan funding at \$20 per school aged FTE student;
- an increase in Non-Operating Grants funding to 7.75% (including a one-time 2.15% increase for the collective agreement settlements in response to the teachers’ labour dispute); and
- increased funding for Minor Capital.

FNESC is aware that some of the changes described above – especially the Student Location Factor change – has created large discrepancies when applied to funding for First Nation schools. FNESC fully intends to proactively pursue this issue with AANDC, with the goal of designing a realistic and fair funding formula for transportation.

As the TEFA funding model is based upon the provincial OGM with specific adaptations, FNESC will pursue a specific adaptation for transportation.

In addition, it is important to note that **the combination of changes to the TEFA funding model should have resulted in an overall funding increase for most First Nations schools.** FNESC is in the process of verifying the details of this understanding with AANDC. If you have experienced an **overall** funding decrease as a result of the set of changes, please let us know so that we are aware of funding concerns.

Finally, please remember that through TEFA, First Nation schools have increased flexibility within their funding allocations and they are not limited to specific budget lines; it is fully expected that schools will develop their budgets based on actual needs, rather than matching the items used for calculating the funding formula.

Questions and Support

Please do not hesitate to contact Jan Haugen at janh@fnesc.ca if you have any questions or concerns about this notice. If you have questions about your specific funding allocation, please contact your AANDC Funding Services Officer.

See <http://www.fnsa.ca/tefa> for past issues of the *eBulletin*. Your feedback is always welcome and appreciated.



First Nations Education Steering Committee

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