

MB4Youth Advisory Council
February 27, 2009
Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Brad Johnson, Inderveer Mahal, Jennifer Guth, Madison Hass, Chris Strue, Charlotte Holmes, Erin Wall, Vanja Tubin, Amber Darling, Liz Cochrane, Jacqueline Richelle, Lindsay Kaluznick, Chrystal Deschamps, Nancy Buchanan, Veronica Dyck

Regrets: Michael Alty, Vanessa Kozak, Jordyn Lerner, William Yeung

Meeting with Minister Peter Bjornson, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth – MB4Youth Advisory Council members met with the Minister to discuss issues of importance to the youth and the Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth. Council members expressed a concern over the lack of youth awareness of programs and services. The Council recommended doing more promotion of programs through counselors in the Kindergarten – 12 school system and in locations frequented by youth such as bus shelters, coffee shops and facebook. The Council discussed challenges for youth in rural Manitoba including the lack of course options and correspondence material. They also discussed the new physical/health education curriculum and the different experiences that each Council member has had with the curriculum. Council members expressed an interest in seeing more science labs and hands-on learning opportunities in high school and receiving more preparation in high school for post-secondary education. Minister Peter Bjornson also discussed the Tuition Fee Income Tax Rebate, Manitoba connections with the Council of Ministers of Education Canada, Youth Leadership Network and the Western and Northern Canadian Protocol. The meeting with the Minister ended with a group photo that will be posted on the opportunititesmb.ca website.

Debrief – Meeting with Minister Peter Bjornson – MB4Youth Advisory Council members enjoyed the new approach to the meeting with the Minister and felt they had made an important contribution that would be used to influence future decisions.

Manitoba Youth Town Hall Meeting with Ministers – Council members will be facilitating at the upcoming Manitoba Youth Town Hall Meeting with Ministers on May 1, 2009. Eight provincial Cabinet Ministers will be in attendance and the council will meet the night prior to the event to discuss Minister portfolios and the process for the day.

Taking IT Global – The MB4Youth Advisory Council participated in a focus group with a representative from Taking IT Global. The council discussed ways of getting youth more involved in their local and global communities, how to effectively engage youth in meaningful dialogue and ways of increasing youth involvement in global issues.

Council Business – Council members expressed an interest in meeting more frequently, engaging in an annual project and being more engaged in the community. The Council was also provided with a list of MB4Youth Division programming.

Next Meeting – April 30, 2009