



**ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**



- DATE:** Thursday, December 16, 2021 – 9:30 am – 12:00pm - Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
- CO-CHAIRS:** AJ Keene  
Serena Essex
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kristy Boucher, Keli Cristofaro, Elliott Cromarty, Elder Gerry Martin, Trustee George Saarinen, Yolanda Wanakamik, Indigenous Trustee Scottie Wemigwans
- ALTERNATES:** Trustee Ellen Chambers, Jennifer Chapman, Trustee Susan Doughty-Smith, Dinah Jung
- RESOURCES:** Anika Guthrie, Ashley Nurmela, Nick Sacevich, Fred Van Elburg
- GUESTS:** Jesslynn Friday, Indigenous Student Trustee, Patti Pella, Education Officer, Indigenous Education Office, Ministry of Education, Tim Sinclair, MNO
- ABSENT WITH REGRETS:** Kathy Beardy, Brittany Collins, Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Serena Essex, Donna Flasz, Pauline Fontaine, Eric Fredrickson, Mike Judge, Anna Fern Kakegamic, Sharon Kanutski, Cheryl King-Zewiec, Mehar Mago, Student Trustee, Leanna Marshall, Skylene Metatawabin, Jasmine Sgambelluri, Sophie Sutherland, Student Representative, Elder/Knowledge Keeper Renee Tookenay

	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1.	Opening Ceremonies	Elder Gerry Martin called the meeting to order.	Elder Gerry Martin
2.	2.1 Land Acknowledgement	Co-chair Keene acknowledged the lands and traditional territory.	AJ Keene
	2.2 Welcome and Introductions	Co-chair Keene welcomed everyone to the meeting and had all members introduce themselves.	AJ Keene

3.	Agenda and Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda - December 16, 2021	Moved by Trustee George Saarinen and seconded by Dinah Jung that the agenda for the December 16, 2021, AEAC Microsoft Teams meeting be approved as written.  <b>Carried</b>	AJ Keene
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – November 4, 2021	Moved by Trustee Wemigwans and seconded by Dinah Jung that the minutes for the November 4, 2021, AEAC meeting be approved as written.  <b>Carried</b>	AJ Keene
4.	Business Arising from the Minutes		
	4.1 Treaty Week Data	Anika Guthrie, FNMI Education Coordinator, informed the group that after discussions regarding Treaty Week at the previous meeting, a Microsoft Form/survey was prepared and distributed to school staff to gather information regarding how many individuals/classes are participating in Treaty Recognition Week.  Anika discussed the findings from the survey with the group.  All members' questions were addressed.	Anika Guthrie
5.	Presentations		
6.	New Business		
	6.1 Armstrong PS and Gull Bay	Co-chair Keene informed the committee about staffing issues in Armstrong and the numerous visits by various teachers and program staff that has occurred.  Anika Guthrie shared the return to in-person learning plan for the Gull Bay students returning to Armstrong with the committee.  All members' questions were addressed.	AJ Keene
	6.2 Virtual Family Language Nights	Anika Guthrie suggested to the committee that running Virtual Family Language Nights might be a good way to use the funds received by PIC.  There were no objections. Anika will look into it further.	Anika Guthrie

	6.3 Culturally Relevant Pedagogy Project	<p>Nick Sacevich shared information on the math de-streaming project which began last year in anticipation of its implementation with grade nine students this year. Our two schools participating are Hammarskjold High School and one of its feeder schools, Ecole Gron Morgan Public School.</p> <p>All members' questions were addressed.</p>	Nick Sacevich Anika Guthrie
	6.4 School Learning Plans	<p>Anika Guthrie shared the goals of different schools as they relate to Indigenous Education.</p> <p>All members' questions were addressed.</p>	Anika Guthrie
7.	Ongoing Business		
	7.1 COVID-19 Update	<p>Co-chair AJ Keene informed the committee that he does not have any new information regarding in-person learning after the winter break. Co-chair Keene shared that rapid antigen testing kits, provided by the ministry, will be provided for students to take home during the winter break.</p> <p>All members' questions were addressed.</p>	AJ Keene
	7.2 Indigenous Student Trustee Update	<p>Indigenous Student Trustee, Jesslyn Friday, shared with the committee that she recently met with Principal of Program and Early Years, Eric Fredrickson to discuss the Indigenous Student Senate she is planning for elementary and secondary students.</p> <p>Trustee Friday is hoping to conduct an Indigenous student wellbeing survey upon the implementation of the senate.</p> <p>Trustee Friday attended a workshop called "Fostering Indigenous Student Leadership" as well as the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Indigenous Trustees' Council.</p> <p>Trustee Friday also shared that she is currently working on a residential school art project that will be on display during the Grade 8 open house.</p>	Jesslyn Friday

	7.3 Native Language Supports and Resources	<p>Anika Guthrie informed the committee that the Native language teachers recently attended a workshop. Staff are currently working on building a resource bank of report card comments as they were unable to carry over the old bank of comments from the previous program. Native language teachers will be working together in the new year to add their comments to the resource bank.</p> <p>The new Native language position at Sherbrooke Public School and McKellar Park Central Public School is going well.</p>	Anika Guthrie
	7.4 Community Engagement Updates	<p>Ashley Nurmela shared with the group that she has been working closely with the teacher from KZ Lodge South. Ashley shared that she worked with the tutor at Sherbrooke Public School during their Spirit Week.</p>	Ashley Nurmela
8.	Information and Inquiries		
9.	Closing	Elder Gerry Martin closed the meeting.	
10.	Next Meeting	Thursday, February 10, 2022	
11.	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.	