



**Office of the Director**

Jim McCuaig Education Centre  
2135 Sills Street Thunder Bay ON P7E 5T2  
Telephone (807) 625-5131 Fax (807) 622-0961

**INAUGURAL BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022  
Jim McCuaig Education Centre  
6:00 p.m. – in the Board Room**

Sherril-Lynne Pharand  
Director of Education

**AGENDA**

- |     |  |                                 |                 |
|-----|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | Call to Order  |                                 |                 |
| 2.  | Land Acknowledgement   | Director                        |                 |
| 3.  | Notation of Municipal Clerk's Certificates of Election           | Director                        |                 |
| 4.  | Declarations and Oaths of Allegiance                             | Director                        |                 |
| 5.  | Election of Chair of the Board                                   | Director                        |                 |
| 6.  | Election of Vice Chair of the Board                              | Chair                           |                 |
| 7.  | Election of a Member and Alternate of the Coordinating Committee | Chair                           |                 |
| 8.  | Thunder Bay Public Library Board Annual Report (004-23)          | P. Johansen                     | 1-3             |
| 9.  | Appointment to the Thunder Bay Public Library Board (007-23)     | S. Pharand                      | 4               |
| 10. | Special Education Advisory Committee Annual Report (006-23)      | S. Posthumus/<br>M. Probizanski | 5-15            |
| 11. | Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Annual Report (005-23)   | S. Essex/<br>AJ Keene           | 16-21           |
| 12. | Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report (002-23)              | S. Pharand                      | 22-24           |
| 13. | Trustee Appointments to Board Committees – 2023 (003-23)         | S. Pharand                      | 25-26           |
| 14. | Director's Annual Report 2021-2022 (001-23)                      | S. Pharand                      | 27<br>+ Handout |

Trustees (Chair and Vice Chair) and presenters of reports will be available for comment after the Board Meeting.

15. Adjournment

**\*\* RECEPTION TO FOLLOW\*\***

Trustees (Chair and Vice Chair) and presenters of reports will be available for comment after the Board Meeting.

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2022 NOV 15  
Report No. 004-23

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD – Public Session

RE: THUNDER BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

1. Statistical Overview

Type:	Annual Stats			
	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total Uses	1,841,433	2,076,027	2,975,876	3,347,656**
New registrants - Children* (September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019)	673	273	263	910
New registrants -Youth* (September 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019)	112	77	70	139
Total Children's Members*	3,815	5,233	13,043	12,962
Total Youth Members*	3,617	5,600	5,732	5,701
Children and Youth Programs	376	67	1,365	1,384
Children and Youth Program Attendance	13,157	2,199	30,412	27,889
Average Children and Youth Program attendance per program	35	32.8	22.2	20.1
Class Visits - Public Schools	36	70	13	56
Class Visit Participants	2,152	2,526	385	2,082

\* Includes juvenile limit and non-resident members commencing 2009

Covid-19 has impacted a number of our normal services and procedures this year, including interactions with schools. This is reflected in the lower numbers for some items in the chart on page one.

2. Thunder Bay Public Library and Lakehead District School Board – Key Strategic Partner

2.1 Class Visits

During the 2021-2022 school year, virtual class visits were held for the majority of the year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In-person class visits resumed in the Spring. Library staff were able to host 39 class visits throughout the city across all school boards.

### Elementary Schools:

Seventeen virtual class visits happened in Lakehead Public Schools at the elementary level with a reach of 1,484 students and faculty members. Three in-person visits to libraries happened during this period which had attendance of 96 faculty and students.

### Secondary Schools:

Nine virtual workshops were held for Lakehead Public Schools at the secondary level with a reach of 217 students and faculty members. The focus of most workshops was on research methods, accessing library resources in the library and online, and building information literacy skills.

### Outreach

Outreach to schools will resume in the future.

## 2.2 Cooperative Education Placements and Volunteer Opportunities at the Library

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not accepting placements as part of our risk mitigation procedures, but we expect to be able to resume this post-pandemic.

Our Youth Action Council (YAC) provides volunteer opportunities for high school students to develop their critical thinking and leadership skills in an inclusive and engaging environment. The students provide a youth perspective on library services, purchasing materials for the library's collection, and help to plan and promote special programs for youth and young adults. The YAC meetings were held virtually during this time period; however, the meetings have resumed in-person for Fall of 2022.

YOUth reviews are another opportunity for teens to develop critical thinking by contributing to the Thunder Bay Public Library Off the Shelf blog, found at [tbplofftheshelf.com/tag/youth-review](http://tbplofftheshelf.com/tag/youth-review). During the 2021-2022 school year, 30 reviews were submitted. Our Youth Knitting program supplied materials to teens who then knit or crochet hats and scarves for community members experiencing homelessness during this time period. There were 40 hats and scarves created by the volunteers.

## 2.3 Northern Nature Trading

Northern Nature Trading is a special kind of swap shop located at the Mary J. L. Black Branch Library. Children of all ages can bring in the natural things they have found and trade them for things in our collection. This ongoing program inspires students to learn more about the natural world and is attractive to classes when planning visits to the library while they cover Environmental Education sections of the curriculum. Northern Nature Trading re-opened in May 2022.

#### 2.4 Research Opportunities at the Library

Students from all Lakehead Public Schools have free access to research material and online databases via the Thunder Bay Public Library. Library staff are available to provide guidance and support in accessing reliable information, as well as to conduct research workshops in the classroom at the request of a teacher or educator.

#### 2.5 TD Summer Reading Club

This popular summer program to prevent the summer slide in reading skills resumed in-person for the 2022 program at all four library locations.

In total, 550 children participated in the program. Two hundred and fifty children aged 0-5 and 300 school aged children registered to take part. This year, a number of contests were offered such as a colouring contest, a writing contest and a youth and adult BINGO card.

### 3. Closing

We thank the staff and members of the Board for their support and willingness to pursue opportunities to enhance our partnerships in order to achieve the best outcomes for the community we serve.

Respectfully submitted,

PAT JOHANSEN  
Lakehead District School Board Representative  
on the Thunder Bay Public Library Board

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2022 NOV 15  
Report No. 007-23

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD – Public Session

RE: APPOINTMENT TO THE THUNDER BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

1. Background

1.1 On September 30, 2022, an advertisement was placed via email to principals and vice principals and on the Board’s website, inviting applications for a four-year term on the Thunder Bay Public Library Board. Lakehead District School Board can appoint one representative to serve on the Library Board.

1.2 The deadline for applications was October 24, 2022.

2. Situation

Correspondence will be sent to the Thunder Bay Public Library advising of the Lakehead District School Board appointee to its board. A copy of the letter will be sent to the City of Thunder Bay for the city clerk’s information.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Lakehead District School Board appoint Trustee Pat Johansen as its representative on the Thunder Bay Public Library Board for a four-year term ending November 30, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERRI-LYNNE PHARAND  
Director of Education

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2022 NOV 15  
Report No. 006-23

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD – Public Session

RE: SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

1. Background

- 1.1 On January 18, 1983, in accordance with Regulation 464/97 of the Education Act, Lakehead District School Board (LDSB) established the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) to make recommendations to LDSB relating to matters affecting the establishment and development of special education programs and services in respect to exceptional students of LDSB.
- 1.2 To qualify as a representative, a person must be:
  - a Canadian citizen;
  - the full age of eighteen years;
  - a resident within the jurisdiction of LDSB; and
  - a public school elector.
- 1.3 A SEAC Member cannot be an employee of LDSB.
- 1.4 The term of office for representatives of associations or organizations coincides with the term of the LDSB.
- 1.5 SEAC is required to report annually to LDSB on its activities.

2. Situation

2.1 In December 2018, trustees passed a motion to appoint members to SEAC for the period December 2018 - November 2022. During 2021-2022, SEAC included members appointed for the term and included the following:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Association/Organization</b>
Wendy Carroll	Anishnawbe Mushkiki
Anne Antenucci	Autism Ontario North Region
Angela Hill	Children's Centre Thunder Bay
Sarah Niles Lesley Harding, Alternate	Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
Miranda Myers	Fetal Alcohol Support Information Network
Liz Tod Carey Murphy, Alternate	Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario
Suzanne Posthumus	OPTIONS Northwest
Kelly Matyasovszky	IEWS For the Visually Impaired – Thunder Bay Region
Mike Otway	VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children
Michelle Blackburn	George Jeffrey Children's Centre
Currently vacant	Community Representative
Marg Arnone	Trustee
Trudy Tuchenhagen	Trustee

2.2 According to legislation, SEAC meetings occur monthly from September to June during the school year. There are no meetings scheduled during July and August.



2.3 September 2021 - June 2022:

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>
Introduction of Special Education and Mental Health Teams	Maggie Fredrickson Megan Semeniuk
Equity Plan	Mahejabeen Ebrahim
Student Census	Mahejabeen Ebrahim
Special Education Audit Recommendations	Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis
Introduction of Special Class Placement Committee	Maggie Fredrickson
SEAC Video	Stephanie Rea
8090 Community Education Partnership Policy and Procedures	Kirsti Alaksa
Operational Plan	Michelle Probizanski
Superior Life Skills Program at Superior Life Skills	Katrena Brindley
Mental Health Wellness	Megan Semeniuk
Ontario Autism Program at George Jeffrey Children's Centre	Melissa Stolz Michelle Blackburn
Budget Presentation	Kirsti Alaksa
Special Class Presentation, Westmount Public School	Lisa Sgambelluri, Special Needs Teacher and Mark Moorhouse, Principal
Right to Read	Michelle Probizanski
8071 Bullying Prevention & Intervention Policy	Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis Kirsti Alaksa Michelle Probizanski
Special Education Audit	Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis
Life Skills Program Covid Style, Vance Chapman Public School	Special Needs Class Teacher, Lydia Wiita and Corrine Russell, Principal
Autism Ontario Program	Anne Antenucci
Special Needs Classroom Tour, Westgate Collegiate Vocational Institute	Michelle Probizanski
Special Education Review	Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis
Fully Accessible Playground, Boulevard Park	Lindsay Joseph, Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities
Junior Inclusion Services	Madison Berardi, City of Thunder Bay
Vision Services	Robyn Eady-Sitar, Vision Itinerant Teacher
Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocol	Mahejabeen Ebrahim
7005, Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures	Kirsti Alaksa

## 2.4 Professional Development

Special Education Advisory Committee members are always encouraged to participate in workshops and events specifically geared to SEAC members and their roles. Time was also set aside on each agenda to allow members to inform the rest of the group about any workshops/events that their respective associations may be hosting and to promote interest in workshops/events coming up in the community. Additionally, members have the opportunity to share resources that may be of interest to SEAC members.

The following are some of the resources, workshops and events shared with SEAC members:

- Children's Mental Health Ontario conference;
- LDSB 2022-2023 Budget presentation; and
- LDSB 2022-2023 SEAC budget deputation.

## 2.5 SEAC Participation and Input

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, participation was limited in person. Special Education Advisory Committee members provided a virtual SEAC Carousel Event on June 6, 2022. This SEAC event provided a place to learn about services available to parents/guardians/caregivers. Listed below are the organizations that presented at this virtual event:

- Options Northwest - Suzanne Posthumus;
- Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Lesley Harding;
- Children's Centre Thunder Bay - Angela Hill;
- George Jeffrey Children's Centre - Michelle Blackburn & Melissa Stolz; and
- Anishnawbe Mushkiki - Lauren Dupuis & Darren Borg.

Special Education Advisory Committee members were engaged in the process of providing information to the following:

- Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE), October 2021; and
- Parent Involvement Committee and the Equity and Inclusive Education Committee as representatives on the committees.

## 2.6 Work Plan

Each school year, a SEAC Work Plan is developed outlining objectives, key actions, timelines and intended results. Attached, as Appendix A, is the 2021-2022 SEAC Work Plan.

## 2.7 Provincial and Lakehead District School Board Involvement

Common issues regarding special education funding are shared with the Board of Trustees, Minister's office, OPSBA and the provincial SEACs.

To communicate the role of SEAC to the schools and our community, the following actions were taken:

- articles from SEAC members associations were forwarded to the schools for their monthly newsletters, and sharing on social media platforms; and
- information posted to the SEAC website.

Information sharing amongst SEAC representatives, and their organizations was ongoing in order to keep updated on the activities and workshops of children with special needs within our community.

Special Education Advisory Committee members presented a budget deputation to the Lakehead District School Board 2021-2022 budget meeting. Special Education Advisory Committee members participated on committees when required. Mike Otway represented SEAC on the Parent Involvement Committee and the Equity and Inclusive Education Advisory Committee.

## 2.8 Special Events

As a result of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) funding, SEAC virtually presented a carousel evening on June 6, 2022. A special information event providing information about the special needs services available within our community was held. This SEAC event provided valuable information to parents, guardians and caregivers.

A SEAC video describing the role and importance of SEAC was created and posted to LDSB web page for community use.

## 2.9 SEAC Input

On a regular basis, at SEAC meetings, input is requested of members on various topics. During the 2021-2022 school year, input was requested and provided by SEAC on the following:

- 8090 Community/Education Partnership Policy and Procedures;
- 8071 Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy;
- 7005 Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures;
- 2021-2022 Budget Deputation; and
- Special Education Plan.

3. Areas of Focus

The Special Education Advisory Committee will continue to promote and review the following:

- increase awareness of SEAC and understanding of schools and special education programs and services;
- advocate for students with special needs;
- improve parent and guardian knowledge of special education and SEAC;
- engage parents;
- ensure SEAC materials are current; and
- provide input to LDSB, organizations, agencies and committees, as requested.

4. Recognition

The Special Education Advisory Committee provided the “SEAC Leadership Award” to all three LDSB secondary schools for the second year. The recipients of the SEAC Awards for 2021-2022 were given to the following students:

- Lukas Hortis, Hammarskjold High School;
- Kieryn Tuuttila, Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute; and
- Mya Paterson, Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute.

5. Conclusion

The Special Education Advisory Committee supports the direction that Lakehead District School Board is taking in promoting parental/guardian partnerships and involvement.

The Special Education Advisory Committee acknowledges Lakehead District School Board for putting students first. The promotion of student success, by meeting the unique needs of all learners, ensures that each individual can achieve success.

The Special Education Advisory Committee members are to be commended for the time and commitment they have given to the activities of the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNE ANTENUCCI  
Vice Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee

SUZANNE POSTHUMUS  
Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee

MICHELLE PROBIZANSKI  
Superintendent of Education

**SEAC Work Plan 2021-2022**

<b>Goal 1</b>	<b>Increase SEAC Awareness and Understanding of Schools and Special Education Programs and Services</b>		
<b>Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• invite two schools to present information on how they support students and provide a tour of facility; and</li> <li>• hold SEAC meetings at schools that present.</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicators of Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase SEAC members knowledge and understanding of services offered within the school community.</li> </ul>		
<b>Timeline</b>	June 2021 and ongoing	<b>Responsible</b>	Chair, Vice Chair, Superintendent, Executive Secretary
<p><b>Record of Progress</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invitations were sent to schools inviting them to present a special education placement to SEAC.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Special class presentation from Vance Chapman Public School on their Life Skills program class by Lydia Wiita, Special Needs Class Teacher and Corrine Russell, Principal, Vance Chapman Public School; and</li> <li>b) Special class presentation was received from Westmount Public School by Lisa Sgambelluri, Special Needs Teacher.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. On May 18, 2022, the SEAC meeting was held at Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute. All attendees were given a tour of the school's Special Education classrooms.</li> </ol>			

**SEAC Work Plan 2021-2022**

<b>Goal 2</b>	<b>Advocate for Students with Special Needs</b>		
<b>Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• respond to current opportunities to advocate for students and families (i.e. transition committees, other initiatives);</li> <li>• advocate for students and families through the SEAC Advocacy Program;</li> <li>• review and provide input into LDSB policies and corresponding procedures which are relevant to SEAC from September 2021 to June 2022 as outlined in the “Order of Policies for Development and Review”; and</li> <li>• invite policy review leads to attend and present policies and procedures at SEAC meetings.</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicators of Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEAC members have access to a platform which allows them to provide input into LDSB policies and procedures.</li> </ul>		
<b>Timeline</b>	June 2021 and ongoing	<b>Responsible</b>	All SEAC Members
<p><b>Record of Progress</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The list of 2021-2022 policies and procedures scheduled for review were emailed to SEAC on October 14, 2021, with a link to LDSB website for easy access.</li> <li>2. The 8091 Community/Education Partnership policy and procedures was presented by Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business, on December 8, 2021.</li> <li>3. The 8071 Bullying Prevention and Intervention policy was presented on March 9, 2022, by Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal.</li> <li>4. The 7005 Code of Conduct policy was presented by Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business, on June 15, 2022.</li> </ol>			

## SEAC Work Plan 2021-2022

<b>Goal 3</b>	<b>Improve Parent / Guardian Knowledge of Special Education and SEAC, and Engage Parents in Supporting Their Child / Children</b>		
<b>Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• connect with Parent Involvement Committee and School Council chairs to arrange presentation(s) about SEAC;</li> <li>• inform parents/guardians of current Board initiatives;</li> <li>• in collaboration with PIC, host a joint parent/community engagement event in 2021-2022;</li> <li>• finalize video(s) related to student supports and accommodations;</li> <li>• include SEAC meeting dates under “Upcoming Events” on the main page of Lakehead Public Schools’ website; and</li> <li>• send SEAC information out to community organizations (i.e. role, meeting dates).</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicators of Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• feedback through event evaluation, presenter, and SEAC members;</li> <li>• participation level in SEAC events;</li> <li>• complete the development of videos and post to the Board website; and</li> <li>• broader distribution of SEAC information within the community.</li> </ul>		
<b>Timeline</b>	June 2021 and Ongoing	<b>Responsible</b>	All SEAC Members, Superintendent, Executive Secretary
<b>Record of Progress</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On September 14, 2021, a SEAC survey was posted to LDSB website, providing parents the opportunity to suggest topics they would like to hear from SEAC for the 2021-2022 school year.</li> <li>2. A carousel evening on June 6, 2022, provided a virtual event to the community with the special needs services within our community. This SEAC event provides one place to learn services available to parents/guardians/caregivers. Below are the organizations that presented: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Options Northwest - Suzanne Posthumus;</li> <li>b. Dilico Anishinabek Family Care - Lesley Harding;</li> <li>c. Children’s Centre Thunder Bay - Angela Hill;</li> <li>d. George Jeffrey Children’s Centre - Michelle Blackburn &amp; Melissa Stolz; and</li> <li>e. Anishnawbe Mushkiki - Lauren Dupuis &amp; Darren Borg.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. A SEAC video was created and posted to LDSB web page for community use.</li> <li>4. All LDSB secondary schools nominated one student that meets all the criteria in order to receive the SEAC Scholarship for their school.</li> <li>5. The following presentations were given to SEAC: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Junior Inclusion, City of Thunder Bay;</li> <li>b. Vision Services, LDSB;</li> <li>c. Superior Life Skills, Katrena Brindley and Jennifer Logan;</li> <li>d. Ontario Autism Program, George Jeffrey Children’s Centre; and</li> <li>e. Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities, Lindsay Joseph.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>			

**SEAC Work Plan 2021-2022**

<b>Goal 4</b>	<b>Ensure SEAC and Materials are Current</b>		
<b>Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• review and update binders on an annual basis (as needed);</li> <li>• review and update advocacy memo; share with schools, community partners and post on the Board website; and</li> <li>• maintain SEAC advocacy information, and other materials, which can be shared with students, parents/guardians and schools.</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicators of Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEAC materials are current and available for easy access.</li> </ul>		
<b>Timeline</b>	Ongoing	<b>Responsible</b>	All SEAC Members, Superintendent, Executive Secretary
<p><b>Record of Progress</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All forms and updates are provided on the Board's SEAC web page.</li> <li>2. Pamphlets provided for the following events:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. school open houses;</li> <li>b. Kindergarten event; and</li> <li>c. IEP distribution.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>			



## SEAC Work Plan 2021-2022

<b>Goal 5</b>	<b>Provide Input to the Board, organizations, agencies and committees as requested.</b>		
<b>Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>engage with other bodies to support special needs students.</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicators of Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>requests for SEAC engagement have been addressed.</li> </ul>		
<b>Timeline</b>	Ongoing	<b>Responsible</b>	All SEAC Members, Superintendent, Executive Secretary
<b>Record of Progress</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for students and families through the SEAC Advocacy Program.</li> <li>Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Human Rights and Equity Advisor, presented Lakehead District School Boards' (LDSB) Equity Plan for feedback.</li> <li>Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Human Rights and Equity Advisor, presented LDSB Student Census 2021-2022.</li> <li>Mahejabeen Ebrahim, Human Rights and Equity Advisor, and Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal, presented LDSB Anti-sex Trafficking protocol.</li> <li>Maggie Fredrickson, System Principal, Special Education, presented the 2021-2022 Special Education plan.</li> <li>Kirsti Alaksa, Superintendent of Business, presented LDSB 2022-2023 Special Education budget.</li> <li>Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis, System Principal, presented the 2021-2022 Special Education review.</li> </ol>			

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2022 NOV 15  
Report No. 005-23

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD – Public Session

RE: ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

1. Background

- 1.1 On June 22, 2004, the 8061 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee policy was approved by Lakehead District School Board (LDSB) authorizing the establishment of a committee to make recommendations to the Board on matters relating to the education of Aboriginal students. The policy was reviewed and updated during the 2020-2021 school year.
- 1.2 The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (AEAC) is required to report to the Board on its activities. Minutes of meetings are included in Board agendas.

2. Situation

- 2.1 The co-chairs for the 2021-2022 school year were Serena Essex and AJ Keene.
- 2.2 The cultural spirit of this unique committee is reflected in the integration of Indigenous protocols such as opening and closing words by an Indigenous Elder or Knowledge Carrier.
- 2.3 The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee held seven virtual meetings during the 2021-2022 school year.

- 2.4 The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee was comprised of the following individuals from September 2021 to June 2022:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>AFFILIATION</b>
<b>MEMBERS:</b>	
BEARDY, Kathy	Community/Agency
BOUCHER, Kristy	Parent/Guardian
CH'NG, Shelby	Community/Agency
CRISTOFARO, Keli	Community/Agency
CROMARTY, Elliot	Community/Agency
ESSEX, Serena	Co-Chair
FONTAINE, Pauline	Elementary Principal
FRIDAY, Jesslynn	Indigenous Student Trustee
KAKEGAMIC, Anna Fern	Community/Agency
KANUTSKI, Sharon	Parent/Guardian
KEENE, AJ	Co-Chair
KING-ZEWIEC, Cheryl	Parent/Guardian
MARSHALL, Leanna	Community/Agency
MARTIN, Gerry	Elder
SAARINEN, George	Trustee
WANAKAMIK, Yolanda	Parent/Guardian
WEMIGWANS, Scottie	Indigenous Trustee
<b>ALTERNATES:</b>	
CHAMBERS, Ellen	Trustee
CHAPMAN, Jennifer	Community/Agency
DONOHUE, Crystal	Community/Agency
DOUGHTY-SMITH, Susan	Trustee
JUNG, Dinah	ETFO representative
SAGUTCHEWAY, Alexa	Student Representative
SUTHERLAND, Sophie	Student Representative
<b>RESOURCES:</b>	
ABBOTT, Maureen	Special Projects Principal
COLLINS, Brittany	Community/Agency
EBRAHIM, Mahejabeen	Human Rights & Equity Advisor
FLASZA, Donna	Secondary Vice Principal
JUDGE, Mike	ETFO President
NURMELA, Ashley	FNMI Community Liaison Officer
RYDHOLM, Charity	Executive Secretary
SACEVICH, Nick	Secondary Program
SGAMBELLURI, Jasmine	FNMI Education Resource Teacher
VAN ELBURG, Fred	Program Coordinator

- 2.5 The chair is elected annually at the December meeting.
- 2.6 The following presentations have been shared at the regular meetings for committee feedback:

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>
Summer Learning Programs September 16, 2021	Nick Sacevich Eric Fredrickson
Aboriginal Education Board Report September 16, 2021	Anika Guthrie
Student Census/Voluntary Student Identity Survey Presentation September 16, 2021	Mahejabeen Ebrahim
Treaty Week and FNMI Resources November 4, 2021	Jasmine Sgambelluri
AEAC Work Plan November 4, 2021	AJ Keene Anika Guthrie
Budget Presentation March 24, 2022	Stephanie Ryyanen
KZ Lodge Partnerships March 24, 2022	Erin Aylward Lisa MacLeod
Barren Ground Book Club May 19, 2022	Anika Guthrie
National Indigenous History Month May 19, 2022	Jasmine Sgambelluri
Summer Programs May 19, 2022	Nick Sacevich Maureen Abbott
Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocol June 9, 2022	Mahejabeen Ebrahim Anne Marie McMahon-Dupuis

- 2.7 The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee provided input to LDSB's 2021-2022 budget and would like to thank trustees for their ongoing support of First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) priorities at LDSB.
- 2.8 Lakehead District School Board confirmed financial support to AEAC by providing a working budget for the committee. Lakehead District School Board supports the continuation of this work through the positions of the FNMI community liaison officer, the FNMI education resource teacher and the support for many Indigenous education priorities, including FNMI student support workers and FNMI graduation coaches.
- 2.9 Native Language and First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies (FNMI) courses continue to be a priority for the committee. First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies courses are offered at all three secondary schools. Elementary Ojibwe Language programs continued at Armstrong Public School, Algonquin Avenue Public School, McKellar Park Central Public School, Ogden Community Public School, Sherbrooke Public Schools and expanded to include St. James Public School in the 2020-2021 school year.

- 2.10 The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee continues to be instrumental in guiding and supporting initiatives in FNMI education such as the expansion of the FNMI Student Support Worker programs, community partnerships, cultural awareness through professional development, cultural programming, Indigenous role models, surveys to assess the feasibility for additional Native Language classes, welcoming school environments and increasing FNMI presence in our schools.
- 2.11 With generous funding from the Parent Involvement Committee, AEAC was able to organize and host virtual Anishnaabemowin Family Nights. Ojibwe Language Teacher, Corine Bannon, taught common phrases, numbers, introductions and shared stories with families on Thursday evenings during the month of April. Copies of the book *Pocket Ojibwe for Kids and Parents* were shared with all families who signed up to participate.
- 2.12 Community Involvement
- 2.12.1 The ongoing community relationships and success for students comes through working alongside community committees including Indigenous Youth Achievement and Recognition Awards (IYARA) and Community Coalition Unified for the Protection of Children and Youth (CCUPCY) who initiate annual events such as Fall Harvest (every September). The National Indigenous Peoples Day committee works towards the nationally celebrated event on June 21, annually, with an Education Day component, to celebrate FNMI culture.
- 2.12.2 Collaboration with Matawa Education Partnership Program, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Education Partnership Programs and individual First Nations Communities' Education support staff offer LDSB the opportunity to hear the collective and individual voices of Reciprocal Education Service Agreements and offers opportunities to work collaboratively with communities and band councils regarding the transition of students into Thunder Bay and Lakehead Public Schools.
- 2.12.3 Collaboration with the following community partners continued: Fort William First Nation, Whitesand First Nation, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay), NAN Education Partnership Program, Matawa Learning Centre, Confederation College, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay District Health Unit, Ontario Physical Health Education Association, City of Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre, Roots to Harvest, Thunder Bay Police and Thunder Bay Art Gallery for curriculum collaboration.

## 2.13 Board Involvement

- 2.13.1 Elementary, secondary, and program resource staff regularly attend meetings as a resource to the committee to provide information and receive input from the committee on various initiatives.
- 2.13.2 The FNMI education resource teacher acts as a resource to AEAC. This role provided support for elementary and secondary teachers, support for FNMI Studies courses and Native Language teachers and FNMI student support workers.
- 2.13.3 The position of the FNMI community liaison officer supports the implementation of Board initiatives and activities in FNMI education. This role focuses on nurturing relationships and creating partnerships between community/First Nations and the Board/schools (K-12) that support student learning related to FNMI education and Aboriginal student success.

The FNMI community liaison officer promotes and utilizes the First Nation, Métis and Inuit Presence in Our Schools booklet. Printed copies continue to be provided to all schools and educators as requested. It is also available online.

Visits to First Nation communities have also helped to strengthen these relationships and provide additional opportunity for knowledge and needs sharing.

Welcome to Kindergarten booklets were distributed to parents and included tips for parents to support the transition of their children into Kindergarten. The FNMI education team also provided information on the importance of self-identification. Self-identification is the voluntary, confidential declaration of FNMI ancestry. All new registrants are asked to self-identify regardless of ancestry. Parents are not required to show proof of ancestry at any point in time.

The FNMI community liaison officer launched the pilot student census at Woodcrest Public School and Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute with the human rights and equity advisor. The Student Census is expected to be Board wide in February 2022.

3. Conclusion

The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee members are to be commended for the time and commitment they have given to the activities of the committee. The committee will continue to act in an advisory role to fulfill its mandate as outlined in 8061 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee procedures. The committee extends its thanks to LDSB for its support of the committee and commitment to Aboriginal education.

Miigwetch.

Respectfully submitted,

SERENA ESSEX  
Co-Chair, Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee

AJ KEENE  
Co-Chair, Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee  
Superintendent of Education

ANIKA GUTHRIE  
First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Coordinator

SHERRI-LYNNE PHARAND  
Director of Education

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2022 NOV 15  
Report No. 002-23

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD – Public Session

RE: PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

1. Background

- 1.1 On December 1, 2005, the Ministry of Education released the Ontario Parent Involvement Policy which outlined the need for the establishment of Board level Parent Involvement Committees (PICs). Lakehead District School Board established its first Parent Involvement Committee in June 2006.
- 1.2 In September 2010, the Ministry of Education adopted Ontario Regulation 330/10 School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees requiring each school board to establish a Parent Involvement Committee that adheres to the requirements outlined in legislation.
- 1.3 The Parent Involvement Committee operates under the By-Laws that were established in 2011 and are reviewed bi-annually.
- 1.4 Sec. 50. (1) of Regulation 330/10 requires that *“A parent involvement committee of a board shall annually submit a written summary of the committee’s activities to the Chair of the Board and to the Board’s Director of Education.”*



## 2. Situation

2.1 The 2021-2022 Parent Involvement Committee was comprised of the following members:

Member's Name	Group Represented
Kristy Boucher	Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (AEAC)
Robin Cawlishaw	Community Representative
Laura Prodanyk	Community Representative
Chitra Jacob	Parent Member
Julie Morin	Parent Member
Michael Otway	Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
Shannon Jessiman-MacArthur	Principal Representative
Eric Fredrickson	Alternate Principal Representative
Fred Van Elburg	Teacher Representative
Connor Pratt	Alternate Teacher Representative
Marg Arnone	Trustee Representative
Trudy Tuchenhagen	Trustee Representative
Ellen Chambers	Alternate Trustee Representative
Ian MacRae	Director of Education
Judy Hill	Executive Assistant

2.2 Six meetings were held this year.

2.3 Regular meetings included opportunities to receive information and to give feedback on topics such as:

- Equity Plan;
- Student Census;
- 2021-2024 Strategic Plan;
- Summer Programs;
- Student Trustee Update;
- Mental Health Update;
- Indigenous Student Trustee Update;
- 2022-2023 School Year Calendar;
- 2022-2023 Budget Process;
- 8066 Safe Arrival Policy;
- OPSBA 2022 Awards Program; and
- Director's Report (an item on all agendas).

2.4 The Parent Involvement Committee provided input to the Board's 2022-2023 Budget.

- 2.5 Funding was provided to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (AEAC) to support activities for parents.

The Special Education Advisory Committee requested and received approval from the PIC committee to carry forward the funds. Due to COVID-19, SEAC was not able to host an event, in person, for parents.

The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee hosted four virtual family Anishnaabemowin Language nights during the month of April. Invitations were shared through schools and on the Lakehead Public Schools social media platforms. Forty families registered and were mailed a copy of the pocket Ojibwe for Kids and Families dictionaries. On average, there were 20 people participating each week.

- 2.6 The Parent Involvement Committee continued to focus on the enhancement of communication strategies and exchange of information with parents and school councils. This included supporting information for school newsletters and school council chairs, regular updates to the Parent Involvement Committee and school council sections of the Lakehead Public Schools website and a school council email network.
- 2.7 During the year, the Parent Involvement Committee was represented by Robin Cawlishaw as PIC representative on the School Year Calendar Committee.

### 3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The Parent Involvement Committee acknowledges the Board for its support of parent involvement.
- 3.2 The Parent Involvement Committee members are to be commended for the time and commitment they have given to the activities of the committee.
- 3.3 The 2022-2023 Parent Involvement Committee will hold its first meeting on November 21, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERRI-LYNNE PHARAND  
Director of Education

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2022 NOV 15  
Report No. 003-23

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD - Public Session

RE: TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS ON BOARD COMMITTEES - 2023

1. Background

- 1.1 Trustee appointments to Board committees took place on November 9, 2022.
- 1.2 Trustees meet informally to determine a balanced representation on the Board committees.
- 1.3 Annual appointments to Board committees are brought to the Board for approval.

2. Situation

Appointments to Board committees for 2023 have been determined and are included as Appendix A to Report No. 003-23.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Lakehead District School Board approve the Trustee Appointments to Board Committees - 2023 as set out in Appendix A to Report No. 003-23.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERRI-LYNNE PHARAND  
Director of Education



## LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

<b>TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS ON BOARD COMMITTEES - 2023</b>		<b>Chambers</b>	<b>Johansen</b>	<b>LeBlanc</b>	<b>Oikonen</b>	<b>Saarinen</b>	<b>Sitch</b>	<b>Tuohenhagen</b>	<b>Vanderwey</b>	<b>Wemigwans</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>STATUTORY COMMITTEES</b>									
1.1	Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) <i>(2 Trustees + 2 Alternates)</i>		A	A				X	X	
1.2	Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL) <i>(1 Trustee + 1 Alternate)</i>			X				A		
1.3	Suspension Appeal Hearing/Expulsion Hearing Committee <i>(3 Trustees + 3 Alternates)</i>		A	X	A	X		A	X	
1.4	Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) <i>(1 Trustee + 1 Alternate)</i>	A				X				
1.5	Audit Committee <i>(3 Trustees)</i>				X			X		X
<b>2.</b>	<b>REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BOARDS AND AGENCIES</b>									
	Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Delegate <i>(1 Trustee + 1 Alternate)</i>						X		A	
<b>3.</b>	<b>OTHER COMMITTEES</b>									
3.1	Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee (AEAC) <i>(2 Trustees (one of which is the Indigenous Trustee) + 2 Alternates)</i>	A	X				A			X
3.2	OPSBA Awards Selection Committee <i>(3 Trustees)</i>		X	X					X	
3.3	Budget Committee <i>(All Trustees)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.4	Communications Committee <i>(All Trustees)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.5	Board Development Committee <i>(3 Trustees)</i>	X	X	X						
3.6	OPSBA Director Liaison Committee <i>(All Trustees)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.7	Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay Committee (STSTB) <i>(1 Trustee + 1 Alternate)</i>				A	X				
3.8	School Year Calendar Committee <i>(1 Trustee)</i>		X							
3.9	Equity and Inclusive Education Committee <i>(1 Trustee + 1 Alternate)</i>	X	A							
3.10	<i>Lakehead Public Schools International (1 Trustee + 1 Alternate – two-year term) December 2021 – December 2023</i>						X	A		
<b>4.</b>	<b>ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT ANNUAL/INAUGURAL MEETING</b>									
	Coordinating Committee <i>(Chair, Vice Chair + 1 Elected Trustee + 1 Elected Alternate)</i>									

\* A = Alternate, C = Chair, VC = Vice Chair, X = Member

November 10, 2022

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2022 NOV 15  
Report No. 001-23

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF  
LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD – Public Session

RE: DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

1. Background

1.1 Section 283. (3) of the Education Act states:

“(3) General report of chief executive officer – At the first meeting in December of each year, the chief executive officer of a board shall submit to the board a report in a format approved by the Minister on the action he or she has taken during the preceding 12 months” ... “a copy of such report shall be submitted to the Minister on or before the 31st day of January next following.”

1.2 A memorandum dated February 17, 2012 from Kevin Costante, Deputy Minister, notes that posting the Director's Annual Report to the Board website will satisfy the requirements of the Education Act and the requirement for Directors to report annually on multi-year plans.

2. Situation

2.1 It is customary that the Board receive the Director's Annual Report at the Annual or Inaugural meeting.

2.2 The Director's Annual Report is available virtually at <https://www.lakeheadschoools.ca/directors-annual-report-2/>.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Lakehead District School Board receive the Director's Annual Report 2021-2022.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERRI-LYNNE PHARAND  
Director of Education