



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, September 21, 2023 – 9:00 am – 12:00pm – Boardroom/Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

CO-CHAIR: Anika Guthrie
Heather Harris

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shelby Ch'ng, Emily Drake, Indigenous Student Trustee, Sharon Kanutski, Cheryl King-Zewiec, Elder Gerry Martin, Angelina Tassone, Morning Star Tom, Leland Waboose, Neil Workman

ALTERNATES: Trustee Ellen Chambers, Sheila DeCorte

RESOURCES: Jackie Corbett, Jane Lower, Tanya Moses, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education, Jasmine Sgambelluri, Meghan Smelow

GUESTS: Miranda Lesperance, Patti Pella, Education Officer, Indigenous Education Office, Ministry of Education, Fred Van Elburg

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Myra Bannon, Kathy Beardy, Elliott Cromarty, Anthony Jeethan, Trustee Pat Johansen, Dinah Jung, Anna Fern Kakegamic, Dave Paddington, Brett Parres, Trustee Ryan Sitch (Alternate), Elder/Knowledge Keeper Renee Tookenay, Yolanda Wanakamik, Indigenous Trustee Scottie Wemigwans

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	Opening	Elder Gerry called the meeting to order.	Elder Gerry
2.	2.1 Land Acknowledgement	Co-chair Anika Guthrie acknowledged the lands and traditional territory.	Anika Guthrie
	2.2 Welcome and Introductions	Co-Chair Anika Guthrie welcomed everyone to the meeting and had all members introduce themselves.	Anika Guthrie

3.	Agenda and Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda - September 21, 2023	Moved by Sharon Kanutski and seconded by Elder Gerry Martin, that the agenda for the September 21, 2023 Miiniwewinan meeting be approved with the following amendment: That 5.2 Fall Harvest be replaced with Truth and Reconciliation Week. Carried	Anika Guthrie
	3.2 Approval of Minutes – June 15, 2023	Moved by Trustee Ellen Chambers and seconded by Sharron Kanutski, that the minutes for the June 15, 2023 Miiniwewinan meeting be approved as written. Carried	Anika Guthrie
4.	Business Arising from the Minutes		
	4.1 Miiniwewinan Membership	Co-chair Anika Guthrie shared an outline of the current committee membership requirements and made suggestions of possible changes to update the document. All members' questions were addressed.	Anika Guthrie
	4.2 PIC Alternate	Co-chair Anika Guthrie asked for a volunteer to become the alternate member on the Parent Involvement Committee. There were no volunteers at this time. All members' questions were addressed.	Anika Guthrie
	4.3 Year at a Glance	Jasmine Sgambelluri, FNMI Resource Teacher, shared a resource highlighting Indigenous Education Celebrations and Commemorations for teachers to use to help plan their school year teachings. Feedback was requested from the committee. All members' questions were addressed.	Jasmine Sgambelluri
5.	New Business		
	5.1 First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Learning	Co-chair Anika Guthrie shared the FNMI Education Continuum that helps ensure students are exposed to Indigenous knowledge at almost every grade level. All members' questions were addressed.	Anika Guthrie

	5.2 Truth and Reconciliation Week	Jackie Corbett, FNMI, Student Success Resource Teacher and Jasmine Sgambelluri, FNMI Resource Teacher, shared a revised document that is distributed throughout the board to assist educators with their planning during Truth and Reconciliation Week. All members' questions were addressed.	Jackie Corbett Jasmine Sgambelluri
	5.3 Language Revitalization Strategy	Anika Guthrie, Co-chair shared that funding has been received for a three-year language revitalization strategy to be implemented at Lakehead Public Schools. All members' questions were addressed.	Anika Guthrie

6.	Presentations		
	6.1 Summer Learning Programs - Elementary	Fred Van Elburg, Program Coordinator, shared a presentation about the elementary summer learning programs that took place at five Lakehead Public Schools. All members' questions were addressed.	Fred Van Elburg
	6.2 Mino Bimaadiziwin 2023, Indigenous Youth Leadership Program	The Mino Bimaadiziwin presentation was deferred to the November 2, 2023 meeting.	Anika Guthrie
	6.3 Four Directions Reach Ahead Program	The Four Directions Reach Ahead Program presentation was deferred to the November 2, 2023 meeting.	Anika Guthrie
7.	Ongoing Business		
	7.1 Indigenous Student Trustee Update	Emily Drake, Indigenous Student Trustee, shared an update on activities she has been involved with so far this year which included the Four Directions Reach Ahead Program, the Nishnawbe Aski Nation student orientation, and the Ontario Indigenous Student Trustee meeting she attended.	Emily Drake
	7.2 Community Updates	Tanya Moses, FNMI Partnership Coordinator shared an update on activities she has been involved with so far this year and shared that the Fall Harvest celebration has been postponed until next year.	Tanya Moses

8.	Information and Inquiries	<p>Shelby Ch'ng shared information about funding received at Matawa that will be used to offer workshops to students living in community who are about to attend school in Thunder Bay or Geraldton. There may be opportunities for committee members to travel with Matawa to assist with the workshops. More information will be shared at a later date.</p> <p>Co-chair Anika Guthrie shared that she will be stepping down as co-chair of Miiniwewinan as she has accepted a new role within the Board. Heather Harris, Superintendent of Education, will be the new co-chair.</p>
9.	Closing	Elder Gerry closed the meeting.
10.	Next Meeting	Thursday, November 7, 2023
11.	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.