Lakehead Public Schools

MIINIWEWINAN
INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, May 14, 2026, 9:30 am – 12:00pm – Boardroom/Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

CO-CHAIR: Heather Harris
Serena Essex

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathleen Andrews, Trustee Ellen Chambers, Shelby Ch'ng, Elliott Cromarty, Elder Sheila DeCorte, Eryn Genno, Indigenous Student Trustee, Anna Fern Kakegamic, Elder Gerry Martin, Elder Melissa Roberts, Angelina Tassone

ALTERNATES: Trustee Pat Johansen, Dinah Jung, Akansha Kaur

RESOURCES: Kali Bernst, Juliana Chapman, Student Representative, Anika Guthrie, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Jasmine Sgambelluri, Kyra Visitor, Student Representative

GUESTS: Patti Pella, Education Officer, Indigenous Education Office, Ministry of Education

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Kathy Beardy, Katie Borysewicz, Anthony Jeethan, Cheryl King-Zewiec, Jane Lower, Grant Robbins, Morning Star Tom, Trustee Scottie Wemigwans

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	Opening	Elder Gerry Martin opened the meeting.	Elder Gerry Martin
2.	2.1 Land Acknowledgement	Co-chair Serena Essex acknowledged the lands and traditional territory.	Serena Essex
	2.2 Welcome and Introductions	Co-chair Heather Harris welcomed everyone to the meeting and had all members introduce themselves.	Heather Harris

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
3.	Agenda and Minutes		
	3.1 Approval of Agenda - May 14, 2026	Moved by Trustee Pat Johansen and seconded by Elliott Cromarty, that the agenda for the May 14, 2026, Miiniwewinan meeting be approved as written. **Carried**	Serena Essex
	3.2 Approval of Minutes - April 9, 2026	Moved by Shelby Ch'ng and seconded by Anna Fern Kakegamic, that the minutes for the April 9, 2026 Miiniwewinan meetings be approved as written. **Carried**	Serena Essex
4.	Presentations		
	4.1 Mid-Year Student Achievement	Kali Bernst, Principal of Indigenous Education and Program and Kathleen Andrews, Student Success Lead, presented the Mid-Year Student Achievement Report highlighting K-2 Early Years data, Grades 3 and 6 EQAO outcomes, and secondary credit accumulation. All members' questions were addressed.	Kali Bernst Kathleen Andrews
	4.2 Indigenous Education Report	Kali Bernst, Principal of Indigenous Education and Program and Jasmine Sgambelluri, FNMI Education Resource Educator, shared the Indigenous Education Report providing an overview of current activities, progress, priorities, and ongoing work taking place within our board. All members' questions were addressed.	Kali Bernst Jasmine Sgambelluri
5.	Business Arising from the Minutes		
	5.1 Budget Submission	Co-chair Heather Harris shared the Budget Deputation that was created based on committee feedback and was presented to the Finance Committee.	Heather Harris
	5.2 Bill 101 and Response to Minister	Co-chair Heather Harris shared information about Bill 101 and some of the regulations and changes that will occur. All members' questions were addressed.	Heather Harris

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	5.3 Miiniwewinan Meetings 2026-2027	Co-chair Heather Harris shared proposed meeting dates for the 2026-2027 school year. It was suggested to shift the proposed November date to one week later due to Treaties Recognition Week.	Heather Harris
	5.4 Ontario Arts Council Grant	Jasmine Sgambelluri, FNMI Education Resource Educator, shared information about the projects and artists that visited some of our schools during the second year of the grant. All members questions were addressed.	Jasmine Sgambelluri
6.	New Business		
	6.1 Fall Family Event Discussion	This item was deferred until the October 2026 meeting.	Serena Essex
	6.2 Parent / Guardian / Caregiver Recruitment	Co-chair Serena Essex shared that the committee is looking for parent/guardian/caregiver members to join the committee. It was suggested to have a “meet and greet” to make it comfortable for newcomers.	Serena Essex
7.	Ongoing Business		
	7.1 Indigenous Student Trustee Update	Eryn Genno, Indigenous Student Trustee shared an update about the process of choosing the new Indigenous Student Trustee.	Eryn Genno
	7.2 Anishinaabemowin Revitalization	Anika Guthrie, Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Coordinator, provided information on upcoming events. All members’ questions were addressed.	Anika Guthrie
8.	Information and Inquiries	Trustee Ellen Chambers shared information about the recognition received from the Canadian School Board Association for the partnership between the Indigenous Friendship Centre and Lakehead Public Schools for the KZ Lodge.	
9.	Closing	Elder Gerry closed the meeting.	
10.	Next Meeting	October 1, 2026	
11.	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.	