

IEAC Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2020

Teams Meeting – Hosted by Niagara Catholic

**ATTENDANCE**

Niagara Catholic District School Board

Ted Farrell, Krista Moscato, Marco Magazzeni, Tammi Givans (parent rep), Hanna Jones (student rep), Brian Kon

District School Board of Niagara

Angela McClary, Marian Reimer-Friesen, Geraldine Davies, Helen McGregor, Gary Parker, Tamara Lockhart, Keelee Hollowell (student rep), Jamie Groat

Niagara College

Ashley Buck, Emily Schutt

Niagara Regional Native Centre

Karl Dockstader, Mia Bakker

Niagara Region Métis Council

Kelsey Huxley

NPAAMB

Jason Shawana

Brock University

Sandra Wong, Cindy Biancaniello

Honoured Guest

Dave Labbe (Elder)

Regrets: Bobbi Jones-Japp, Wendy Sturgeon, Louis Hickey, Derrick Pont

1. WELCOME & OPENING:
  - a. Brian Kon welcomed everyone to the meeting.
  - b. Karl Dockstader provided an Opening and welcomed everyone in a good way.
  - c. Introductions of members present.
  
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  - a. Agenda approved as previously circulated.
  
3. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup>
  - a. Minutes were previously distributed. No corrections. Approved by consensus.
    - i. Later in the meeting it was noted that Mia Bakker had been omitted from the listing of Terms of Reference subcommittee members.
  
4. CO-CHAIR PRESENTATION

- a. Brian Kon, Jamie Groat, Karl Dockstader, & Ashely Buck presented their Co-Chair discussions about shortening the amount of time community members are called to participate in IEAC meetings. In an effort of the two Boards working collaboratively, it was felt the joint meeting time could be spent on resources and services that affect all students in Niagara with input from the various community agencies. Shortened individual Board time prior and after the main meeting (approximately 30 minutes each), with the potential of eliminating these in the future. The subcommittees would have more emphasis on completing work between IEAC meetings and then presenting a summary of activities. The Board Action Plan subcommittee will continue, however, the meetings will be organized into three sections that allow the two Boards to meet with the subcommittee as a whole and then each Board will have individual time with the subcommittee members to address their unique BAP. The meetings will be coordinated to run consecutively so that community members only allocate time for one meeting divided between the two Boards.

#### 5. SUB-COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

- a. Grants & Finance – the subcommittee will meet to review and discuss potential funding sources outside regular school funding. Marco Magazzeni has agreed to continue to Chair this subcommittee. Members of the subcommittee include: Ashley Buck, Emily Schutt, Karl Dockstader, Jamie Groat, and Brian Kon.
- b. Terms of Reference – Geraldine Davies agreed to call the first meeting, after which a new Chair may be selected. Members of the subcommittee include: Ashley Buck, Karl Dockstader, Jamie Groat, Gary Parker, Mia Bakker and Brian Kon.
- c. BAP – With the new structure and more emphasis on a stronger working group, Jamie Groat and Brian Kon will be the Co-Leads for this subcommittee. Under the proposed structure there may be joint time with all members of the subcommittee, but the majority of work will be separated for each Board. Meeting will be scheduled back-to-back to reduce strain on community members. Given the importance of this subcommittee, all IEAC members will receive the notice of the meetings and have the option to attend. The group who have committed to this subcommittee include: Ashley Buck, Karl Dockstader, Sandra Wong, Krista Moscato, Angela McClary, and Kelsey Huxley.

#### 6. COMMUNITY ROUND TABLE

- a. Community members were asked to focus their reports on activities and events that benefit students.

#### NRNC

- Their way of helping people is changing but they are an essential service provider so staff are there and open for business.

#### Niagara College

- A number of events were held that connect students/staff with Elders Dave Labbe and Elaine Berwald. Some have been online, others employed social distancing techniques to keep everyone safe. Other events with the St. Catharines Performing Art Centre, and One Dish One Mic were successful, as was the Wellness Week prior to exams and winter break.

#### NPAAMB

- Staff are working remotely. YSOs are available via email and phone, look to social media for updates.
- Programs running virtually -- a pilot program “Journey to Success” will be starting in January. It’s an add-on to health and tourism programs with focus on Indigenous tourism – partnering with Landscape of Nations.
- February 25 through 27, Opportunity Knocks will be a virtual event this year. It will be a mix of live and pre-recorded presentations.
- Oyà:na has been extended for three more years.
- Stay-in-School initiative continues, with the addition of \$300 for students who graduate.
- Youth Leadership program starting in the new year, looking for youth to provide guidance and give students a greater voice in the programs and services they receive. More details TBA in the new year.
- Youth Navigator service to help wrap around youth at risk of disengagement with education or labor and provide supports to community organizations to keep them involved; Marcella Blanchard is the contact in Niagara.
- Apatisiwin program received funding to create 4 teaching lodges.

#### Brock University

- Helping students remain connected remote and dealing with struggles of virtual learning and isolation.
- Possibly purchasing Hop-In platform for group meetings and will be cohosting Opportunity Knocks through their MOU with NPAAMB.
- Brock Career Fair is annual event hosted by Brock as a way to connect with students from both school boards.
- Christmas lunch with students -- distributed \$20 gift certificates to all 275 self-identified students to buy their lunch and then join online and eat together to socialize and support one another before the winter break.

#### NRMC

- MNO is hosting a winter Métis Youth Camp. The virtual event will run January 22 – 24.
- Continue to offer back-to-school backpack for all Métis students. It includes COVID supplies, school supplies and \$100 Walmart gift card.

#### 7. CLOSING

- a. Brian Kon thanked everyone for attending on behalf of 4 Co-chairs.
- b. Dave Labbe provided Closing.

Next Meeting February 18, 2021