

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2022
Hosted by DSBN
Virtual “TEAMS” Meeting

Brock University	Samual Charal
Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre	Gary Parker
Honored Guest	Dave Labbe (Elder)
Inuit Council	Cindy Biancaniello
Niagara Chapter of Native Women	Wendy Sturgeon
Niagara College	Deane McGean
Niagara Region Métis Council	Derrick Pont
Niagara Regional Native Centre	Karl Dockstader (Co-Chair), Willow Shawanoo
Niagara Catholic District School Board	Brian Kon, Marco Magazzeni
District School Board of Niagara	Georgie Groat, Ann Gilmore, Marian Reimer Friesen

Regrets: Jason Shawana, Jenn Dockstader, Kya Steinbach-Parker and Sydney Yott

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

- Karl welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Dave Labbe provided the traditional opening and welcomed everyone.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Agenda approved by consensus.
- Quorum was established.

3. MINUTES OF APRIL 14TH, 2022 MEETING

- Karl Dockstader went over the minutes from April 14th meeting.
- Minutes approved by consensus.

4. STUDENT VOICE UPDATES

- Kya Steinbach-Parker DSBN Student Trustee and Sydney Yott NCDSB Student Trustee sent their regrets.

5. SUB COMMITTEES

DSBN BAP Subcommittee

- DSBN had 6 BAP subcommittee meetings this year
- DSBN did not spend the budget that was allocated this year due to ongoing Covid restrictions impacting plans for student events and staff PD. The Ministry has confirmed that the funds will carry over to the 2022-2023 year.
- DSBN is looking forward to continuing the work in the fall in collaboration with IEAC, students, staff and Community.

NCDSB BAP Subcommittee

- NCDSB reached out to the IEAC committee members. Their BAP is not being submitted electronically to the Ministry this year. JoAnn Henry is aware. They have had technical difficulties with entering the information. The NCDSB has shared a word version to the BAP subcommittee which they will talk about at their meeting.
- NCDSB have reached out to Community and wanted to give the voice to Community first for next year's BAP. They are looking to IEAC members for guidance and information and to have the community voice lead the BAP for next year. Staff are looking to begin conversations with Community over the summer.

Finance/Grant Subcommittee:

- No meetings have been set. There is nothing to report at this time.

Terms of Reference Subcommittee:

- No meetings have been set. There is nothing to report at this time.

6. INDIGENOUS CAUCUS MEETING

- Referencing the letter written by IEAC to the Directors of NCDSB and DSBN in Spring 2021, the Chair acknowledged that the three issues outlined have been technically addressed: Self-ID student data has been shared, detailed BAP financial information has been provided, and Indigenous staffing/leadership have been enhanced. It was noted that the DSBN is working to add an Indigenous Trustee in the fall.
- Time was spent reflecting on the good collaborative work undertaken by IEAC during this school year, including the in-person Career Fair.
- The Chair shared that the Caucus discussed the BAP signature process for the 2021/2022 school year and will be signing the BAP for both boards.
- Discussion about moving forward into the 2022/2023 school year focused on the continued challenge of ensuring the boards, in collaboration with IEAC, address the issue of reciprocity.
- Knowing that committee members take time away from other commitments to participate in IEAC, a future focus will need to be exploring ways for the committee to move from updates/information sharing to more meaningful involvement.

7. ELECTION OF CO CHAIR

- Karl Dockstader nominated Willow Shawanoo, for the Co-Chair position. Wendy Sturgeon was in agreement and Cindy Biancanello seconded the nomination. Willow accepted the nomination. Karl will stay on until September.

8. ROUND TABLE

Brock University

- In April they had their welcome back which included Dave Labbe and NC. They shared a sacred fire to talk and heal.
- They are working on creating Orange shirt designs in different languages and will be using these in September for Orange shirt day and different events.
- June 20-24 hosting different events for Indigenous Peoples Awareness Week, including a beading workshop.
- Heading to POWWOWs over the summer.
- NPAMMB has constructed a wigwam. They are hoping to have an event at the end of June: All are welcome.

Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (FENFC)

- Lots of community events happening including a corn soup making workshop.
- Working on the traditional garden, with medicine plants going in next week.
- Aboriginal Day is planned for April 14th from 10-5. There will be singing, dancing and speakers and it will be open to the whole Community.
- Facebook has all events posted.

Niagara College

- Leah Hogan is the new associate director for Indigenous Education.
- June 16 at 10:00am they are holding a Welcome Tea in the Indigenous Lounge. The Welland site will host their Welcome Tea on June 17 at 10:00am.
- The current manager is retiring in September.
- They are exploring gardening through a program at NPAMB and have opened a new Indigenous room at the Welland campus.

Niagara Native Women's Chapter

- The Blockers and Attackers event was a big success.
- They have been working on the Anti-sex-trafficking Protocols with both Boards.
- Programs are all up and running.

Niagara Region Métis Council (NRMC)

- Offered a Metis Stay Program. They provide assistance to students - students must be registered full time. The program is designed to help students transition from high school to post-secondary. Support for travel and childcare are provided.
- Sunday, April 17th is the Metis Family Fun Day event. Close to 150 families have registered.

Niagara Regional Native Centre (NRNC)

- Garden days are Thursdays, and everyone is welcome.
- June 21 a Solidarity event will be held in downtown St. Catharines.
- June 26 second annual ride for justice featuring a variety of speakers and dancers.
- July 21 Graduation Social - Graduation event with a social to follow.
- Summer Picnic series - 4 different dates throughout the summer. They will be going out to community into different parks with a cultural component to each event.
- August 18 organizational volleyball tournament. They have invited all Indigenous partners as well as Community partners.
- Partnering with NPAAMB on a youth boot camp event.
- Check Facebook for all events.

Inuit Council

- Cindy Biancanello going to Winnipeg for the Inuit Studies Conference. Learning about the koolik teachings.

9. CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

- Karl Dockstader adjourned the meeting.
- Dave Labbe provided the traditional closing.