

**Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2022
Hosted by DSNB
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, Louise Hickey
Niagara College	Emily Schutt
Niagara Region Métis Council	Connie Johnson
Niagara Regional Native Centre	Karl Dockstader (Co-Chair), Willow Shawanoo
Niagara Catholic District School Board	Brian Kon, Marco Magazzeni, Joseph Zaroda Nicole Pigeau, Bobbi Jones Japp (Parent Representative), Sydney Yott (Student Trustee)
District School Board of Niagara	Georgie Groat, Ann Gilmore, Marian Reimer Friesen, Kya Steinbach-Parker (Student Trustee)
Regrets: Ashley Buck	

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

- Willow Shawanoo welcomed everyone to the meeting
- Dave Labbe provided the traditional opening and welcomed everyone

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Agenda approved by consensus

3. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2021, MEETING

- Karl Dockstader went over the minutes from December 9th meeting
- Minutes approved by consensus

4. STUDENT VOICE UPDATES

Kya Steinbach-Parker DSNB Student Trustee Presentation

- The DSNB Indigenous Student Leadership Circle was created in December. This is a way for secondary Indigenous students voices to be heard. The second meeting is February 11th and the focus will be on building the relationships within the group
- In January there was an introduction posted to the D2L page about Kya’s role as a Student Trustee and a google link was shared for students to reach out to Kya with any questions or concerns
- Kya is chairing the Indigenous Relations Working Group at the Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA). Their first meeting was in January when they worked on planning for the year
- Kya is working through her school with the Youth Navigator at the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre, connecting their resources with students

Sydney Yott NCDSB Student Trustee Presentation

- Sydney is working on student voice and implementing more positions and community initiatives within NCDSB
- Connecting with community and promoting events for Indigenous students to attend
- Sydney is a member of the Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA). She is working with Kya on implementing Indigenous positions within the executive council of OSTA

5. SUB COMMITTEES

BAP Subcommittee

- The Ministry BAP template has changed to an online format. This is a SharePoint document which can be accessed by multiple users
- In the past only a portion of the GSN funds were reported on the BAP but this new format all allocated funds will be shown
- The Co-chairs of both Boards have been given access the document. They can see the work that is being done, ask questions or comment on the BAP
- A suggestion was made to have the Terms of Reference state that the Co-Chairs shall have access the BAP document
- The revised BAP template is more detailed asking for qualitative and quantitative results on the initiatives that the Boards are working on
- Last year boards reported on the four pillars: Supporting Students, Supporting Educators, Engagement and Awareness Building and Using Data to Support Student Achievement. This year the pillars are not explicitly stated but they will continue to guide the types of initiatives brought forward
- Because of this greater focus on the financial aspect of the process, the Ministry is offering more training to Board staff
- A question came up regarding the BAP access being for Co- Chairs positionally and not personally. Gary clarified that in years past the Indigenous Chair/Co-Chairs had signing authority. This is not tied to the individual; it is tied to IEAC which is a membership group of the Board
- The next BAP meeting will take place in the next few weeks to go over the BAP and be ready to submit on February 28, 2022

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. OTHER BUSINESS

- Members felt they need more time to share information with the Community. Georgie suggested that the Co-Chair meeting be moved up, so that the information can be shared with IEAC members at least a few days to a week prior to the meeting
- Marco mentioned that NCDSB wants to host an all-day in person session. Marco will work with the four chairs to choose a date
- There was discussion on Parent Representation and having a Parent Voice Update as a standing agenda item. It was suggested that IEAC members can do a call out to the Community for Parent Representatives to join the IEAC committee. Both DSBN and NCDSB have a Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and are always looking for Indigenous parents to join. Discussion around effective advertising and ways to support parent involvement were discussed.
- Niagara College has a Parent Involvement Committee. They have a formal process they are willing to share with IEAC.

- Further discussion was deferred to the Terms of Reference Sub Committee.
- The discussion of parent representatives and a Parent Advisory Committee will be added to the agenda of the next IEAC meeting.

7. ROUND TABLE

Brock University

- Indigenous speaker series has been organized with the Niagara Falls Library
- Brock staff will be sitting on the Canada Games Committee with the goal of having an Indigenous voice
- Lunch and Learn Workshops
- NPAAMB has held 7 classes over 2 months
- Brock store will have orange shirts and earrings for sale, as well as they will provide a space for books and art to be displayed
- Drum making for students
- Creating a men's and woman's circle
- Shared Career Fair with Niagara College- February 16
- REDress Virtual Event, shared with Niagara College, happening on February 14, 2022
- Brian Kon Community event will be written up and sent to the Community and Boards

Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (FENFC)

- Check Facebook and website for events. Lots of events happening virtually.
- Gary will send an email out to Partners and Boards when Youth and Elders has been finalized

Niagara College

- REDress Virtual Event, shared with Brock University, on February 14, 2022
- Two-day event on Domestic Sex Trafficking with Jessica Wilson presenting. There will be elder support available
- Fireside Chat Series every Wednesday for students and staff
- 2 craft workshops upcoming with evening program dates TBD

Niagara Native Womens Chapter

- Hired a family support worker and a resource development assistant
- Planning the Blockers and Attackers Indigenous Women in Sports Leadership event
- Indigenous Anti Human Trafficking Liaison is busy but still open to receiving bookings. Please email info.ncnw@gmail.com if interested
- Indigenous Women's Health Program – working with Soaring Eagles and delivering personal safety training

Niagara Region Métis Council (NRMC)

- Look at Facebook, website, and Metis Nation of Ontario website for events
- Received approval for the Early Learning Cultural kits and should be arriving soon

Niagara Regional Native Centre (NRNC)

- Check Facebook page for updates
- REDress Memorial event on February 14 from 1:00-3:00pm
- Feb 22 launch the youth council drop-in sessions for ages 14-24
- Indigenous Justice Program- run diversion circles. Need Indigenous volunteers to run the circles

Brian is planning a community event honoring over 150,000 children who survived or never made it home. This event is called Turning the Falls Orange which will be held on September 30, 2022. This will be a week-long event with Phyllis Webstad attending.

8. CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

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