



# Indigenous Education Council (IEC)

## Meeting Minutes

December 12th, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

Meeting held at the DSBN Education Centre, 191 Carlton St.

### Participants:

- Community/Parents & Guardians/Students: 17
- Honoured Guest: Tehahenteh
- Marianne Groat, Student Achievement Leader for Indigenous Education
- Sheila Maracle, Corry Carter, Kirsty Howie, Krista Smith, Carrissa Gracey, Emily Bernicky – DSBN Indigenous Education Team Members
- Georgie Groat, Retired Student and Achievement Leader and External Consultant
- Ann Gilmore, Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well Being
- Marian Reimer Friesen, Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well Being
- Alison Vegh, Administrative Assistant

### 1. Welcome

Marianne Groat, Student Achievement Leader for Indigenous Education welcomed and thanked everyone for participating in the meeting.

### 2. Traditional Opening

The session was opened by Corry Carter, DSBN Indigenous Languages Consultant.

### 3. Introductions

Marianne Groat introduced DSBN staff in attendance to the group.

### 4. Information Sharing

- Georgie Groat, retired Student and Achievement Leader and External Consultant, shared a brief history of the Indigenous Education Advisory Council (IEAC) and how feedback, successes and challenges have led us to rethink our approach to this important committee.
- The Ministry of Education (MOE) requires each Board to have an IEC, but its form and function are flexible.
- Secondary student reps were asked for ideas on "what's missing," "what would you like to see," and "what do we need in schools?" Their ideas presented a starting point on the path toward change.
- The proposed framework for moving forward grounds the work of the Indigenous Education Council (IEC) within the Board Action Plan (BAP) and the DSBN Strategic Plan, focusing on student voice, community voice, and DSBN principles.

- Indigenous Student Trustee Clayton Mishibinijima sent his regrets.
- Cochair’s Dayle McKay & from Stamford Collegiate and Rayna Bristow from St. Catharines Collegiate discussed various initiatives undertaken by the secondary schools, conferences they attended, and proposed ideas for future initiatives.

**5. Feedback Process**

The group participated in small table discussions and put forward ideas on:

- Visual representation of Indigenous, cultures in schools is important to students. When you walk into a school, what would make you feel represented?
- What kinds of Indigenous opportunities in community would students benefit from? (and how might we collaborate on this?)
- Due to time constraints, the third question “Knowing that IEC provides guidance in the work, does this meeting structure work for you or are there other things we should consider?” will be included on the [online](#) feedback form, which will be sent by Georgie following the meeting.

**6. Traditional Closing**

The session was closed by Corry Carter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15p.m.

**Future Meetings:**

Date	Virtual/In-person
Thursday Feb 13, 2025 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	Virtual
Thursday April 10, 2025 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	In-person @ DSBN Education Centre, 191 Carlton St., St. Catharines
Thursday May 29, 2025 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	Virtual