

# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST NATION, MÉTIS, AND INUIT EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. via Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/yhk-sjsr-sxf>

PRESENT: Kerri Langer, Josh Charpentier, Brian Black, Patricia (Trixie) Taylor, Linda Gendron, Rachel Logan, Evelyn Kodu, Melissa Gibson, John Connolly, Anne Taylor, Cydeny Habraken, Michael Mooney, Jacqueline Gorveatt

Regrets: Lisa Heitzner, Jeanette Hunter, Allana McDougall, Terry Smith

Absent: Kayla Benoit, Julie Brown, April Smoke, Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre Representative

Administration: Julie Selby

Recorder: Shannon Carr

## A. Call to Order:

### 1. Welcome

Superintendent and Chair of the committee, Julie Selby, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Land Acknowledgement - Kerri Langer

Julie asked Kerri to lead with Land Acknowledgement.

### 3. Opening Prayer - Mike Mooney

Julie asked Mike to lead with Opening Prayer.

### 4. Additions to the Agenda

None.

### 5. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Linda Gendron, that the Agenda be approved.

Carried

### 6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

### 7. Approval of the [Minutes](#) of the Meeting held on Tuesday, September 14, 2024

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Linda Gendron, that the Minutes be approved.

Carried

### 8. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

## B. Presentations, Discussion and Input:

### 1. 2024-2025 Indigenous Education Updates

#### a. Indigenous Education through Professional Learning

While facilitating Professional Development this year through the lens of Deep Learning, the goal is to build teacher efficacy with Indigenous Education content and pedagogical practices.

Through a Deep Learning lens, the team is giving teachers the opportunity to co-facilitate some modules of the learning themselves to build teacher confidence and capacity. In order to allow teachers time to get themselves familiar with the modules, both Walking the Path and Starting the Path will be taught in 3 cycles as follows:

	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
<b>Walking The Path</b>	Modules 1-3 October 28 to December 13, 2024	Module 4-7 January 6 to March 31, 2025	Module 8-10 April 3 to June 12, 2025
<b>Starting The Path</b>	Modules 1-2 October 28 to December 13, 2024	Modules 3-4 January 6 to March 31, 2025	Modules 5-6 April 3 to June 12, 2025

On January 7th, a small group of Walking the Path Facilitators within our schools, will come together to learn, plan and schedule Walking the Path content.

The Indigenous Education Team is working collaboratively with PVNC Catholic's Faith and Equity departments to host multiple Professional Development (PD) sessions with each school's Indigenous Education Leads and Equity Leads. The theme of this PD is solidarity and positionality, how to listen and make space for first voice.

The November 22nd Secondary Professional Development Day consisted of introductory learning rooted in Indigenous Education content within respective curriculums for Science, Geography, History and other Canadian and World Studies teachers. Staff within the PD session were asked to focus on:

- What am I teaching?
- Where am I coming from?
- How am I teaching?
- How can we experience first voice?

In April, these teachers, along with Administrators and school Chaplains, will be engaged in a full-day session at their respective school.

#### b. Supporting Indigenous Students

The Indigenous Education team continuously supports Indigenous

students through elementary and secondary Indigenous Student and Ally Groups. Currently, three secondary schools (Holy Cross, St. Peter and St. Mary) have Indigenous spaces designated for Indigenous students and allies.

Indigenous Advisor, Anne Taylor, and Lead Consultant, Jacqueline Gorveatt, continue to be present at St. Mary C.S.S. to support student needs. Shannon Kimewon continues to support students at St. Peter C.S.S. and Holy Cross C.S.S. Additionally, Social Work continues to be provided for students at all schools.

Anne is leading Anishinaabemowin Language Support with the goal to invest in how students and staff experience Anishinaabemowin. Anne stated the approach to Anishinaabemowin will be linked to culture, and the cultural connection to land within the language. Anne continues to support Grace Henry-Caron at St. John Peterborough and St. Paul Lakefield weekly. Anne also provides weekly support to Shannon Kimewon at Holy Cross (Semester 1) and St. Peter (Semester 2). Anne shared some examples of activities students are participating in during language classes.

The team will host an Indigenous Skilled Trades Fair in May of 2025. The focus will be on Indigenous artisans and community members using their traditional knowledge in a skilled trade. The team will highlight a few community members to do mini hands-on workshops with the students. More information will be provided as details become available.

c. Supporting Indigenous Staff

The Indigenous Education team will host a Full Moon Ceremony at the Catholic Education Centre monthly, beginning in January, and all PVNC Catholic staff are welcome. The hope is that those who identify as Indigenous will come forward and participate. This will give Indigenous PVNC Catholic staff an opportunity to meet to discuss, plan and share stories with one another.

The Indigenous Education team hopes to have more Indigenous craft days and hold it over lunch time. The team has previously hosted a lunch and learn craft activity during Truth and Reconciliation and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women which became very popular and it is their hope to make it a more regular practice.

The team asked for feedback from the committee using the S.O.A.R (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Rewards) method regarding what the committee heard during their presentation. Committee members had time during the meeting to provide their feedback.

**C. Updates:**

1. Community Partner Sharing

a. Alderville First Nation - April Smoke

April was unable to attend the meeting and did not provide an update.

- b. Curve Lake First Nation - Jeanette Hunter  
Jeanette was unable to attend the meeting and did not provide an update.
- c. Hiawatha First Nation - Allana McDougall  
Allana was unable to attend the meeting and did not provide an update.
- d. Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre - TBD  
The committee is currently waiting on a new representative to be appointed. Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre did not provide an update.
- e. Peterborough and District Wapiti Métis Council - Josh Charpentier  
Throughout the year, Peterborough Métis Council has been providing the community and those in need with grocery cards to help with the cost of food.

On Saturday, October 5, local council hosted a rendezvous at the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough. The event had dancing, fiddling, jigs and a dinner. Josh indicated it was a great success.

The local council has hosted workshops, including beading Remembrance Day poppies and Christmas ornaments which have been a great success; Louis Riel day; and a healing blanket workshop. Upcoming activities consist of a poetry workshop, earring workshop, axe throwing and environmental information sessions.

Josh indicated the local Métis Council is encouraging members of the community to share their stories with Métis Ontario. The hope is that people can connect and build their case to the Government, in relation to Bell of Batoche.

The Métis Council is offering early learning babysitting courses. The course is open to students in Grades 7 to 9 to learn essential skills and knowledge for home-based child care.

Finally, the Métis Council has a new education kit for “Early Learning and Child Care” which has been designed with updated resources from a kit previously released. Digital links are also included.

**D. Next Committee Meeting:**

1. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 6:00 - 8:00 pm
2. Agenda items for the next meeting, please contact Shannon Carr
3. Selection of committee member for Land Acknowledgement
  - a. Mike Mooney
4. Selection of committee member for Opening Prayer
  - a. John Connolly
5. Selection of committee member for Closing Prayer
  - a. Trixie Taylor

**E. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer - Trustee John Connolly

Julie asked Trustee Connolly to lead in Closing Prayer.

2. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Moved by Jacqueline Gorgeatt seconded by Melissa Gibson, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Carried