



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST NATION, MÉTIS, AND INUIT EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in person or via Google Meet by using: <https://meet.google.com/kzj-acot-nhy>

PRESENT: Trustee/Members: Mike Ayotte, Lisa Heitzner, Lauren Hill, Kayla Benoit, Josh Charpentier, Jeanette Hunter, Cydney Habraken, Patricia (Trixie) Taylor, Beth Needham

Regrets: Dakota Gionet, Sherry Davis, Julie Brown, April Smoke, Karrie MacMurray, Katelynn Brennan, Della Stewart-Figueira, Amy Shawanda, Nick Lockwood, Ashley Cantwell

Administration: Julie Selby, Mike Mooney, Jacqueline Gorveatt

Recorder: Vicki Blakely

A. Call to Order:

1. Welcome

Superintendent Julie Selby welcomed everyone and asked Mike and Jacqueline to lead the smudging ceremony outside. This ceremony was held outdoors to all those who attended in person. Those who attended virtually had a moment of reflection.

2. Land Acknowledgement - Mike Mooney

Julie Selby asked Mike Mooney to lead with the Land Acknowledgement.

3. Opening Prayer – Helen McCarthy

Julie Selby asked Lisa Heitzner to lead with the Opening Prayer.

4. Additions to the Agenda

None.

5. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Mike Ayotte, seconded by Lauren Hill, that the Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

7. Approval of the [Minutes](#) of the Meeting held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

MOTION: Moved by Kayla Benoit, seconded by Cyndey Habrake, that the Minutes be approved as presented.

Carried

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

B. Presentations:

No Presentations took place during this meeting.

C. Updates, Discussion and Input

1. Community Partner Sharing

a. Alderville First Nation - April Smoke

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

b. Curve Lake First Nation - Jeanette Hunter

Secondary Students attended the Lake Ontario Student Conference recently. The last Harvesters Symposium was held October 13-15, with more planned for 2023.

Aboriginal Post Secondary Information Program (APSIP) was held November 24 with the opportunity for students and families to ask questions to postsecondary liaisons hosted in the community. The event was open to grade 11-12 students, with approximately 50 participants attending.

December will see many activities in the community, including the Youth Cultural Camp from the 10-11 and the Celebration of Sharing and Holiday Open Houses (Westview House, Makerspace, Education Admin Building, Cultural Centre, Community Centre and Library).

c. Hiawatha First Nation - Karrie MacMurray

Karrie was unable to attend this meeting. Mike Mooney shared that the Aboriginal Post Secondary Information Program (APSIP) was held November 23 at the Great Hall in Hiawatha. Representatives from PVNCCDSB, KPRDSB and post secondary liaisons. Karrie had designed a question scavenger hunt to promote interactions and discussions between families and attendees. Chief Carr attended offering opening words.

The 14th annual Speech contest is coming up on Monday (December 12), with the contest returning to in-person for the first time since before the pandemic.

d. Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre- Cydney Habraken

Due to the high COVID-19 numbers in the community, the Centre has pivoted, closing temporarily to in-person programming from October - December, but offering many of the programs virtually.

With Christmas coming, the Centre is putting together Food Kits for families, with different programs doing gifts for children as well. The Crisis Intervention Program is donating wellness kits to Alderville Women's Shelter, One Roof, One City to help members of the

community know someone is thinking of them this holiday season.

Programming is underway, including the recent launch of the Language Revitalization Program coordinated by Language Keeper, Sarah MacLeod-Beaver. The Centre is currently seeking community input on what languages they would like to see offered and policy. Language revitalization programming will include youth groups, summer camps, family language sessions, and community sessions.

e. Peterborough and District Wapiti Métis Council - Josh Charpentier

Josh thanked Mike Mooney and Jacqueline Gorveatt of PVNCCDSB for reaching out for materials and resources to display a wide array of traditional artifacts in observance of Louis Riel Day (the day he was executed for rebelling against the Canadian Government in protection of the Métis People). There were flag raising ceremonies in Peterborough and Lindsay in recognition of the day.

The Council is in the process of developing an education sub-committee. The purpose is to have guidelines in regards to education and educational resources to develop supports for students within PVNCCDSB.

A quarterly newsletter is launching in the near future to provide more information to community members. The Tree Planting Program saw hundreds of trees planted with the help of approximately 25 families.

Christmas grocery gift program is being launched to support families over the Christmas season, gift cards will be distributed this year, with the intention to develop a hamper program next year.

f. Nijkiwendidaa Anishnaabekwewag Services Circle- Katelynn Brennan

Katelynn was unable to attend this meeting and did not provide an update.

2. [Consultant Update](#) - Mike Mooney & Jacqueline Gorveatt

a. Board Action Plan (BAP)

Mike and Jacqueline advised the committee of the two main principles driving the work; equitable outcomes for Indigenous Students and capacity building for educators (Indigenous or not).

b. Indigenous Education Plan

Mike and Jacqueline continued the conversation on the Indigenous Education Plan that began in September, moving into learning opportunities that went beyond events and activities.

Medicine Wheel Pedagogy - providing sessions with elementary and secondary, utilizing circles, noting the work of Dr. Nicole Bell, professor of Education at Trent University. Beginning in the East, with new learning, taking us on the learning journey. South, takes the time to relate and understand the new learning. West, takes the time to figure it

out, to reason, to dialogue with the new learning. North is the continuous piece, the investment in the new learning.

Circle Talks have continued, to be practiced, a sacred safe space, with only the person holding the stick speaking, being mindful of time and passing clockwise until everyone has had a chance to speak.

Elementary regional sessions were offered which included principals, Indigenous education leads, teachers, and learning support specialists. Secondary session was offered on the November 25 secondary professional development day. The session was offered centrally with half the day dedicated to the Indigenous Education Plan and the other half professional development offered by Dr. Niigaan Sinclair. The hope with the Indigenous Education Plan was to see it become part of the Catholic School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being (CSIPSAW), with 28/30 elementary schools embedding these plans within their CSIPSAW, and all secondary schools as well.

Learning opportunities continue to be planned not just as central professional development, but simultaneously while both teacher and student learn together in the classroom. Truth and Reconciliation and engagement with schools in a spirit of accompaniment continues while promoting awareness through the use of Medicine Wheel Pedagogy and sharing circles.

c. Talks with Niigaan Sinclair

The discussion has been brought forward with secondary teachers and will be brought forward to central staff. Niigaan focuses on the papal visit and 4 key moments; Vatican PV, Muskwicis, Quebec City and Nunavut/flight home.

Upcoming future professional development sessions will include Niigaan visiting central Learning Support Services staff January 20th (Part I), elementary virtual sessions for junior/intermediate students focusing on leadership, responsibility and relating to the land, secondary virtual sessions focusing on the papal visit, principal professional development May 17th at Hiawatha First Nation, secondary teacher professional development May 18th (Part II), and Learning Support Services staff May 19th (Part II).

d. APSIP

Much of the Aboriginal Post Secondary Information Program was discussed in Community Sharing. PVNCCDSB attended the event in Hiawatha First Nation on November 23, with Learning Consultants Mike Mooney and Jacqueline Gorveatt in attendance, along with Lisa Cole, Principal of Continuing, Adult, and Experiential Learning as well as a Kaitlyn Leigh, Human Resources Coordinator. This was an opportunity for families to see what PVNCCDSB has to offer K-12, including placement opportunities.

e. Student Conference with KPRDSB and TLDSB

PVNCCDSB along with KPRDSB and TLDSB are planning a future 1-day event in the spring for secondary Indigenous students to attend at Trent University. The focus is to promote self-esteem and togetherness with learning opportunities with an Indigenous education.

f. Comments/Discussion

The committee thought it was nice to see the teachers on the learning journey alongside students. The partnership with Niigaan Sinclair and PVNCCDSB is an exciting opportunity.

The committee wanted to know the plan to support Medicine Wheel Theory and what the follow up plan was. Mike and Jacqueline discussed how everything is rooted in the use of the Medicine Wheel Pedagogy and the constant repetition will continue to support this journey. Reporting experiences back through the Medicine Wheel and adjusting the approach depending on where that community is along their journey. The hope is to infuse this journey into all areas of the curriculum, establishing cross-curricular learning.

3. Indigenous Education Administrative Procedure (AP)

Mike gave an overview of [Directional Policy 700: Equity and Inclusive Education](#) as it relates to Indigenous Education and the development of an Indigenous Education Administrative Procedure.

The committee was divided into 3 groups to discuss the following questions and provide feedback:

1. What actions and/or responsibilities are necessary for PVNCCDSB to pursue implementation of the Calls to Action, the recognition of the distinct rights of Indigenous Peoples?
2. How and/or what can we use as process indicators?
3. What definitions should be included in the procedure?

Feedback was written onto whiteboards and/or jamboards (virtual attendees) for consideration in the development of the procedure. A draft of the procedure will return to the committee for review and comment at the next meeting.

D. Next Committee Meeting:

1. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 7, 2022
2. Agenda items for the next meeting, please contact, Shannon Carr
3. Volunteers for meeting duties:
 - Land Acknowledgement: Beth Needham
 - Opening Prayer: Lisa Heitzner
 - Closing Prayer: Julie Selby

E. Conclusion:

Closing Prayer – Kayla Benoit

Julie asked Kayla to lead in closing prayer.

Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Mike Ayotte, seconded by Lisa Heitzner

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.