



Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee Minutes

September 23, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.
Beaverhouse First Nation
Microsoft Teams Meeting

COMMITTEE (QUORUM) MEMBERS PRESENT

Howard Archibald	First Nations Trustee, District School Board Ontario North East (Chair)
Shelly Charette	Director of Education, Timiskaming First Nation
Dennis Draves	Trustee, District School Board Ontario North East
Neil Iserhoff	Education Director, Taykwa Tagamou Nation
Brianna Moore	Education Portfolio Counsellor, Beaverhouse First Nation
Larry Wiwchar	Trustee, District School Board Ontario North East

COMMITTEE (QUORUM) MEMBERS ABSENT

Margaret Edwards	Director of Education, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation
Dereck McKay	Education Director, Mattagami First Nation
Lynn Mongrain	Representative, Temagami First Nation
Velma Stanger	Education Director, Matachewan First Nation

RESOURCE PERSONS & GUESTS PRESENT

Chris Acton	Métis Nation of Ontario Temiskaming Council
Aiesha Hindle	Student Trustee, District School Board Ontario North East
Rosemary Pochopsky	Trustee, District School Board Ontario North East
Wayne Wabie	Chief, Beaverhouse First Nation
Kara Boucher	Beaverhouse First Nation

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Andréanne Denis	Communications Officer, District School Board Ontario North East
Lesleigh Dye	Director of Education, District School Board Ontario North East
Chad Mowbray	Superintendent of Education, District School Board Ontario North East
Jill Plaunt	Indigenous Lead, District School Board Ontario North East

RECORDING SECRETARY

Melanie Carr	Executive Assistant to Director Dye
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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:22 a.m. by Howard Archibald, Chair of the Committee.

The meeting opened by respectfully acknowledging being situated on the Traditional Territory of Beaverhouse First Nation, and introductions followed. Chair Archibald thanked Chief Wabie for hosting and Chief thanked everyone for the acknowledgement and representation.

Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Wiwchar Seconded by Draves **THAT** the Agenda for the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee meeting dated September 23, 2024, be approved, with the addition:
i. Other Business: Food

CARRIED

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Wiwchar Seconded by Iserhoff **THAT** the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee approve the minutes of the meeting held June 4, 2024.

CARRIED

Business arising from the Minutes

NIL

Chair Updates (Howard Archibald)

Trustee Archibald attended a working group with other Indigenous Trustees, through OPSBA as the Indigenous Trustee Council. There are 3-4 meetings scheduled per year. Trustee Archibald attended the annual general meeting in Toronto in the summer, as well as the Indigenous Trustee meeting in August with the Ministry which included an introduction to the new Minister of Education. Discussions surrounded Truth and Reconciliation and a review of reconciliation policies throughout boards. Minutes will be shared at the following meeting when they are reviewed and approved.

MOVED by Draves Seconded by Charette **THAT** the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the Chair Update.

CARRIED

Community Partner Updates

Beaverhouse First Nation

- Continue to focus on youth and kids within the community and open doors to the facilities for everyone
- Received donation of playground for the outdoor space, request from Board for playground installation and inspection contact information
- Request for set of bleachers, if there are any to donate from schools, or a contact to obtain a set for the outdoor space for events
- Summer was busy with the kids and neighboring communities with activities including walks through trails and various programs
- There are several programs running throughout the month including meals, shopping, focus groups, and movies
- Will host elections within the month, with nominations happening within the next couple of weeks and positions begin within 30 days of election, terms are set as 3-year
- Embraced Kara as part of the programming, and providing a wraparound support for families



Taykwa Tagamou Nation

- Neil will be attending a meeting this afternoon with DSB1 representatives
- End of the year celebration and BBQ was held, it was very well attended by the community with gifts offered to guests
- Senior kindergarten graduation held at the TTN complex, with gowns and caps for 9 graduates and a dinner. It was very successful and will be held in subsequent years.
- Back to school celebration was held and well attended with school supplies, shoes, backpacks provided to attendees at all levels
- There are no current bussing issues this year
- Members living in Cochrane are experiencing bussing issues, but can be addressed locally
- AGM is being held this weekend

Timiskaming First Nation

- Honour walk was held in July for graduates and provide bursaries
- Orientation camp was held with 14 grade 8 graduates, spending time in the community and a tour of the area to experience New Liskeard
- Continue to work on improving attendance with draws and positive reinforcement
- Work required with suspensions – ISA and student success worker to touch base with students and help
- Large painting for the lodge at TDSS was completed by Wayne Mackenzie and will be installed. TFN is the owner of the painting and painting was selected over a mural.

Métis Community Council

- Temiskaming Council was busy throughout the summer with activities for youth and families incorporating all ages working together, children and elders
- Pow Wow at Mill Creek was a huge success, with a beading table, cultural displays, lemonade and chips for attendees
- Temiskaming lodge for Indigenous lodge, for residents to mix with families and youth, Bannock, cedar and labrador tea, dot art, suncatchers and other activities
- Attended and participated northern college Haileybury campus, sports day
- Charlton Dack Canada day celebration
- Birch bark canoes, language trivia, information pamphlets
- Highlight of the summer was early learning event at mill creek, harvesting and trapping demonstration with president from Chapleau with trap line, and brought a beaver to harvest. Counsellor demonstrating filleting pickerel – raw product of fish and bison were provided
- Region 3 awarded 18 bursaries for students, and ordered 200 Powley books
- Free hunting and firearms courses are being offered in Haileybury and Kirkland
- Thanked DSB1 and particularly Jill Plaunt to flying the Metis flag for the week in September.
- Len Secord also provided a statement on behalf of the Timmins Metis Council:
 - o On behalf of the MNO and MNO Timmins Council I would like to sincerely thank DSB1 in its support for Powley Day. Flying the flag all week at all DSB1 schools in recognition of the day has filled the students and staff who identify as Metis with a sense of pride and support. DSB1 is truly a Board that values inclusion, diversity, and acceptance. The MNO Timmins Council as well of the MNO look forward to future endeavors with DSB1.

MOVED by Charette Seconded by Moore **THAT** the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the Community Partner Updates.



CARRIED

Indigenous Lead Update

Jill Plaunt, Indigenous Leads, provided a [presentation](#) surrounding the successes and direction of the Indigenous Portfolio.

Turtle Concepts is in place for leadership opportunities for the school year.

All students who identify as indigenous are invited to attend the summer reach ahead program. How can students be targeted specifically, to encourage and engage those that are harder to reach and not actively involved until grade 8. Different opportunities at different times can be explored, summer coop program is in place every summer where students can engage in coop throughout the summer, be paid for their work and gain credits. Initial registrations will determine the number of students and teachers in place for the summer. Details will be distributed at a winter meeting.

MOVED by Wiwchar Seconded by Iserhoff **THAT** the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the Indigenous Lead Updates.
CARRIED

Director of Education Update

Director Dye provided an update on items for the Indigenous Portfolio.

Funding for students flows through the Ministry for students who identify as Indigenous and Indigenous courses. Funding has been revised and reduced from 1:8 students, to 1:23 students. DSB1 is adamant to not reducing courses offered, per capita have the highest number in the province, with 35 sections. There are also 15 ISAs in place, with 2 funded by the Ministry. Credit accumulation in English is now higher than the traditional English course.

[PPM 128](#) – cell phones in schools. Phones are not to be in schools for personal use for all students and staff.

- If there is a medical need it is allowed (diabetes and blood glucose tracking)

Attendance Focus – Year 3 of Attendance Matters Initiative

- Research indicates when students come to school, they earn credits and have a sense of belonging
- As a district, exceeded attendance rate 85% for the 2023-2024 school year
- There has been a tremendous impact on students who identify as Indigenous in kindergarten, coming to school more frequently more than before, setting the habit from a young age.
- Grade 12 students' attendance rate is of concern

Truth and Reconciliation 10-year Celebration – 2025

- Lead Plaunt will take the lead on project, there will be different modes on when learning is shared and will work with IPAC on best timing

Strategic Planning session for Beaverhouse will take place following the meeting. This provides an opportunity for input in designing the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan.



Education Service Agreements for students who live in a First Nation, attending a DSB1 school – Lead Plaunt and Director Dye can visit nations to review in partnership with DSB1.

MOVED by Iserhoff Seconded by Charette

THAT the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the Director of Education Updates.

CARRIED

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Meetings are from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and at least 4 meetings a year are encouraged.

The next meeting are scheduled as follows:

November 18, 2024 – Schumacher Board Office

- Kiskinohamatowin and Timmins Friendship Centre Update
- Include students at TH&VS in culinary program / Lodge to provide an “almost traditional” lunch

Monday, January 13, 2024 – Virtual

Other Business

Food

- Trustee Wiwchar requested that food be discussed at future date, in respect to food literacy and a skill that has been significantly lost to process birds, fish, mammals, rabbits, etc. How teachers gain the knowledge and educate students.

Adjournment

MOVED by Moore

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.