



Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee Minutes

June 2, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

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
Margaret Edwards	Director of Education, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation
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

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
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ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Andréanne Denis	Communications Manager, 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 Demers	Executive Assistant to Director Dye
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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m. by Howard Archibald, Chair of the Committee.

The meeting opened by respectfully acknowledging being situated on the Traditional Territory of the Cree, Ojibway, Oji-Cree, Algonquin peoples and the Métis who have chosen to settle in the area.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Wiwchar, Seconded by Edwards

THAT the agenda for the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee meeting dated June 2, 2025, be approved.

CARRIED

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Wiwchar, Seconded by Charette

THAT the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the minutes of the meeting held March 24, 2025

CARRIED

Business arising from the Minutes

NIL

Chair Updates (Howard Archibald)

Chair Archibald recognized Indigenous Student Trustee Hindle for her term served and work she's done this year.

Student Trustee Hindle spoke to the group surrounding her role and accomplishments for the school year.

Chair Archibald spoke to Elders regarding social media. Use the tool of the medicine wheel, which includes four colors representing nations and regions that live. It is a spiritual law, a way of life and followed and used in a good way. Everyone is equal and there is a balance to follow and work together.

Trustee Draves spoke to an article posted, and Chair Archibald elaborated regarding tobacco, sweet grass, sage and cedar, used in ceremonies, for protection, and blessings.

Moved by Draves, Seconded by Wiwchar

THAT the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the Chair Update.

CARRIED

Community Partner Updates

Apitipi Anicinapek Nation

- Community center is under construction and events on hold
- Will host a Pow Wow at the Matheson curling club
- Students have expressed an interest in co-op and credit recovery programs
- Margaret will be attending graduations this spring
- New council in place effective day, will have an assigned individual for education
- Focusing on younger students currently, reviewing education as travel is difficult



- One student beginning school next year has a wheelchair, a van has been purchased to transport the student
- Will review the ISA funding for next year
- There have been concerns with transportation this year, students have missed some of first and last period and feel they are being punished, not feeling supported
- Margaret will be getting married June 14th

Beaverhouse First Nation

- Beaverhouse is working on celebrating students as they end their school year. Offering a reading program for youth throughout the summer as well as continuing with our one-on-one tutoring services. We have a staff at the office, who has taken that on by working with the students on their homework. It would be helpful if we could access some resources and worksheets for various grades. Not sure if that is something the board could assist with.

Taykwa Tagamou Nation

- First Strategic Planning session was held with group of new staff
- Pow wow was held at Cochrane High School last week, contributed gifts, food and beverages for students
- Graduations are upcoming, will attend Cochrane and providing bursaries to graduating students
- First annual Sr. Kindergarten graduation held at the reserve, with 10 graduates this year, will continue annually
- All graduates at TTN will submit photos with their diplomas to showcase their successes and will be presented at the AGM in September
- 2025 is an election year, with AGM scheduled in September
- Student summer program will continue in the summer, with an opportunity for students to work at TTN, students will be eligible for co-op credits in doing so. They're to register with the guidance counsellor at the school

Timiskaming First Nation

- TDSS health class held a demonstration at TFN with health and safety throughout organization
- Will be supporting the TDSS Pow wow with Kewatin students attending
- 24 athletes attended students' games in Quebec where they returned 6 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze medals
- Will host a gala for graduating students of all grades

Métis Community Council

- Continue to provide cultural activities and teachings in the community
- Held events on beading, canoe making, drum and drum bag making
- Invited and attended inclusion room at French high school in Kirkland Lake, board intends to have inclusion rooms in all schools
- All DSB1 high schools have a designated space for students who identify as Indigenous
- Summer plans include giving bursaries to grade 8 and 12 graduating students as well as on the land activities
- Living with the bison at the bison farm
- Hilliardton Marsh including compass training and survival – bird banding and plant and tree identification and activities



- Ontario health team sessions will be held with students
- Planet youth
- Attending three Pow Wows with activities, TDSS, Kirkland Lake and Mill Creek, providing popcorn and lemonade
- Host a large kiosk at Village Noel
- King Charles III awards to dedication to cultural events

Moved by Wiwchar, Seconded by Iserhoff

THAT the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the community partner updates.

CARRIED

Indigenous Lead Update

Jill Plaunt, Indigenous Lead, provided a presentation surrounding the successes and direction of the Indigenous Portfolio.

Moved by Draves, Seconded by Charette

THAT the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the Indigenous Lead Update.

CARRIED

Director of Education / Superintendent of Education Update

Director Dye and Superintendent Mowbray provided an update surrounding the Indigenous Portfolio.

Indigenous Education Officer has indicated that from a Ministry perspective, there is no longer a requirement to have a formal Reciprocal Education Agreement in place between nations, first nations, and school boards.

DSB1 will be gathering input surrounding expectations as a nation from the board's verification of an individual's identity when they are in the board and speaking to students.

Moved by Draves, Seconded by Wiwchar

THAT the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee receive the Director of Education / Superintendent of Education update.

CARRIED

Upcoming Meeting Dates

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

- September 22, 2025
- November 3, 2025

Other Business

NIL

Adjournment

MOVED by Draves

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.