



Building Bridges to Success for
First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students



Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Thursday, March 22, 2018
Katarokwi Learning Centre, Kingston

Present:

Krishna Burra
Limestone DSB
Superintendent of Education

Shawn McDonald (ACDSB)
Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB
Indigenous Education Lead

Kevin Reed (LDSB)
Limestone DSB
Indigenous Education Lead

Brad Reitzel
Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB

Christine Jamieson
Limestone DSB

Nicholas Woolley
Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB

Jolene Knowles
Limestone DSB

Elaine Jeffery
Metis Nation of Ontario

Regrets:

Kathy Brant
Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

Terri Slack
Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB
Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Melanie Howard
Queens University

Charlene Landry-Kyte
Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB

Danka Brewer
Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation

Meri MacLeod
Limestone DSB

Janice Hill
Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre

Kelly Maracle
Limestone DSB

Lindsay Morcom
Queens University ATEP

For more information, please contact:

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MINUTES

Opening and Greeting:

Kevin Reed welcomed the group on behalf of the Limestone District School Board and led the council on a brief tour of the Katarokwi Learning Centre.

Agenda Items:

Discussion Regarding IAC Mandate and Membership

Due to the large number of regrets from Indigenous community partners, Kevin Reed proposed that the larger discussion on this item be held over to the next meeting. The council unanimously agreed.

- Shawn McDonald added that the purpose of engaging in discussion regarding the membership was to ensure that the council remained relevant and to ensure that there was adequate representation of Indigenous community partners on the council.
- Elaine Jeffery offered some suggestions of Indigenous community members from the Kingston area who might be asked to join the council.
- Kevin Reed suggested that some form of application process might be necessary to ensure that the original mandate of the Council be upheld.
- Shawn McDonald suggested that an appropriate first step would be to formalize a mission statement for the Council as this statement would help define both the mandate and the membership.
- Kevin and Shawn agreed to meet and explore the possibility of establishing a formal mission statement.

Strengthening our Learning Journey: Third Progress Report (2018)

- Kevin Reed informed the Council that the Ministry of Education had recently released the Third Progress Report on implementation of the First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education Policy Document. Kevin suggested that the report is essentially positive and focuses on the progress that has been made.
- Shawn McDonald shared a video from the Ministry of Education that speaks to the progress made provincially and adds student voice to the conversation. Shawn suggested that many of the comments in the video are reflective of the work of the Advisory Council over the past several years.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OG5sK86rwY&feature=youtu.be>

Report from Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

Shawn McDonald provided programming updates from the ALCDSB:

- the Indigenous knowledge program has been tremendously popular with teachers and schools. The next step will be to gather data on the impact of the program on student learning and to use that information to determine future goals.

- the teacher Collaborative Inquiry programs are progressing well. The two groups involved are Itinerant Arts teachers and grade 11 Religion teachers. Since the IA teachers instruct multiple grades and the grade 11 Religion program is compulsory, the program has the potential to impact the learning of every student in the Board.
- the teacher training surrounding the curriculum updates for Social Studies, History & Geography have not started. Planning for the roll-out of the teacher training is being managed by the new ALCDSB Indigenous Education Working Group.
- the Traditional Skills program that was so successful last year at the Ryan Centre (Wolf Island) will be offered in April at the HR Frink Centre (Belleville). The adoption of the program at the Frink Centre will allow the introduction of Haudenosaunee teachings.

Report from Limestone District School Board

Kevin Reed provided programming updates from the LDSB:

- the implementation of the NBE3 program is progressing well. Nine of eleven secondary schools in the LDSB will be delivering the NBE program in 2018/19.
- Krishna Burra added that the day of learning offered for the grade 11 teachers was quite successful and included: multiple Indigenous community partners; maps and information about local (Kingston) history provided by Christine Jamieson and Terri Brennan. The curriculum rollout will link the learning days to additional teacher training at the upcoming PD Day. Shawn McDonald and Brad Reitzel were invited to join the April 5 learning day.
- Kevin introduced Christine Jamieson as one of two newly hired teachers who will be working in Indigenous Education to support students in both elementary and secondary schools.
- the LDSB and ALCDSB submitted a joint grant proposal to the Ministry of Education with the goal of offering a student leadership program for Indigenous students. The proposal was accepted and the LDSB will be managing the funding. Since it is so late in the school year, it is likely that the original plans for the program will need to be adjusted.
- Christine Jamieson suggested that it may be possible to link the student leadership program to an upcoming event at Frontenac Secondary School that will involve teachings and activities connected to the game of lacrosse. Kevin and Shawn agreed and will bring this idea forward at the next planning meeting.

Open Forum

Brad Reitzel shared his experience at a recent meeting with service providers in the Quinte and Trenton area and suggested that it would be beneficial to have a resource to connect parents with service providers. Particularly Indigenous families and students. The group agreed and invited Brad to explore this idea at the next meeting of service providers.

Jolene Knowles shared the ongoing success of the Indigenous student programming at Rideau Heights Public School. Talking circles and art projects with Maureen Walton are providing opportunities for student voice. Scott Nicol is helping students develop their own voice to express their own story.

Christine Jamieson shared her positive experience of leading Inquiry groups with local Indigenous community partners. She added that developing student voice through circles is having a positive impact on both student identity and the self-identification program.

Additional Items

Shawn and Kevin will coordinate to determine a date for the next meeting. Once confirmed, the date will be communicated to members of the Council.

Elaine Jeffery offered to host the next meeting at the Metis Nation of Ontario in Kingston.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned.