



**Our Intention:** To make a positive difference in the lives of every student, in every classroom, in every school.

## Indigenous Education Committee (IEC) Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2025

### Public Meeting

*Roll Call:*

Trustees:	Members:
J. Maracle	<p><b>Present:</b></p> <p>Crystal Loft (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Liz Coates (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) Patrick Vanderholst (LDSB – Secondary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher) Rachel Kolosov (LDSB Indigenous Student Trustee) Scot Gillam (LDSB – Superintendent) Tasha Wallace (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Mel Urquhart (Youth Diversion) Géorgie Gagné Martha Duncan (LDSB – Elementary Principal – Fairfield Elementary School) Michelle Nyamekye (LDSB – River Teacher) Shannon Tyner (LDSB – Secondary Principal – Ernestown Secondary School) Jessi DiRocco (LDSB – Elementary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher) Liv Rondeau (LDSB – Vice Principal of Indigenous Education)</p>

**Limestone District School Board**

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee.

See Yourself in Limestone

Trustees:	Members:
B. Godkin	<p><b>Regrets:</b></p> <p>Kaycie Brant (Parent/Caregiver Representative)          Bond Strand (LDSB – Elementary Teacher – Bridge Program)          Brandon Maracle (Kingston Native Centre and Languages Nest)          Danka Brewer (Shabot Obaadjiwan Omaamiiwininii Community)          Cristina Warner (HomeBase Housing)          Jayme Blondin (Sexual Assault Centre – Kingston)          Kristen Lemay (Kingston Frontenac Public Library)          Martina Kataquapit (Parent/Caregiver Representative)          Mary-Jane Vincent (LDSB – Indigenous Support Worker)          Nathan Cheechoo (Parent/Caregiver Representative)          Willow Prue (LDSB – Indigenous Student Support Counselor)          Sandy Maracle (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)          Taylor Arndt (KNCLN – River Program)          Alison Billings (Parent/Caregiver Representative)          Gillianne Mundell (Elementary Land Based Indigenous Education Teacher)          Patty Brinklow (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)          Lindsay Morcom (Queen's &amp; Ardoch First Nation)          Deb St. Amant (Queen's University &amp; Grandmother's Council, LDSB Cultural Advisor)          Lorrie Larock (Youth Wellness Hubs of Ontario – One Roof)          Lindsay Rogers (Highland Waters Métis Council)          James Groat (Ministry of Education)</p>

## 1. WELCOME

Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) opened the meeting.

## 2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made around the circle.

### **3. COMMITMENT STRING 2025-26**

Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart provided teachings on the Commitment String. Members of IEC added their own personal commitment in the form of a personal bead. Members not in attendance will add their bead at the November meeting.

### **4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*MOVED BY: Consensus of IEC that the September 25, 2025, Agenda be approved. Carried.*

### **5. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 27<sup>th</sup> IEC MINUTES**

*MOVED BY: Consensus of IEC that the Minutes from May 27, 2025, IEC Minutes be approved. Carried.*

### **6. INDIGENOUS TEAM UPDATES**

Vice Principal Rondeau shared the following updates:

- Orange Shirt t-shirts sold by KNCLN were designed by two LDSB students.
- Indigenous Student Leadership Circle with Jessi DiRocco's support is up and running again for students in Grades 9-12.
- Truth and Reconciliation Leads (from local schools) Professional Development (PD) on September 19 and 25, 2025. Over 50 schools represented.
- Land-based programming continuing with Gillianne Mundell's support. Two land-based teachers added – one at Molly Brant and one at JG Simcoe.
- Moose Hide Campaign details were shared.
- Alyssa Katrine, a Métis artist, will be presenting at four schools next week.
- New Bridge teacher for the first half of the 2025-2026 school year.
- Indigenous language courses have started in Kanyen'kéha and Anishinaabemowin.
- A mandatory Indigenous Education component has been added to the New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP).
- Increased programming at NDSS.
- Increased work with teacher candidates and grad students.

### **7. BOARD ACTION PLAN (BAP) 2025-2026**

- The November 27, 2025, IEC Meeting will focus on BAP Initiatives for 2025-2026 and final sharing of the budget for the 2024-2025 BAP.

## **8. TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**

- Consensus of the circle was that the TOR as presented at the September 25, 2025, IEC Meeting are approved. The TOR will be updated on the Board website. A review will take place in May 2026.
- Consensus of the circle was to bring back the language for the Commitment String and Code of Conduct prior to the November 27, 2025, IEC Meeting for final approval. These items will be added as Appendices to the TOR.

## **9. CAREGIVER SELECTION**

- On September 12, 2025, IEC members participated in a virtual meeting to confirm the process created by Co-Facilitator Trustee Maracle and add this information to the TOR.
- Section 3.0 Membership now contains criteria that circle members will use to select future caregiver representatives.
- At this meeting on September 12, 2025, IEC members were also provided with the expression of interest and timeline for the process.
- Expressions of interest were open to all Indigenous caregivers in LDSB from September 17 to September 24, 2025.
- Nineteen expressions of interest were received. All submissions were reviewed by IEC members using the criteria listed in the TOR.
- Consensus of the circle was to select caregiver Rena Petrick, a former IEAC member, as the newest caregiver representative. LDSB staff did not participate in this final circle decision.
- Consensus of the circle was to reach out to four other candidates to see if they would be interested in representing the organization that they currently identified as their employer in their submissions. LDSB staff did not participate in this final circle decision.
- IEC members asked Co-Facilitator Superintendent Gillam to message the successful candidate, work with the four possible organizational candidates, and send thanks to those who weren't successful. IEC members asked that we let candidates know that we anticipate future vacancies and hope they will once again submit their expressions of interest at that time.

## **10. NEXT MEETING DATE**

Thursday, November 27, 2025

## **11. CLOSING**

Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) closed the meeting.