

Indigenous Education Committee (IEC)

Agenda

05/26/2026 – Meal at 5:30 pm. Official meeting starts at 6 pm.

Location

LDSB Education Centre – Boardroom – 220 Portsmouth Ave.

- I. **6:00 pm – Opening – Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga)**
- II. **Agenda Confirmation**
- III. **Approval of the March 26, 2026, IEC Minutes (Pages 2-5)**
- IV. **Team Updates**
- V. **Code of Conduct Final Approval (Pages 6-8)**
- VI. **Caregiver Selection**
- VII. **BAP and Budget 2026-2027**
- VIII. **Committee Member updates**
- IX. **Closing – Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart**

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Indigenous Education Committee (IEC) Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2026

Public Meeting

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
J. Maracle G. Elliott	Present: Crystal Loft (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Alison Billings (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Rena Petrick (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Liz Coates (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) Scot Gillam (LDSB – Superintendent) Tasha Wallace (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Martha Duncan (LDSB – Elementary Principal – Fairfield Elementary School) Michelle Nyamekye (LDSB – River Teacher) Taylor Arndt (KNCLN – River Program) Lindsay Morcom (Queen’s & Ardoch First Nation) Tyler Brinklow (FNMI Consultant and Grad Coach) Jessi DiRocco (LDSB – Elementary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher) Liv Rondeau (LDSB – Vice Principal of Indigenous Education) Amber Bryant-Peller (City of Kingston) Laura Callow (Providence Care)

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Trustees:	Members:
R. Hutcheon	Regrets: Rachel Kolosov (LDSB Indigenous Student Trustee) Bond Strand (LDSB – Elementary Teacher – Bridge Program) Brandon Maracle (Kingston Native Centre and Languages Nest) Cristina Warner (HomeBase Housing) Jayme Blondin (Sexual Assault Centre – Kingston) Kristen Lemay (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) Mary-Jane Vincent (LDSB – Indigenous Support Worker) Willow Prue (LDSB – Indigenous Student Support Counselor) Sandy Maracle (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte) Patty Brinklow (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte) Lorrie Larock (Youth Wellness Hubs of Ontario – One Roof) Lindsay Rogers (Highland Waters Métis Council) Géorgie Gagné Mel Urquhart (Youth Diversion) Shannon Tyner (LDSB – Secondary Principal – Ernestown Secondary School) Danka Brewer (Shabot Obaadjiwan Omaamiiwininii Community) Gillianne Mundell (Elementary Land Based Indigenous Education Teacher) Kaycie Brant (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Deb St. Amant (Queen’s University & Grandmother’s Council, LDSB Cultural Advisor)

1. WELCOME

Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) opened the meeting. Members who had not completed their commitment string were able to do so from 5:30-6 pm with Crystal and Mandy.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made around the circle.

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3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Consensus of IEC that the March 26, 2026, agenda be approved. Carried.

4. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2026, IEC MINUTES

MOVED BY: Consensus of IEC that the Minutes from February 10, 2026, be approved. Carried.

5. TEAM UPDATES

Vice Principal Rondeau shared the following updates:

- Chad Solomon, a puppeteer from Henvey Inlet First Nation, visited six schools recently.
- Monique Gray Smith delivered a community lecture (approximately 100 attendees), and 100 students participated in a workshop with her.
- Professional development sessions were led for history teachers with Marie Wilson and Stephen Kakfwi.
- A third professional development session for TRC Leads was held, focusing on land acknowledgements, land-based learning, and art, alongside Dianne Sedore McCoy and Gail Brant Terry.
- The Indigenous Student Leadership Circle, along with Indigenous students across the Board, participated in the 2026–2027 Indigenous Student Trustee election.
- Secondary Indigenous students travelled to Montreal to visit the extraordinary *Kent Monkman: History Is Painted by the Victors* at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.
- Tyler Brinklow shared information on rabbit harvesting and cooking at KSS, along with ongoing college and university collaboration supporting Indigenous students in Grades 9–12.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE APPENDICES – CODE OF CONDUCT

- The draft Code of Conduct was further discussed in circle. Minor edits (e.g., spelling) were identified, and discussion focused on the section regarding repeated or egregious breaches of the Code. It was confirmed that any recommendations in this section should reflect the voice of the circle, rather than the Co-Facilitators. One bullet was also significantly revised to read “undertake counselling,” without additional direction.
- Updates to this section, along with the final version of the Code of Conduct, will be shared prior to the May meeting for final circle approval.
- Follow-up discussion occurred regarding Terms of Reference Item 4.0 – Meetings. The two caregiver representatives were contacted and expressed appreciation for participating in the circle; however, they are unable to continue. The group discussed the resulting vacancies, reviewed options to fill them, and reached consensus to revisit previous expressions of interest,

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rank remaining candidates, and select new members for September, ensuring a transparent and inclusive process. This process will take place at the May 2026 meeting. LDSB staff did not participate in this decision.

7. BAP 2025-2026 and Budget 2026-2027

- Vice Principal Rondeau provided an update on the BAP meeting with James Groat, the Ministry Lead for Indigenous Education. Liv reported that James recognized many of our initiatives as innovative and truly deepening an understanding and embedding of Indigenous Education.
- Superintendent Scot Gillam and Vice Principal Rondeau discussed the anticipated surplus in Indigenous education funding, the cautious approach to spending, and the expansion of professional development, particularly for Truth and Reconciliation Teacher leads, with plans to present detailed budget breakdowns in May and September.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

- Liz Coates (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) announced the opening of the Isabel Turner Branch in June, featuring a new art installation and outreach to students from Alderville First Nation, including providing library cards and organizing visits.
- Laura Callow (Providence Care) shared plans for Pride events and Two-Spirit awareness initiatives, including partnerships with the Friendship Centre, and encouraged the use of personalized land acknowledgements following training.
- Michelle Nyamekye and Taylor Arndt (River Program) reported that River students are participating in dual credit courses, placements, and skilled trades competitions, including one student's acceptance to St. Lawrence College.
- Lindsay Morcom (Queen's University and Ardoch First Nation) announced the World Indigenous Studies and Education Master's program at Queen's, inviting applications and contributions to a publication reflecting on ten years since the TRC report.
- Alison Billings (Parent/Caregiver Representative) shared that the MNO is supporting a workshop with Shelley Moore on The Evolution of Inclusion on May 14, 2026. The link will be re-circulated.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

- Tuesday, May 26, 2026

10. CLOSING

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

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LDSB IEC Code of Conduct

Preamble

Native traditions speak to how We are to care about one another. This caring guides Our interactions. Whether it be through the Anishinaabe concepts of Mino-Bimaadiziwin and the Seven Grandfather Teachings of Dabasendiziwin (humility), Gwayakwaadiziwin (Honesty), Manaaji'idiwin (respect), Zoongide'ewin (courage), Nibwaakaawin (Wisdom), Debwewin (truth), and Zaagi'idiwin (love), or through Rotinonshon:ni traditions of Skennen (Peace), Onkwanikonri:io (Good Mind), tahnnon Kasastensera (Teamwork & Consensus), Our teachings remind Us of how to work together in a respectful manner. A manner that is thankful to each and every member for the gifts, wisdom, and knowledge that We each bring to this endeavour. A manner that ensures everyone is heard. Through this We can find solutions that best serve all in the LDSB community, not just one group or individual. We are reminded that solutions chosen may not be the 'first choice' of all IEC members but are acceptable solutions.

We also remember that all decisions made by IEC are ideally made by consensus. It is recognized that on occasion, external limitations such as time or budget may limit this ability.

At times due to passion about the topic or other reasons, people may lose Onkwanikonri:io or struggle to remember the Seven Grandfather Teachings. This document also speaks to how We can help the individual regain Onkwanikonri:io and/or remember the Seven Grandfather Teachings, and how to address if the committee feels that the individual is unable to continue in a productive way.

This Code of Conduct and the Enforcement applies to all members of the LDSB IEC including facilitators, members, staff, and visitors.

Visitors

On occasion, members of the LDSB community beyond the core IEC members may join an IEC meeting.

Members of the community may wish to attend for information purposes. It is noted that these individuals attend as an audience only. These individuals have no voice at the meeting unless directly called upon by the facilitators.

Members of the community may be invited to attend to provide specific information such as a presentation to the IEC. This attendance does not confer membership into the committee. It limits the individuals' participation to presentation of information on the intended subject area.

Expectations

IEC members recognize that We may deal with sensitive issues and/or confidential Information. Maintaining this confidentiality is key to Our traditions and key to public faith in Our ability to undertake these important roles within the IEC. No IEC member shall disclose confidential information obtained or made available to IEC members (as a committee or as individual members) except as authorized by law or by the IEC committee. Confidential information includes personal information about an identifiable individual or information subject to solicitor-client privilege. Deliberations regarding confidential information are also confidential. IEC members recognize that only the facilitators are spokespersons to the public on behalf of the committee, unless otherwise determined by the committee. No other IEC member shall speak on behalf of the Board unless expressly authorized by the IEC facilitators to do so. Members shall clearly demonstrate discretion when making personal public statements so as to minimize the impression that such statements reflect the opinion of the committee when they do not. IEC members shall recognize that the expenditure of school board funds is a public trust and endeavour to see that the funds are expended efficiently, in the best interests of the students as a group.

IEC members recognize solutions found are solutions that advance the interest of all in the IEC and entire LDSB community and do not favour or grant special benefit to the member's immediate family or friends. This includes using confidential information or deliberations to unduly benefit same.

Breaches of the Code

Should it be noticed that member has lost sight of these ways, the following tools will be used to help restore the individual's Onkwanikonri:io and help them recall the Seven Grandfather Teachings.

- i) Using Onkwanikonri:io and the Seven Grandfather Teachings, a member of the committee may bring the matter of lost ways to the attention of the facilitators. Using Onkwanikonri:io and the Seven Grandfather Teachings ensures that the matter brought forward is not frivolous. Using Onkwanikonri:io and the Seven Grandfather Teachings ensures that the matter is brought forward kindly and as discreetly as possible.
- ii) The facilitators will discuss the matter with a view to finding a solution that best helps the individual return to a position of Onkwanikonri:io and act in accordance with the Seven Grandfather Teachings and reinstates the individual's ability to help the committee.
 - It is recognized that a member in breach may have forgotten what is written in the code or have a different interpretation of the expectations
 - In these circumstances a simple reminder, discussion and/or explanation may suffice to ease the individual's mind and help them to better serve the committee
 - Where the act may be deliberate, then the individual may be reminded of the expectations and given an opportunity to correct their behaviour.

Repeated or exceptionally egregious breaches of this code.

If a member struggles to regain Onkwanikonri:io or act in accordance with the Seven Grandfather Teachings, then at the discretion of the circle, the individual may be asked to

- i) undertake training to understand expectations
- ii) undertake counseling to help the individual return to Onkwanikonri:io and remember the Seven Grandfather Teachings.
- iii) take a break from the committee to allow time to refocus
- iv) step down from the committee.

Overall, again, We are thankful for the gifts that each individual brings to the committee. The goal of this code of conduct is to help each committee member to be as healthy and effective as possible in assisting LDSB build a better future for LDSB students.