

Indigenous Education Committee (IEC)

Agenda

09/22/2026 – 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. Guest Confirmation and Introductions**
- III. Agenda Confirmation**
- IV. Approval of the May 26, 2026, IEC Minutes (Pages 2-5)**
- V. Commitment String – Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart**
- VI. Team Updates**
- VII. Caregiver and Terms of Reference Update**
- VIII. BAP and Budget 2026-2027**
- IX. Committee Member updates**
- X. Closing – Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart**

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Indigenous Education Committee (IEC) Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2026

Public Meeting

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
J. Maracle R. Hutcheon	Present: Crystal Loft (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Deb St. Amant (Queen's University & Grandmother's Council, LDSB Cultural Advisor) Alison Billings (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Bond Strand (LDSB – Elementary Teacher – Bridge Program) Liz Coates (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) Scot Gillam (LDSB – Superintendent) Sandy Maracle (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte) Patty Brinklow (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte) Géorgie Gagné Mel Urquhart (Youth Diversion) Martha Duncan (LDSB – Elementary Principal – Fairfield Elementary School) Lindsay Morcom (Queen's & Ardoch First Nation) Jessi DiRocco (LDSB – Elementary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher) Liv Rondeau (LDSB – Vice Principal of Indigenous Education) Laura Callow (Providence Care) Krishna Burra, Director

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Trustees:	Members:
	Regrets: Rachel Kolosov (LDSB Indigenous Student Trustee) Rena Petrick (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Tasha Wallace (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Michelle Nyamekye (LDSB – River Teacher) Taylor Arndt (KNCLN – River Program) Pat Vanderholst (LDSB FNMI Consultant & Grad Coach) Amber Bryant-Peller (City of Kingston) 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) Lorrie Larock (Youth Wellness Hubs of Ontario – One Roof) Lindsay Rogers (Highland Waters Métis Council) Shannon Tyner (LDSB – Secondary Principal – Ernestown Secondary School) Danka Brewer (Shabot Obaadjiwan Omaamiwininii Community) Gillianne Mundell (Elementary Land Based Indigenous Education Teacher) Kaycie Brant (Parent/Caregiver Representative)

1. WELCOME

Deb St. Amant opened the meeting.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made around the circle. Superintendent Gillam identified that Shannon Tyner, LDSB Secondary Principal, had retired and was no longer part of IEC. A new representative will be identified in September 2026. Director Burra and Superintendent Gillam discussed the transfer of Vice Principal Liv Rondeau to Welborne PS. No other changes are anticipated, except for the addition of Indigenous staff to support Indigenous students and families. Director Burra explained that a new Lead would be hired. If the successful candidate aspired to become an administrator, the Lead position could potentially become a vice-principal or principal position in the future. The current intent is to provide another Indigenous staff member with valuable experience in the Lead role. Both acknowledged the impact of Liv's departure and recognized her exemplary work of the past six years.

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3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 26, 2026, IEC MINUTES

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

5. TEAM UPDATES

Vice Principal Rondeau shared the following updates:

- Chad Solomon, an Anishinaabek puppeteer with Rabbit and Bear Paws, visited six schools in March.
- We are supporting the new Collaborative Care Initiative with KCHC to bring Indigenous health education, programming, and care to students in the Bridge Program and beyond.
- We are bringing the Indigenous Student Leadership Circle to Camp Muskoka. The trip is scheduled to leave on May 27, 2026.
- We led professional development with over 50 teachers in the New Teacher Induction Program, in which Indigenous Education is now a mandatory day.
- Presented at the OPC Eastern Conference to principals and vice-principals across Ontario on the Board's Indigenous Education initiatives.
- Samantha Doxtator is visiting in June to do a Haudenosaunee star knowledge workshop with students at No. 9 Gardens.
- Continuing to support students through Graduation Coaching.
- Bringing the Indigenous Place Names map to several geography classes throughout the board.
- Doing a history walking tour downtown Kingston with students from Bayridge Secondary School.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Code of Conduct was approved by consensus of the circle and will be added to the Terms of Reference for September.
- **Terms of Reference Item 3.0 Membership-** At the March 26, 2026, meeting, consensus of the group was to fill the two caregiver vacancies using the following method- revisit previous expressions of interest, rank all remaining candidates, and select new members for September, ensuring a transparent and inclusive process. Five (5) individuals were identified and ranked and will be contacted for their interest in joining IEC in the role of caregiver representative. This process will be completed in May and June so that the two new caregivers are in place for the September 2026 meeting. LDSB staff did not participate in this decision; however, Superintendent Gillam was tasked with reaching out and confirming caregiver interest based on the list provided by circle.

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7. BAP Budget 2026-2027

- Superintendent Gillam reviewed the budget and expenses related to the Indigenous Education funding for 2026-2027. He highlighted the work of IEC in providing direction with respect to the addition of staff and supports based on our historical surplus. These additions included the addition of 4 Indigenous staff in the roles of Adolescent Care Worker, Attendance Counselor, Social Worker and Psychologist. Superintendent Gillam also spoke to the expansion of the Bridge program, adding another class, teacher and Indigenous Support Worker, housed at KLC. Additional supports are being provided to ensure the running of FNMI courses at secondary and additional funds to support professional development across the district and further support for the Truth and Reconciliation Leads at all elementary and secondary schools. Questions of clarification were asked, and the intent is to hire Indigenous individuals into each of these roles discussed. Another conversation ensued about the surplus and any concerns about the Ministry clawing this money back.
- Superintendent Gillam reminded IEC that they will be tasked with supporting the BAP process beginning in September. He also thanked them for all their work on the BAP this past school year.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

- In recognition of Liv's transfer, Trustee Maracle provided Liv with flowers and a small token of our appreciation. Deb St. Amant and Lindsay Morcom sang a beautiful song, and each member of the circle spoke to Liv's contributions.
- In recognition of Scot's retirement, Trustee Maracle and Liv shared a beautiful, beaded medallion and spoke to the image. Crystal and Mandy sang two songs and Trustee Maracle and Scot participated in a men's dance. Liv and the Indigenous team members then presented Scot with a beautiful blanket, and each member of the circle spoke to Scot's contributions.
- IEC then shared a beautiful cake brought by Alison Billings.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

- Tuesday, September 22, 2026

10. CLOSING

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

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