



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL

March 21, 2024
6:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

Members: Monique Manatch, Inini McHugh, Lili Miller, Nina Stanton, Olga Griegoriev (Tungasuvvingat Inuit), Chantel Verner (Vice Principal, York Street Public School), Donna Dickson (Trustee), Amanda Presley (Trustee)

Indigenous Education Staff: Jody Kohoko (System Principal, Indigenous Support), Kris Meawasige (Team Manager, Indigenous Education)

Other Staff and Guests: Lynn Scott (Trustee), Shannon Smith (Superintendent of Instruction), Ezio De Stefano (Indigenous Student Trustee), Mellissa Applewaihe (Board/Committee Coordinator)

1. Opening

Facilitator Manatch opened the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

2. Student Voice

Facilitator Manatch introduced the recently elected Indigenous Student Trustee, Ezio De Stefano. She noted that Indigenous Student Trustee Stefano is the first Indigenous Student Trustee in the District and represents a significant milestone for the Indigenous community.

3. Community Discussion

A community discussion occurred.

Team Manager Meawasige noted that he would be meeting with General Manager Rahim of the Research, Analytics and Evaluation Department (READ), to discuss Indigenous Education Council (IEC) member's input regarding identity-based data.

Superintendent Smith noted that she has advised senior staff that the IEC is convening a working circle on alternatives to suspension and will invite the principal of Safe Schools to a future IEC meeting.

Facilitator Manatch requested that members review the IEC mailing list and provide input on any outdated information.

4. Presentations

There were no presentations.

5. Matters for Action

5.1 IEC Meeting Location

Facilitator Mantatch reviewed the meeting location selections provided to IEC members and requested that members come to a decision.

Following a discussion, IEC members conducted a vote to select a meeting location.

By unanimous consent, it was declared that Indigenous Education Council meetings for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year will be held at the Gloucester High School Lodge.

5.2 Working Circles

a. Alternatives to Suspension

Facilitator Manatch noted that the IEC is creating a working circle to focus on alternatives to suspension for Indigenous students.

Superintendent Smith noted that she will contact IEC members to confirm their availability for a working circle on 3 or 4 April 2024.

Superintendent Smith noted that she would send the IEC Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) email address to members and that she would provide data on the type of suspensions related to Indigenous and racialized students at a future meeting.

b. Self-Identification Promotion Materials

Superintendent Smith noted that the IEC is creating a working circle to create a procedure that guides the promotional material used regarding self-identification. The intent is for members to develop a sustainable procedure that embeds specific attributes to respect and reflect the Indigenous perspective.

Facilitator Manatch noted that she would like to ask Indigenous students to submit artwork and suggested that a \$50 to \$100 incentive could be provided to the successful student.

Superintendent Smith agreed on a call to Indigenous students for artwork submissions and advised that staff will email IEC members to confirm availability for a working circle on 8 or 10 April 2024.

6. Matters For Discussion

There were no matters for discussion.

7. Reports

7.1 Facilitator Update

a. Algonquin Protocols

There was no update on the Algonquin Protocols.

7.2 Indigenous Education Team Update

The Indigenous Education Team provided an update.

Team Manager Meawasige noted that the position for an Indigenous Educational Assistant (EA) was not filled and that he will provide an update at a future date.

7.3 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Smith provided her report:

Superintendent Smith noted that a status update on the strategic actions of the Indigenous Equity and Human Rights Roadmap, 2022-2023 (Roadmap) will be brought to the 2 April 2024, Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting. She noted that staff working on the renewal of the Roadmap have solicited feedback from the IEC and other advisory committees and suggested that IEC members discuss the Roadmap during the 18 April 2024 IEC meeting.

7.4 IEC Report, 15 February 2024

The IEC report of 15 February 2024 was received.

8. Information

Superintendent Smith noted that the Director of Education plans to provide a statement regarding the District approach to the impact of global conflict on students at the upcoming Board meeting on 26 March 2024.

Facilitator Manatch noted that the IEC should look into when the next membership drive for the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) will take place so that members of the Indigenous community can apply.

9. Upcoming Meeting Dates

The upcoming meeting dates were provided for information.

10. Closing

Facilitator Manatch offered a closing at 8:01 p.m.