



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL

October 17, 2024
6:00 pm
Gloucester High School
2060 Ogilvie Road
Ottawa, Ontario

- Members: Monique Manatch, Inini McHugh, Nina Stanton, Romaine Mitchell, Veronica Wemigwans, Kyl Morrison
- Indigenous Education Staff: Jody Kohoko (Principal, Urban Aboriginal Alternate High School), Kris Meawasige (Indigenous Student Support and Re-engagement Coordinator), Chantel Verner (System Principal, Indigenous Education)
- Other Staff and Guests: Jolene Moriarty, Valentina de Krom, Waneek Horn-Miller, Jaime Morse, Lynn Scott (Trustee), Ezio De Stefano (Student Trustee), Jesse Mark (Executive Officer), Kristin Riddell (Superintendent of Education), Kathy Mak (Board/Committee Coordinator)

1. Opening

Facilitator Manatch opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

2. Student Voice

Student Trustee Ezio De Stefano shared some of the initiatives she plans to work on throughout the school year, including re-engaging the Indigenous Youth Council.

Kyl Morrison suggested that the next Indigenous Education Council (IEC) meeting on 21 November 2024 occur at the lodge in the Ottawa Technical Secondary School (OTSS).

3. Reports

3.1 Indigenous Education Team Update (C. Verner, J. Kohoko, K. Meawasige)

The following information was provided during the Indigenous Team Update:

- Principal Kohoko noted that a draft document of the smudge protocol will be distributed to IEC at a future meeting for feedback;

- System Principal Verner noted that there will be a two tiered approach to the English course, *Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voice*, for principals in the 2024-2025 school year. Principals, or at least one administrator from each site, have been invited to join. Currently 10 high schools out of 27 have expressed interest;
- The Indigenous Education Team is working on providing school resources for Treaties week from 3 November 2024 to 9 November 2024; and
- IEC members welcomed Jolene Moriarty to the Indigenous Education Team.

3.2 IEC Report, 19 September 2024

The IEC report of 19 September 2024 was received.

3.3 Superintendent's Report

The following information was provided:

- Superintendent Riddell noted that staff is aiming to collaborate with Human Resource to implement Jordan's Principle to ensure this support is available for families, students and Education Assistants (EA);
- The lodge at Canterbury High School is estimated to be completed by December 2024;
- Superintendent Riddell aims to review the spaces available in new school sites and potentially implement a lodge, with the focus on schools with Indigenous names;
- System Principal Verner noted that the 4 Season event has been approved and the Indigenous leads in schools will have the opportunity to participate, hear and learn from those in the Indigenous community;
- An update regarding the Indigenous Human Right and Equity Roadmap will be provided at the 21 November 2024 IEC meeting; and
- Facilitator Manatch requested that the Elementary Program Review be included as a standing agenda item in future meetings.

4. Presentations

4.1 Elementary Review Program (EPR) - Update and Feedback

Executive Officer Mark introduced the update on the Elementary Program Review (EPR).

During discussion and in response to queries the following information was provided:

- Facilitator Manatch noted that a better method in incorporating Indigenous pedagogy is needed for the Elementary program review and it should be done as a community approach;
- Inini McHugh suggested staff reach out to him to coordinate a reach out to community organization for additional feedback regarding the review;
- Facilitator Manatch noted that IEC is not the place to provide elementary program review feedback and an additional meeting will be required to discuss this item. She urged the board to collaborate with Indigenous Academics and external consultants to implement an Indigenous lens to the program review and provide additional research;
- Executive Officer Mark noted that the OCDSB aims to have a model presented in late December 2024 or early January 2025;
- Members of IEC urges the District to provide additional time for the consultation period to ensure the Indigenous voices are heard. Chair Scott noted the urgency of the Elementary Program Review and cautions the District the potential impact of taking additional time for the program review; and
- Facilitator Manatch suggested that an Indigenous academic be consulted for the Elementary Program Review and request that an update be provided on 21 October 2024.

4.2 Electronic Meeting Regulations (J. Mark)

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

5. Community Discussion

A community discussion occurred.

5.1 Building Staff Capacity to Support Students

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

5.2 Consultation Dates for the Elementary Program Review

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

5.3 Discussion Surrounding Legislation Governing IEC Draft Membership and Verification Policy

Romaine Mitchell provided an up[date and noted that there is a new Minister of Education and an Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM).

6. Upcoming Meeting Dates

The upcoming meeting dates were provided for information.

7. Closing

Facilitator Manatch offered a closing at 8:05 p.m.