



Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes

- Date:** September 27, 2024
- Location:** I.E. Weldon Secondary School
- Time:** 10:00am
- Present:** Jennifer Johnston, Superintendent of Learning, Meeting Chair
Lori Benton, Principal, Glen Orchard Public School
Sarah Chaloux, Language Coordinator, Wahta Mohawks
Geoff Corbett, Principal, Bracebridge Muskoka Lakes Secondary School
Denise de Paola, Principal, IE Weldon Secondary School
Tricia Holmes, Indigenous Student Success Team
Lillian Lummiss, Indigenous Student Success Team
Kelly Moore, Indigenous Education Curriculum Consultant
Larry O'Connor, Community Partner
Dave Rice, Community Partner
Judy Saunders, Trustee
Dorothy Taylor, Community Partner
Sherry Telford, Indigenous Student Success Team
Monique Tindale, Indigenous Student Success Team
Trent Willett, Principal, Gravenhurst High School
- Regrets:** Jacqualeen Beaver, Community Partner
Louise Clodd, Trustee
Kelli Gates, Principal, VK Greer Public School
Wes Hahn, Director of Education
Carol Holmes, Education Director, Wahta Mohawks
Christopher Stock, Community Partner
Kimberly Taylor, Community Partner
- Guests:** Marie Bramley, Hillcrest Normal School New Zealand
Ana Mena, Principal, Dr. George Hall Public School
Drew Milligan, Community Partner
Lindsey Sheldrake, Curriculum Consultant
- Staff:** Wendy Browne, Executive Assistant

1 Opening in a Good Way

L. O'Connor opened the meeting in a good way and shared teachings about the eagle staff.

2 Land acknowledgement

S. Telford shared a land acknowledgement.

3 Roll call

Committee members and guests shared introductions. J. Johnston confirmed that quorum was present.

4 Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

5 Committee action items

5.1 Approval of the minutes of the May 17, 2024 meeting

The minutes dated May 17, 2024 were approved.

6 Administrative updates

6.1 Wahta Mohawks First Nation Update

S. Chaloux shared the following updates:

- Plans are underway for another sharing of expertise land-based learning program for Grade 8 students from Glen Orchard Public School. Last year's learning involved hide tanning and leek harvesting. This year, Community is looking at cranberry harvesting, bear grease harvesting, winter survival and shelter building, beaver trapping, snow shoeing, and maple syrup collecting in the spring.
- Wahta Mohawks will be meeting with the Ontario College of Teachers to discuss pathways to support certification of language instructors.
- A high school language class is taking place in Community, supported by S. Chaloux.

6.2 TLDSB update

J. Johnston, K. Moore, and S. Telford shared the following updates:

- The Indigenous Guides program has launched. It involves one to two leaders from each school who will be responsible for disseminating information and supporting Indigenous students and staff within their school.
- The Seven Grandfather Teachings program has been extended to include nine additional schools alongside the original pilot schools, Scott Young Public School, Bobcaygeon Public School, and Dunsford District Elementary School, that piloted the program last year. D. Rice and T. Lamoreaux have supported the program planning for this initiative.
- Students will be attending an Indigenous Student Leadership Camp at Camp Pine Crest in Torrance, Ontario, on October 10-11, 2024.
- Gratitude was extended to Wahta Mohawks for providing an opportunity for a career fair to take place in September. The event was attended by students

from Gravenhurst High School and Bracebridge and Muskoka Lakes Secondary School.

- Representatives from Wahta Mohawks will once again be visiting Glen Orchard Public School every two weeks to support cultural learnings for all classes.

8 Presentations and discussion

8.1 TLDSB's response to Right to Read

Curriculum Consultant L. Sheldrake shared a presentation on the Board's response to the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC)'s Right to Read inquiry. K. Moore shared details on how the Indigenous Student Success Team is working in collaboration with the Curriculum Team to support Indigenous students.

8.2 Territorial Acknowledgement update

K. Moore reported concerns with the wording of the current Board territorial acknowledgement, particularly in relation to the Métis Nation of Ontario. L. O'Connor provided some background information on the political concerns and recommended the use of "Metis people" to remove the fiduciary connections to the Métis Nation of Ontario.

9 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10 Community updates/new business

9.1 Upcoming TLDSB Indigenous education events

S. Telford shared details on the events that have been taking place for Truth and Reconciliation week. On September 30th, a live streamed events featuring L. O'Connor and B. Taylor will be hosted in Haliburton area schools. Lessons have also been shared around the book *Stolen Words* by Melanie Florence and Gabrielle Grimard.

10 Closing

D. Taylor closed the meeting in a good way.

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