

**Lakehead University Aboriginal Management Council
Report to Lakehead University Faculty Senate
December 3, 2010**

The Aboriginal Management Council of Lakehead University met on November 22, 2010, at 2:00 PM in the ATAC building.

Guest Presentation

Greg Lowan, a Métis scholar and PhD student at the University of Saskatchewan and sessional lecturer in the Faculty of Education at Lakehead University presented a brief overview of his ongoing research to members of the Aboriginal Management Council. Greg's research is in the area of place-based ways of knowing.

Reactivation of the Joint Policy Committee of the Aboriginal Management Council and Research Ethics Board

The revised Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS) was approved by the presidents of the three agencies on November 29, 2010. Revised guidelines are expected to be issued on Tuesday, December 7, 2010.

Section Six of the new Policy Statement related to research with Aboriginal persons and communities. The Aboriginal Management Council is expected to play a significant role in implementation of revised Tri-Council Policy and specific Lakehead University policy.

The work of the Joint Policy Committee of the Aboriginal Management Council and Research Ethics Board has been on hold in recent months while the new Tri-Council Policy Statement was under revision.

Aboriginal Research Facilitator Search Near Completion

The Search Committee for the Aboriginal Research Facilitator is in the late stages of interviews. The Committee, made up of representatives of the Research Office, Aboriginal Initiatives, and Aboriginal faculty, expects to name the successful candidate late next week. The position will be funded for two years by Aboriginal Initiatives and will be located in the Research Office. The successful candidate will be expected to facilitate research with Aboriginal peoples and research by Aboriginal persons at Lakehead University. Beverly Sabourin, the Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives announced this initiative at the October meeting. This is an update.

Memorandum of Understanding – Lakehead University and the Métis Nation of Ontario

Lakehead University will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Metis Nation of Ontario on December 16th at 2 pm. Mr. Gary Lipinski, President of MNO will be on campus at Lakehead University that day, for the signing. Dr. Brian Stevenson will be signing in agreement for Lakehead University.

This Memorandum of Understanding with the Métis Nation of Ontario is significant in importance for several reasons. First, it initiates a positive working relationship between Lakehead University and the Metis Nation of Ontario that is expected to result in collaborative partnerships in research and other projects.

Second, the Memorandum of Understanding establishes a relationship between the University and the Métis Nation that is equivalent to the relationship previously only held by First Nations and their representatives. While the Métis Nation has long asserted nationhood status, and there is cultural, historical and legal basis for that, the status of Métis people as citizens of a Métis Nation has not always been recognized by other entities.

Kendaasiwin Centre Plans are Moving Forward

The Aboriginal Management Council committee working on planning for the Kendaasiwin Centre met with Dr. Brian Stevenson on November 25, 2010, to discuss the draft business plan for this project. A PowerPoint presentation has been prepared and will be used to promote the project for fundraising and other purposes. University Advancement will be working with the committee to prepare a fund-raising and marketing plan.

Upcoming

Aboriginal Management Council initiatives moving forward include:

- Continuing to be involved in the plans for a Lakehead University Law School
- Encouraging women to become involved in politics.
- Working on ways to increase Aboriginal enrolment at the Orillia Campus

The next scheduled meeting of the Aboriginal Management Council is January 24, 2011.

Submitted December 3, 2010

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Representing the Aboriginal Management Council of Lakehead University