



Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council Advisors Committee

MINUTES

Date:	March 21, 2022
Time:	2:30pm - 4:00pm (EDT)
Location:	Zoom Meeting

MEMBERSHIP

Members in Attendance: DEANS: Dr. David Richards; Dr. Mirella Stroink; FACULTY & STAFF: James Aldridge; Denise Baxter; Anna Chief; Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux; Lisa Harris (Interim Vice-Chair); Dr. Jessica Jurgutis; Dr. Rhonda Koster; Sheryl O'Reilly; Jerri-Lynn Orr; Lisa Primavesi; Dr. Lana Ray; Robin Sutherland; Yolanda Twance; Dr. Anita Vaillancourt (Chair); Céline Wick

Not in Attendance: DEANS: Dr. Dean Jobin-Bevans; Dr. Elizabeth Birmingham; Dr. Jula Hughes; Dr. Janusz Kozinski; Dr. Wayne Melville; Dr. Todd Randall; Dr. Ulf Runesson; Dr. Chander Shahi; Dr. Sarita Verma; FACULTY & STAFF: Dr. Kristin Burnett; Dr. Paul Cormier; Barbara Eccles (University Secretary/OIEC Secretary); Fionna Farquhar; Christopher Glover; Mercedes Jacko; John Kimball; Tracey Larocque; Dr. Joseph LeBlanc; Sabreena MacElheron; Dennis McPherson; Heather Moynihan; Dr. Christopher Mushquash; Dr. Raymond Neckoway; Professor Doe O'Brien; Dr. Robert Robson; Bryanna Scott; Dr. Michelle-Marie Spadoni; Andrea Tarsitano

Administrative Resources in Attendance: Marcie Morrison (Secretary); Debra Bevan (Recorder)

SECRETARY'S NOTE: The meeting proceeded without a quorum.

The meeting was called to order at: 2:30pm.

Item

1. Approval of Agenda (Dr. Anita Vaillancourt)
The agenda was approved, as circulated.
2. Approval of the January 18, 2022 Minutes (Dr. Anita Vaillancourt)
The January 18, 2022 minutes were approved, as circulated.

3. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Discussion Continued (Dr. Anita Vaillancourt)

On January 24, 2022, the OIEC Advisors Committee was asked to participate in an electronic vote, the following written resolution was proposed:

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has declared September 30th in each year as the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has not yet declared that day as a statutory holiday;

MOVED THAT the OIEC Advisors Committee strongly recommends that the University close, providing a paid day off, each year that September 30th falls on a weekday.

Not all members were in favour of the proposed written resolution or the process and it was evident that there were strong and varied positions held by Committee members about how Lakehead should honour/commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. On March 9, 2022, the Committee Chair circulated an email to all members proposing to postpone voting on the written resolution (noted above), and instead schedule a special meeting dedicated to discussing this matter in a format conducive to collective sharing. A Sharing Circle Meeting with Elder Gene took place on March 4, 2022; all Committee members were invited to participate.

The Committee Chair reported that the discussion at the Sharing Circle Meeting did not result in a specific recommendation on whether Lakehead should be open or closed on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Further discussion on the matter ensued. Following the Committee's recognition that members maintained a range of positions on the matter, the Committee agreed to share a summary of key notes from its discussions with the Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council (OIEC) for consideration at their upcoming meeting on April 4, 2022. The Secretary was asked to draft a summary and share it with the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair before sharing with the OIEC. The OIEC Advisors Committee Chair presented the summary to OIEC members at the April 4th, 2022 meeting for discussion.

The Vice-President, Indigenous Initiatives added that she is collaborating with her colleagues at the Council of Ontario Universities to draft a letter with suggested points for consideration, to be presented to the President's Table regarding the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. She further noted the benefits for universities across Ontario to adopt consistent approaches on this matter. She also plans to work with the

	President to gain feedback from the Lakehead University Student Union on how changes to the academic calendar could affect Lakehead students.
4.	<p>Chair Report/Update (Dr. Anita Vaillancourt)</p> <p>The Committee Chair provided a report on the Sharing Circle Meeting during agenda item 3.</p>
5.	<p>Advisors Committee Terms of Reference Review: Update from the Chair of the Advisors Ad hoc Committee (Lisa Harris)</p> <p>The Chair of the Ad hoc Committee gave an update on work to date, noting that the OIEC Advisors Committee was invited to provide feedback on the purpose, mandate, functionality, etc., of the Advisors Committee via an online questionnaire, the deadline for feedback was March 11, 2022. It was requested that the deadline be extended to allow for more members to participate. The Ad hoc Committee will discuss extending the deadline during its next meeting. The Committee had the opportunity to provide verbal feedback during this meeting - no feedback was provided.</p>
6.	<p>Internal Reports for Information</p> <p>The following reports were circulated in advance with the meeting materials, for information. Internal reports will be shared with the OIEC at its next scheduled meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Office of Indigenous Initiatives Report (for the period of January 18, 2022 to March 21, 2022): In addition to the written report, details about upcoming Indigenous events on campus were provided.b. Chair on Truth and Reconciliation Report (for the period January 18, 2022 to March 31, 2022): In addition to the written report, details on current and ongoing Indigenous initiatives and events were provided.c. Joint SAC/OIEC Sub-Committee: A verbal report on the joint sub-committee's work to date with regards to the Indigenous Content Requirement initiative was provided.
7.	<p>Round Table Discussion</p> <p>All members in attendance had the opportunity to share details about projects, work, accomplishments, concerns, upcoming events, etc., happening within their</p>

	<p>departments/programs.</p> <p>The Committee Chair voiced her concerns about the absence of quorum at most meetings, noting that this Committee usually has less than 50% of its members in attendance. Members were invited to share suggestions/ideas on how to increase participation at meetings by sending feedback directly to her and/or the Secretary.</p>
8.	<p>Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
9.	<p>Informational Items</p> <p>The following documents were circulated in advance with the meeting materials, for information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. January 31, 2022 OIEC Meeting Summary <i>The next meeting of the OIEC is April 4, 2022.</i>b. OIEC Advisors Committee Membership, Terms of Reference and Minutes Online (please notify Marcie Morrison with any corrections to membership)c. 2021-22 OIEC Advisors Committee Meeting Schedule Next Meeting: May 17, 2022, 2:00pm - 4:00pm (EDT)
<p>The meeting was adjourned at: 3:17pm.</p>	