



## Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council (OIEC)

### MINUTES

<b>Date:</b>	October 31, 2023
<b>Time:</b>	12:00pm - 1:00pm (ET) External Caucus (External Members Only)  1:00pm - 2:00pm (ET) Orientation/Refresher (New and Seasoned Members)  2:00pm - 4:00pm (ET) OIEC Meeting (All Members)
<b>Location:</b>	Zoom Meeting

**OIEC Members in Attendance:** Precious Anderson - Member-At-Large; Dr. David Barnett - Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Lakehead University); Denise Baxter (Acting Chair) - Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives (Lakehead University); Charles Brown - Member At Large; Paul Capon - Matawa First Nations; Lorrie Deschamps - Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education & Training Institute; Arianna Fitchett (Delegate - Anishinabek Nation); Tyler Goode (Indigenous Student Member); Lisa Harris (OIEC Advisors Committee Chair); Thomas Kehoe - Board of Governors (Lakehead University); Elder Gene Nowegejick (Non Voting); Dr. Sharla Peltier - Indigenous Faculty Member (Lakehead University); Dr. Linda Rodenburg - Interim Orillia Principal (Lakehead University); Yvonne Roussel - Interim University Secretary (OIEC Secretary); Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay (Metis Nation of Ontario); Dr. Gillian Siddall - President and Vice-Chancellor (Lakehead University, Non Voting)

**Not in Attendance:** Robert Atastise - Member At Large; Kathy Beardy - Nishnawbe Aski Nation; Alecia Boshcoff - Fort William First Nation; Alicia Cameron - Member-At-Large; Ben Cousineau - Chippewas of Rama First Nation; Amy Nadjiwon-Tobey (Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Board of Education); Grand Council Chief Reg Niganobe (Anishinabek Nation); Howard Twance - Seven Generations Education Institute

**Administrative Resources in Attendance:** Marcie Morrison - Acting Associate University Secretary (Recorder)

In the absence of a Chair, Denise Baxter assumed the role of Acting Chair for the October 31, 2023 meeting.

Elder Gene Nowegejick shared an opening prayer.

New Members were welcomed and introduced:

- Indigenous Student Member, Tyler Goode
- OIEC Advisors Committee Chair, Lisa Harris
- Indigenous Faculty Member, Dr. Sharla Peltier
- Board of Governors Member, Thomas Kehoe

Item	Presenter(s)
<p>1. Approval of Agenda</p> <p>The following addition was recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Add to Other Business: Honorary Degree Process (Denise Baxter)</li> </ul> <p>Approved by consensus, as amended.</p>	<p>Denise Baxter</p>
<p>2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest</p> <p>Members were reminded of their duty to declare a conflict of interest should awareness of conflict arise at any time during the meeting.</p>	<p>Denise Baxter</p>
<p>3. Previous Minutes</p> <p>The April 13, 2023 minutes were approved by consensus, as circulated.</p>	<p>Denise Baxter</p>
<p>4. Policy Consultation: New Indigenous Verification Policy Presentation and Consultation</p> <p>The Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives led the policy consultation session. Highlights from the presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● backgrounder</li> <li>● samples of similar policies from other universities</li> <li>● consultation plan</li> </ul> <p>To begin the consultation, the group was asked the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What would you recommend be included in the verification process?</li> <li>2. How do we ensure that spaces for Indigenous people are protected?</li> <li>3. What are the grey areas to be mindful of?</li> </ol> <p>All members had the opportunity to share their feedback, suggestions and comments with the group, for consideration.</p>	<p>Denise Baxter</p>

	<p>5. OIEC Nominating Committee (OIEC-NC) Report</p> <p>The OIEC bylaws were circulated in advance of the meeting, for information.</p> <p>a. Call for OIEC Chair Nominations</p> <p>During the meeting, External Member, Precious Anderson, expressed interest in the OIEC Chair position. The University Secretariat will connect with Precious following the meeting to provide her with more details, such as time commitment, roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>b. Call for Vice-Chair Nominations</p> <p>During the meeting, External Member, Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay, volunteered for the OIEC Vice-Chair position. By consensus, Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay was appointed as OIEC Vice-Chair, for a term commencing immediately. A term end date was not determined.</p> <p>c. Call for OIEC-NC Members</p> <p>Current Membership of the OIEC-NC: OIEC Chair, OIEC Vice-Chair, Dr. Gillian Siddall, Denise Baxter, and Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay.</p> <p>The Secretary reported that there is room for another member (internal or external) on the OIEC-NC if anyone is interested.</p> <p>d. Current Vacant Seats</p> <p>It was reported that the OIEC Bylaws require at least 6 from the list of “external organizations”, currently we have 5 from the list filled. The following seats are vacant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indigenous Student Member (internal)</li><li>• Grand Council Treaty #3 (external)</li><li>• Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (Simcoe County) (external)</li><li>• Ontario Native Women’s Association (external)</li><li>• Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre (external)</li></ul>	<p>Yvonne Roussel</p>
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	<p>e. New Nominations Received</p> <p>i. Arlene Merkley, Métis Nation of Ontario, Simcoe (received May 30, 2023)</p> <p>This nomination package was circulated in advance of the meeting. The Secretary confirmed that this individual is eligible to serve as an External Member from an “external organization”. By consensus, the OIEC approved the appointment of Arlen Merkley, from the Métis Nation of Ontario, Simcoe, commencing immediately, for up to a three year term. <i>*SECRETARY’S NOTE: Following the meeting, Arlene confirmed a 3 year term.</i></p> <p>ii. Kevin Moreau, received February 15, 2023 (Member-At-Large, did not receive a letter of recommendation from the organization)</p> <p>This nomination package was circulated in advance of the meeting. The Secretary reported that currently, all Member-at-Large seats are filled and will notify this individual.</p>	
6.	<p>OIEC Advisors Committee Update</p> <p>The Chair of the Advisors Committee provided a verbal update on the Committee's work to date.</p>	Lisa Harris
7.	<p>SAC/OIEC Joint Subcommittee Update</p> <p>A SAC/OIEC Joint Subcommittee report was circulated with the meeting materials.</p>	Denise Baxter
8.	<p>Recruitment/Appointments Update</p> <p>a. External - For Information</p> <p><i>Excerpt from April 3, 2023 OIEC Draft Minutes - “By consensus, the OIEC agreed to renew all of the above members for a 3 year term, contingent upon their acceptance.”</i></p> <p>The Secretary report that the following members accepted to serve for an additional 3 year term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kathy Beardy (New Term: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2026)</li> <li>● Paul Capon (New Term: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2026)</li> </ul>	Yvonne Roussel

- Lorrie Deschamps (New Term: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2026)
- Precious Anderson (New Term: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2026)

b. Internal - For Information

- i. Indigenous Student Appointments - Recommended by LUSU
  - On June 8, 2023, the OIEC adopted a written resolution via email to appoint Tyler Goode, commencing July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.
  - There is currently one more Indigenous Student Member vacancy on the OIEC. LUSU is working to fill the vacancy.
- ii. Board of Governors Member - Recommended by the Board
  - On October 18, 2023 the OIEC adopted a written resolution via email to appoint Thomas Kehoe, commencing immediately to July 1, 2024.
- iii. Indigenous Faculty Member - Recommended by Senate
  - Dr. Sharla Peltier was appointed by the Senate as the Indigenous Faculty Member, commencing July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2026.
- iv. OIEC Advisors Committee Chair
  - Lisa Harris was appointed the Chair of the OIEC Advisors Committee, commencing July 1, 2023-June 30, 2025.

c. Senate Undergraduate Scholarships & Bursaries Committee (SUSBC) Vacancy

The Secretary reported that there is still a vacancy on the SUSBC for one member (internal or external) of the OIEC, recommended by the OIEC. An Interest-to-Serve was emailed to all members on May 31 and September 6, 2023. To date no eligible nominations have been received.

External Member, Paul Capon volunteered to serve on the SUSBC. By consensus, the OIEC approved the appointment of Paul Capon to serve as the OIEC Member on the SUSBC, commencing immediately to June 30, 2025.

<p>9.</p>	<p>Notice of Terms Expiring 2023-24 - For Information</p> <p>External:  <i>Excerpt from OIEC Bylaws - "Article 4.2(a): OIEC member terms begin July 1 and end June 30, unless otherwise determined. Terms shall be up to three years.                  "Article 4.2(c): All other voting OIEC Members may not serve more than nine consecutive years on the OIEC, unless otherwise determined on a case by case basis by the OIEC."</i></p> <p>All individuals listed below are eligible for 3 more, 3 years terms, in accordance with the OIEC Bylaws:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Grand Council Chief Reg Niganobe (Current Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024): Eligible to serve up to 5 more years</li> <li>● Alecia Boshcoff (Current Term: October 7, 2021-June 30, 2024) - Eligible to serve up to 6 more years</li> <li>● Ben Cousineau (Current Term: October 7, 2021-June 30, 2024) - Eligible to serve up to 6 more years</li> <li>● Howard Twance (Current Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024): Eligible to serve up to 7 more years</li> <li>● Amy Nadjiwon-Tobey (Current Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024) - Eligible to serve up to 7 more years</li> </ul>	<p>Yvonne Roussel</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Policy Consultation: Indigenous and Aboriginal Cultural Ceremonies Policy</p> <p>It was reported that the Elders Council and the OIEC Advisors Committee have been consulted as part of the policy review process.</p> <p>The following documents were circulated in advance of the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Policy Governance Framework - for information</li> <li>b. Current Policy</li> <li>c. Feedback Document</li> </ol> <p>Members were invited to leave comments directly in the Google Doc (Item "c" above) prior to and following the meeting, or can send comments directly to the University Secretariat. The deadline for submitting feedback is November 14, 2023. Feedback will be brought forward to Administration during the regular scheduled review of this policy.</p>	<p>Yvonne Roussel</p>

11.	<p>Verbal Updates/Reports from External Members</p> <p>Updates/reports from the following External Members were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Matawa First Nations (Paul Capon)</li> <li>● Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education &amp; Training Institute (Lorrie Dechamps)</li> <li>● Metis Nation of Ontario (Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay)</li> <li>● Member-At-Large (Charles Brown)</li> </ul>	
12.	<p>President's Report</p> <p>The President's October Report was circulated in advance of the meeting. In addition, the President provided a verbal update on her priorities for the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lakehead's financial situation</li> <li>● Collaborative Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program</li> <li>● Gichi Kendaasiwin Centre project</li> <li>● Orillia Campus expansion</li> <li>● development of the new Strategic Plan</li> </ul>	Dr. Gillian Siddall
13. Reports and Informational Items		
13.1	<p>Report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives</p> <p>The Office of Indigenous Initiatives report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p>	
13.2	<p>Report from the Chair on Truth and Reconciliation</p> <p>The report from the Chair on truth and Reconciliation was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p>	
13.3	<p>Universities Canada's Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation</p> <p>The Universities Canada's Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p>	
13.4	<p>Board of Governors Reports</p> <p>The following Board of Governors reports were circulated in advance of the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. May 4, 2023 Report</li> <li>b. June 2, 2023 Report</li> </ol>	

		c. October 12, 2023 Report	
	13.5	<p>Senate Reports</p> <p>The following Senate reports were circulated in advance of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. May 15, 2023 Report</li> <li>b. September 18 and October 5, 2023 Report</li> </ul>	
	13.6	<p>2023-24 Meeting Schedule</p> <p>The 2023-24 meeting schedule was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next OIEC Meeting: December 4, 2023, 2:00pm - 4:00pm (ET)</li> <li>• Next External Caucus: December 4, 2023, 1:00pm - 2:00pm (ET)</li> </ul>	
14.	Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honorary Degree Process</li> </ul> <p>The Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives provided context, referring to the recent CBC article about Buffy Sainte-Marie, noting that a Lakehead University Honorary Degree was bestowed upon Buffy Sainte Marie in 2000.</p> <p>The President provided information regarding Lakeheads Honorary Degree Policy and process, and a link to the policy was provided in the meeting chat. It was reported that the Senate Honorary Degree Committee (SHDC) is scheduled to meet next week and plans to discuss this matter. Before the SHDC makes a decision, the President is planning to solicit feedback from the Indigenous community and from Indigenous leaders in Ontario, with respect to how the University should proceed with this matter.</p>	Denise Baxter
Elder Gene Nowegejick shared a closing prayer.			