



Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council (OIEC)

MINUTES

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| Date: | December 4, 2023 |
| Time: | 1:00pm - 2:00pm (ET) External Caucus (External Members Only) 2:00pm - 4:00pm (ET) OIEC Meeting (All Members) |
| Location: | Zoom Meeting |

Members in Attendance: Precious Anderson - Member-At-Large; Denise Baxter (Acting Chair) - Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives (Lakehead University); Kathy Beardy - Nishnawbe Aski Nation; Charles Brown - Member At Large; Alicia Cameron - Member-At-Large; Paul Capon - Matawa First Nations; Tyler Goode (Indigenous Student Member); Lisa Harris (OIEC Advisors Committee Chair); Thomas Kehoe - Board of Governors (Lakehead University); Arlene Merkley (Barrie South Simcoe Métis Council); Amy Nadjiwon-Tobey (Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Board of Education); Elder Gene Nowegejick (Non Voting); Dr. Linda Rodenburg - Interim Orillia Principal (Lakehead University); Yvonne Roussel - Interim University Secretary (OIEC Secretary); Dr. Gillian Siddall - President and Vice-Chancellor (Lakehead University, Non Voting)

Members Not in Attendance: Robert Atastise - Member At Large; Dr. David Barnett - Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Lakehead University); Alecia Boshcoff - Fort William First Nation; Ben Cousineau - Chippewas of Rama First Nation; Lorrie Deschamps - Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education & Training Institute; Grand Council Chief Reg Niganobe (Anishinabek Nation); Dr. Sharla Peltier - Indigenous Faculty Member (Lakehead University); Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay, Vice-Chair (Metis Nation of Ontario); Howard Twance - Seven Generations Education Institute

Administrative Resources: Marcie Morrison - Associate University Secretary (Recorder)

Invited Guests in Attendance: Michael den Haan - Vice-President, External Relations (Lakehead University); Jesse Staats - Student Investigator, (University of Toronto Ontario Institute for Studies In Education); Andrea Tarsitano - Vice-Provost (Students) & Registrar (Lakehead University)

In the absence of a Chair, Denise Baxter assumed the role of Acting Chair for the December 4, 2023 meeting.

Mike den Haan joined the meeting.

Elder Gene Nowegejick shared an opening prayer.

New members were welcomed and introduced:

- Arlene Merkley, Barrie South Simcoe Métis Council
- Tammy Chamberlain, Indigenous Student Member

The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm.

| Item | Presenter(s) |
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| 1. Approval of Agenda The agenda was approved by consensus, as circulated. | Denise Baxter |
| 2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest Members were reminded of their duty to declare a conflict of interest should awareness of conflict arise at any time during the meeting. | Denise Baxter |
| 3. Previous Minutes The October 31, 2023 minutes were approved by consensus, as circulated. | Denise Baxter |
| 4. OIEC Chair Appointment Update The OIEC Bylaws were circulated in advance of the meeting, for information. It was reported that Precious Anderson has confirmed her willingness to serve as the OIEC Chair. By consensus, the OIEC approved the appointment of Precious Anderson as the OIEC Chair, for a term commencing February 26, 2024 to June 30, 2025. | Yvonne Roussel |
| 5. Policy Consultations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gifts-in-Kind Policy • Reappraisal and Academic Appeals Policy The Lakehead University Policy Governance Framework was circulated in advance with the meeting materials, for information. The Chair of the OIEC Advisors Committee reported that these policies recently went to the OIEC Advisors Committee for consultation, noting that moving forward, the OIEC Advisors Committee will be involved in policy consultation sessions for selected University policies undergoing a scheduled review. The OIEC Advisors | Yvonne Roussel; Michael den Haan; Andrea Tarsitano |

Committee Chair and Vice-Chair worked with the University Secretariat to select the appropriate policies to bring forward for consultation this term, based on the Universities policy review schedule. The plan is to review two policies per meeting.

The OIEC will have the opportunity to participate in each policy consultation session, following each OIEC Advisors Committee meeting. All recommendations will go forward to Administration during the regular scheduled review of these policies for consideration.

a. Gifts-in-Kind Policy

The Gift-in-Kind Policy and feedback document was circulated in advance of the meeting.

The Vice-President, External Relations joined the meeting to answer questions related to this policy. An overview of the policy was provided.

To initiate the discussion, the group was asked to think about:

- How should Lakehead handle inquiries about Indigenous artefacts - should this be in the policy?
- What process should be in place for gifts that are in conflict, or aligned, with Indigenous rights and Truth and Reconciliation?
- Should the Office of Indigenous Initiatives be involved?

Discussion ensued. Some questions that arose for Administrations consideration included:

- Do you know why gifts of Indigenous artwork had not been included in the original policy?
- How are spiritual pieces that are given as gifts, with their own agency, handled? Administration plans to continue this conversation offline to gain a better understanding of what this means.

The Secretary noted that following the meeting, an email will be circulated inviting members to provide written feedback on this policy.

Mike den Haan left the meeting.

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| | <p>b. Reappraisal and Academic Appeals Policy</p> <p>The Vice-Provost (Students) and Registrar joined the meeting to answer questions related to this policy. An overview of the policy was provided.</p> <p>Discussion ensued. Some questions and comments that arose for Administrations consideration included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there statistics available regarding the number of Indigenous students advocating for themselves? • The policy is unclear about what other informal options are available before the formal appeal process. A summary of the other informal options available was provided. <p>Andrea Tarsitano left the meeting.</p> <p>The Secretary noted that following the meeting, an email will be circulated inviting members to provide written feedback on this policy.</p> | |
| 6. | <p>Research Study: Governing for Self-Determination: Aboriginal Education Councils (AEC) and University Governance in Ontario</p> <p>Jesse Staats joined the meeting and provided an overview of the research study. Discussion ensued. Members were invited to participate in the study.</p> <p>Jesse Staats left the meeting.</p> | Denise Baxter, Jesse Staats |
| 7. | <p>OIEC Advisors Committee Update</p> <p>The Chair of the OIEC Advisors Committee provided an update on the Committee's work to date.</p> | Lisa Harris |
| 8. | <p>SAC/OIEC Joint Subcommittee Update</p> <p>The SAC/OIEC Joint Subcommittee report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> | Denise Baxter |
| 9. | <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"> • Matawa First Nations (Paul Capon) | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Board of Education (Amy Nadjiwon-Tobey) | |
| 10. | <p>President's Report</p> <p>The President's December Report was circulated in advance of the meeting. The President provided an update on these projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orillia Campus expansion Collaborative Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program Gichi Kendaasiwin Centre project | Dr. Gillian Siddall |
| 11. | Reports and Informational Items | |
| 11.1 | <p>Approval of Written Resolution - Appointment of OIEC Indigenous Student Member Recommendation (from the Lakehead University Student Union)</p> <p>Documentation supporting the electronic approval of Tammy Chamberlain's appointment to the OIEC on October 31, 2023, was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> | |
| 11.2 | <p>Report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives</p> <p>A report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives, for the period October 2, to November 14, 2023, was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> | |
| 11.3 | <p>Report from the Chair for Truth and Reconciliation</p> <p>A report from the Chair for Truth and Reconciliation, for the period October 2 to November 14, 2023, was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> | |
| 11.4 | <p>Senate Report</p> <p>A report of the November 30, 2023 Senate meeting was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> | |
| 11.5 | <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"> Next External Caucus: February 26, 2024, 1:00pm - 2:00pm (ET) Next OIEC Meeting: February 26, 2024, 2:00pm - 4:00pm (ET) | |

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| 12. | Other Business As requested during the External Caucus, the President provided an overview of Lakehead's Achievement Program and its success. A link to the program was posted in the chat during the meeting: https://www.lakeheadu.ca/about/presidents-office/achievement-program | Denise Baxter |
| The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm. Elder Gene Nowegejick shared a closing prayer. | | |