



Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council (OIEC)

MINUTES

Date:	April 1, 2025
Time:	1:00pm - 2:00pm (ET) External Caucus (External Members Only) 2:00pm - 4:00pm (ET) OIEC Meeting (All Members)
Location:	Zoom Meeting

OIEC Members in Attendance: Precious Anderson - Member-At-Large (Chair); Denise Baxter - Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives (Lakehead University); Charles Brown - Member At Large; Paul Capon - Matawa First Nations; Lisa Harris (OIEC Advisors Committee Chair); Thomas Kehoe - Board of Governors (Lakehead University); Dr. Sharla Peltier - Indigenous Faculty Member (Lakehead University); Dr. David Richards - Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Lakehead University); Senator Grant Robbins (Elder, Non Voting); Dr. Gillian Siddall - President and Vice-Chancellor (Lakehead University, Non Voting); Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay - Metis Nation of Ontario (Vice-Chair)

Not in Attendance: Tyler Goode - Indigenous Student Member (Thunder Bay); Tammy Chamberlain - Indigenous Student Member (Orillia); Dr. Linda Rodenburg - Orillia Principal (Lakehead University); Kathy Beardy - Nishnawbe Aski Nation; Alecia Boshcoff - Fort William First Nation; Arlene Merkley (Barrie South Simcoe Métis Council); Robert Atastise - Member At Large; Alicia Cameron - Member-At-Large

Administrative Resources in Attendance: Marcie Morrison - Acting Secretary

Invited Guests in Attendance: Ledah McKellar - Sustainability Coordinator, Office of Sustainability (Lakehead University); Dr. Heather Murchison – Strategic Advisor to the President and Vice-Provost (Institutional Planning and Analysis)

Item	Presenter(s)
Elder Grant Robbins shared the opening prayer.	
1. Approval of Agenda The agenda was approved by consensus, as circulated.	Precious Anderson

<p>2.</p>	<p>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>Precious Anderson</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Approval of Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the February 4, 2025 meeting were approved by consensus.</p>	<p>Precious Anderson</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Engagement Session: Lakehead’s Next Sustainability Plan</p> <p>Ledah McKellar and Corolina Camacho joined the meeting.</p> <p>The purpose of this engagement session was to gather feedback from the OIEC to help guide the Office of Sustainability and the steering committee in the development of the second Sustainability Plan.</p> <p>In preparation for the discussion members were asked to think about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What significant sustainability goals or actions would you like to see Lakehead achieve over the next 5 years? ● What emerging sustainability issues should the new plan address? ● Where should Lakehead be in 5 years with regard to sustainability? ● What environmental/social practices would make the biggest difference at Lakehead, internally or externally? ● How can we integrate sustainability into our daily operations and decision-making processes? <p>Ledha led the discussion and received valuable feedback from some of the group regarding the need for greater input from the Indigenous community in every aspect of the plan, greater Indigenous representation on the steering committee, and how Truth and Reconciliation fits into the plan.</p> <p>Members were invited to complete an online survey at www.lakeheadu.ca/about/sustainability</p> <p>Ledah McKellar and Corolina Camacho left the meeting.</p>	<p>Ledah McKellar and Corolina Camacho</p>

<p>5.</p>	<p>2025-2030 Strategic Plan Endorsement</p> <p>Dr. Heather Murchison joined the meeting.</p> <p>A presentation highlighting the collaborative development of the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan was shared. In April 2024, the OIEC participated in the process and offered valuable insights that were considered.</p> <p>In addition, the draft 2025-2030 Strategic Plan was shared with the group.</p> <p>As a best collegial governance practice, the OIEC and the Senate are asked to endorse the Universities strategic plans before final approval from the Board of Governors.</p> <p>BY CONSENSUS, the OIEC endorsed the 2025-2030 Lakehead University Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Dr. Heather Murchison left the meeting.</p>	<p>Dr. Gillian Siddall, Dr. Heather Murchison</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>OIEC Nominating Committee Recommendations</p> <p>a. External Organization (required) :</p> <p>BY CONSENSUS, the OIEC approved that Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay be reappointed as the Métis Nation of Ontario Member for a 3-year term, commencing July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.</p> <p>b. Member-At-Large (required)</p> <p>BY CONSENSUS, the OIEC approved that Charles Brown be reappointed as a Member-At-Large for a 3-year term, commencing July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.</p> <p>It was noted that the remaining vacancies will be filled over the summer.</p>	<p>Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Ojimaawin Committee-Internal Update</p> <p>The Committee last met on March 17, 2025.</p> <p>The Chair of the Ojimaawin Committee-Internal provided an update on the Committee's work to date.</p>	<p>Lisa Harris</p>

	The Committee meets next on Monday, September 22, 2025.	
8.	<p>Approval of the 2025-2026 OIEC Meeting Schedule</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tuesday, October 7, 2025: 1:00pm-2:00pm (ET), External Caucus (external members only) 2:00pm-4:00pm (ET), Orientation/OIEC Meeting 2. Tuesday, November 25, 2025: 1:00pm-2:00pm (ET), External Caucus (external members only) 2:00pm-4:00pm (ET), OIEC Meeting 3. Tuesday, February 3, 2026: 1:00pm-2:00pm (ET), External Caucus (external members only) 2:00pm-4:00pm (ET), OIEC Meeting 4. Tuesday, March 31, 2026: 1:00pm-2:00pm (ET), External Caucus (external members only) 2:00pm-4:00pm (ET), OIEC Meeting <p>BY CONSENSUS, the OIEC approved the 2025-2026 OIEC meeting schedule.</p>	Precious Anderson
9.	<p>Chair Elections (only External Members are eligible)</p> <p><i>For Information - Precious Anderson (Chair), current term February 26, 2023 - June 30, 2025; Bryanna Scott-Kay (Vice-Chair), current term October 31, 2023 - June 30, 2025.</i></p> <p>The OIEC Bylaws were circulated for information.</p> <p>The Secretary noted that both the current Chair and Vice-Chair have expressed interest in reappointment.</p> <p>There was a call for nominations from the floor, there were none.</p> <p>BY CONSENSUS, the OIEC approved the reappointment of Precious Anderson as Chair and Dr. Bryana Scott-Kay as Vice-Chair, for a two-year term.</p>	Marcie Morrison
10.	<p>President's Report</p> <p>The President's report was attached to the meeting package.</p> <p>There was some discussion about Gichi Kendaasiwin.</p>	Dr. Gillian Siddall

11.	<p>Policy Review and Consultation</p> <p>In alignment with the University's Policy Governance Framework, as part of the policy review process for University wide policies, the OIEC and the OC-I will be consulted during the review process, with the intention of decolonizing University policies and procedures by having them reviewed through an Indigenous lens. All feedback is welcomed.</p>	<p>Marcie Morrison</p>
11.1	<p>Articulation Agreement Policy and Procedures</p> <p>The feedback document was open until April 24, 2025. Members were invited to leave written comments directly in the feedback document.</p> <p>Please think about the questions below when reviewing each policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you identify any barriers that exist in the current policy for Indigenous faculty and/or staff? 2. Does the current policy appropriately support Indigenous faculty and/or staff in ways that are aligned with traditional and cultural practices? 3. Does the current policy conflict with Lakehead's commitment to truth and reconciliation in any way? <p>a. FEEDBACK DOCUMENT: Articulation Agreement Policy and Procedures</p>	
11.2	<p>Animal Emergency Response Plan</p> <p>The feedback document was open until April 24, 2025. Members were invited to leave written comments directly in the feedback document.</p> <p>Please think about the questions below when reviewing each policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you identify any barriers that exist in the current policy for Indigenous faculty and/or staff? 2. Does the current policy appropriately support Indigenous faculty and/or staff in ways that are aligned with traditional and cultural practices? 3. Does the current policy conflict with Lakehead's commitment to truth and reconciliation in any way? <p>a. FEEDBACK DOCUMENT: Animal Emergency Response Plan</p>	

12.	<p>Sharing Circle</p> <p>Some members shared information about projects, work, accomplishments, concerns, upcoming events, etc., happening within their organizations and/or departments.</p>	Precious Anderson
13.	<p>Reports and Informational Items</p> <p>Supporting documentation for the items listed below was circulated in advance of the meeting for information.</p>	
	13.1 Report from the Board of Governors (February 7, 2025 meeting)	
	<p>13.2 Reports from the Senate</p> <p>a. January 27, 2025 b. February 24, 2025</p>	
	13.3 Report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives	
	13.4 Report from the Chair on Truth and Reconciliation	
	13.5 Joint SAC/OIEC Sub-committee Report	
14.	<p>Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>	Precious Anderson
<p>Elder Grant Robbins shared the closing prayer.</p>		