

## **Report on the October 31, 2023 Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council (OIEC) Meeting**

From: Yvonne Roussel – Interim University Secretary

Subject: Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council (OIEC) Report

---

**OIEC Members:** *Precious Anderson - Member-At-Large; Robert Atastise - Member At Large; Dr. David Barnett - Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Lakehead University); Denise Baxter (Acting Chair) - Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives (Lakehead University); Kathy Beardy - Nishnawbe Aski Nation; Alecia Boshcoff - Fort William First Nation; Charles Brown - Member At Large; Alicia Cameron - Member-At-Large; Paul Capon - Matawa First Nations; Ben Cousineau - Chippewas of Rama First Nation; Lorrie Deschamps - Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education & Training Institute; Tyler Goode (Indigenous Student Member); Lisa Harris (OIEC Advisors Committee Chair); Thomas Kehoe - Board of Governors (Lakehead University); Amy Nadjiwon-Tobey (Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Board of Education); Grand Council Chief Reg Niganobe (Anishinabek Nation); 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. Gillian Siddall - President and Vice-Chancellor (Lakehead University, Non Voting); Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay (Metis Nation of Ontario); Howard Twance - Seven Generations Education Institute*

---

The OIEC met virtually on October 31, 2023. Elder Gene Nowegejick shared an opening and closing prayer.

The following items of business were on the agenda:

### **Policy Consultation: Development of New Indigenous Verification Policy**

To begin the consultation, the group was asked the following questions:

- What would you recommend be included in the verification process?
- How do we ensure that spaces for Indigenous people are protected?
- What are the grey areas to be mindful of?

Following a discussion, members were invited to send additional feedback directly to Denise Baxter.

### **Policy Consultation: Indigenous and Aboriginal Cultural Ceremonies Policy**

In alignment with the University's Policy Governance Framework, and to ensure that the policy has been reviewed through an Indigenous lens, the OIEC was consulted and had the opportunity to provide feedback on this policy.

### **Recruitment and Appointments**

It was reported that the following OIEC External Members confirmed their willingness to serve for an additional 3 year term:

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

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.

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.

Indigenous Faculty Member, Recommended by Senate - Dr. Sharla Peltier was appointed by the Senate as the Indigenous Faculty Member, commencing July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.

OIEC Advisors Committee Chair - Lisa Harris was appointed the Chair of the OIEC Advisors Committee, commencing July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025.

New Nominations - The OIEC reviewed new nominations that were received since the last meeting. By consensus, the OIEC approved the appointment of Arlene Merkle, to serve on the OIEC, as an External Member from the Métis Nation of Ontario, Simcoe, commencing immediately to June 30, 2026.

Senate Undergraduate Scholarships and Bursaries Committee Vacancy - The OIEC continues its efforts to fill this vacancy.

Notice of terms expiring 2023-24 was provided:

- Grand Council Chief Reg Niganobe (Current Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024): Eligible to serve up to 5 more years
- Alecia Boshcoff (Current Term: October 7, 2021-June 30, 2024) - Eligible to serve up to 6 more years
- Ben Cousineau (Current Term: October 7, 2021-June 30, 2024) - Eligible to serve up to 6 more years
- Howard Twance (Current Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024): Eligible to serve up to 7 more years
- Amy Nadjiwon-Tobey (Current Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024) - Eligible to serve up to 7 more years

### **OIEC Chair and Vice-Chair Vacancies**

By consensus, Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay was appointed as the OIEC Vice-Chair, commencing immediately. The OIEC continues its efforts to fill the OIEC Chair vacancy.

### **Updates from External Member**

The group received updates from some of the External OIEC Members.

### **Other Reports and Updates Received**

- OIEC Advisors Committee Update
- SAC/OIEC Joint Subcommittee Update
- President's Report

### **Informational Items Received**

- Report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives
- Report from the Chair on Truth and Reconciliation
- Universities Canada's Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation
- Board of Governors Reports:
  - May 4, 2023
  - June 2, 2023
  - October 12, 2023
- Senate Reports:
  - May 15, 2023
  - September 18, 2023
  - October 5, 2023
- 2023-24 Meeting Schedule

The next virtual OIEC meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, December 4, 2023, 2:00pm to 4:00pm (ET).