

Report on the December 3, 2024 Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council (OIEC) Meeting

From: University Secretariat

OIEC Members: Precious Anderson - Member-At-Large (Chair); Robert Atastise - Member At Large; Dr. David Barnett - Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Lakehead University); Denise Baxter - 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; Tammy Chamberlain - Indigenous Student Member (Orillia); Lorrie Deschamps - Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education & Training Institute; Tyler Goode - Indigenous Student Member (Thunder Bay); Lisa Harris (OIEC Advisors Committee Chair); Thomas Kehoe - Board of Governors (Lakehead University); Arlene Merkley (Barrie South Simcoe Métis Council); Dr. Sharla Peltier - Indigenous Faculty Member (Lakehead University); Senator Grant Robbins (Elder, Non Voting); Dr. Linda Rodenburg - Orillia Principal (Lakehead University); Dr. Gillian Siddall - President and Vice-Chancellor (Lakehead University, Non Voting); Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay - Metis Nation of Ontario (Vice-Chair)

The OIEC met virtually on December 3, 2024. Elder Senator Grant Robbins opened and closed the meeting with a prayer.

The following items of business were on the agenda:

Welcome and Introduction of New Elder

Senator Grant Robbins, recently appointed to the OIEC by the Lakehead University Aboriginal Management Council Elders Council, was welcomed and introduced to the group.

Nijji Indigenous Mentorship Program at Lakehead and the Anthropology Field School Employment Experience Program

Jared Visitor - Mentor, Nijji Indigenous Mentorship Program at Lakehead shared his experiences, including how he became involved with the Nijji Indigenous Mentorship Program at Lakehead. He highlighted the significance of the Anthropology Field School Employment Experience Program, other various workshops (I Am Capable), and their positive impact on students. Spoke about the trips to Belize and Yellowknife, NWT. Plus Mexican Student Exchange. Increasing smudging spaces, along with Indigenous Research Space on campus. Attendance at the Ontario Native Education Councillors Association in Sault St Maries.

Other Reports/Updates and Informational Items Received

- Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council Nominating Committee Update
- Ogimaawin Committee-Internal Update
- President's December Report
- Updates from External Members

- Report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives
- Report from the Chair on Truth and Reconciliation
- Board of Governors Report
- Senate Report
- Call for Lakehead University Honorary Degree Nominations Reminder
- Call for Nominations for Prestigious Fellow of the University Reminder

The next virtual OIEC meeting is scheduled to take place on February 4, 2025, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm (ET).