

Lakehead

UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal Management Council Meeting

September 28, 2009

2:00-4:00 p.m.

ATAC 3004

MINUTES

- Present:
- N. Bouchard, Anishinabek Employment & Training Services
 - P. Capon, Matawa First Nations
 - Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation
 - Dr. F. Gilbert, President
 - Dr. L. Hayes, Vice-President
 - M. Morris, Vice-President, Lakehead University Native Student Association
 - T. Pile, Chair, Métis Nation of Ontario
 - B. Sabourin, Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives)
 - Dr. P. Smith, Advisors Committee Chair
 - R. Wagner, Orillia Campus
- Advisors:
- S. Cornell, NNEP Manager
 - Dr. A. P. Dean, Science and Environmental Studies
 - Dr. P. Hicks, Graduate Studies
 - Christeen Jones, Northern Ontario School of Medicine
 - H. Moynihan, Faculty of Engineering
 - C. Neckoway, NLIP Coordinator
 - L. Wabange, Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services
 - Dr. S. Wolf, Senate Research Ethics Board
- Regrets:
- D. Burgart, Lakehead University Native Student Association
 - J. Flett, Board of Governors
 - D. D. Frenette, Nishnawbe-Aski Nation
 - Dr. E. Gardner, Chair, Aboriginal Education Department
 - G. Hendrick-Laliberte, NAP Coordinator
 - G. Martin, Vice-Chair, Member-at-Large
 - D. McPherson, Chair, Indigenous Learning
 - E. Sault, Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre
 - Dr. G. Siddall, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities
 - M. Ryks-Szelekovszky, Vice-Provost (Student Affairs)
- Secretary:
- K. Roche, Secretary of Aboriginal Management Council

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

AMC extended a welcome to Chief Collins, interim representative for the Fort William First Nation.

Ruth Wagner led the opening prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED (P. Capon/P. Smith) that the agenda for the September 28, 2009 meeting be approved with the following amendments:

Added to the agenda:

#6.4 New Appointments to AMC

#7.3 Appoint Member at Large

#7.4 Appoint a member to the Joint SAC/AMC Committee

#7.5 Endorsement for Joint SAC/AMC Committee to meet with the Strategic Planning Committee to provide input in the draft Strategic Plan 2010-2013

#8.4 Questionnaire for Presidential candidate

CARRIED

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOVED (P. Capon/F. Gilbert) that the Minutes of the AMC meeting of April 27, 2009 be approved with minor edits.

CARRIED

5. Election of Chair & Vice-Chair of AMC September 2009 – August 2010

AMC BYLAWS – Article 3.0 Membership of the AMC – Subsection (3.10)

Tim Pile, the current Chair of AMC, noted that he would no longer serve as the Chair of AMC due to other commitments.

Election of the AMC Chair 2009-2010

5.1.1

MOVED (F. Gilbert/N. Bouchard) that this item be postponed, be the first item on next agenda and that Tim Pile continue as Chair for the duration of this meeting.

CARRIED

5.1.2 Election of the AMC Vice-Chair 2009-2010

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

6. Unfinished Business

6.1 Advisors Committee Written Report on Self-Assessment

This item was postponed to next meeting.

6.2 Aboriginal Management Council Strategic Plan 2010-2013 Update

The Aboriginal Management Strategic Planning Committee is reviewing the draft Strategic Plan 2010-2013 and may provide input. This AMC Committee supports the input from the Joint SAC/AMC Committee that will be discussed later in this meeting under section #7.5.

6.3 Elders' Council Terms of Reference

B. Sabourin reviewed the revised Elders' Council Terms of Reference that was distributed with the meeting materials noting where changes had been made.

MOVED (P. Smith/R. Wagner) that the Elders' Council Terms of Reference be approved.
CARRIED

6.4 New Appointments to AMC

Both Janet Beaver and Chief Sharon Stinson Henry were approached to join AMC. AMC reviewed the letter from Chief Sharon Stinson Henry. She has declined the appointment. Bev Sabourin will follow up with Janet Beaver to determine if she is interested.

7. New Business

7.1 MOVED (P. Smith/B. Sabourin) that Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation be appointed to the Aboriginal Management Council as the Union of Ontario Indians/Fort William First Nation representative.

Chief Collins explained that he would try to attend as much as possible but based on his other commitments he may have difficulty attending all of the meetings. His appointment will be officially decided tomorrow at the Northern Ontario Superior Chiefs meeting.

AMC thanked Chief Collins for his participation during Orientation.
CARRIED

A Copy of the by-laws will be sent to Chief Collins.

7.2 MOVED (B. Sabourin/P. Capon) that Dr. Peggy Smith be appointed as the AMC Representative on Senate for the term September 2009 – August 2010. CARRIED

7.3 Nomination for Member at Large

A nomination call will be sent out seeking a Member at Large to replace Mr. Gerry Martin on the AMC. Mr. Gerry Martin has indicated he will not be available this year to participate in AMC. Notices will be posted in Wawatay, KNET and MNO website. It is not necessary for the candidate to be a member of any particular organization.

7.4 Joint SAC/AMC Committee Member Appointment

P. Smith explained that AMC appoints 2 representatives to the Joint SAC/AMC Committee. This is a subcommittee of SAC with the mandate to include the Aboriginal perspective in academic decisions.

MOVED (P. Smith/F. Gilbert) that Mila Morris be appointed as one of the AMC members of the Joint SAC/AMC Committee.
CARRIED

7.5 Joint SAC/AMC Committee recommendations to the Strategic Planning Committee

The version of the draft Strategic Plan 2010-2013 that came to Senate in May 2009 included an Objective that all students would be required to take a mandatory course with Aboriginal content. During the recent revisions this section was removed. P. Smith asked for AMC endorsement that the AMC representatives on the Joint SAC/AMC Committee speak with the Strategic Planning Committee to have that section put back into the draft document.

MOVED (P. Capon/M. Morris) that AMC asks the AMC representatives on the Joint SAC/AMC Committee meet with the Lakehead University Strategic Planning Committee to discuss the issue of requiring mandatory courses on Aboriginal issues at Lakehead University, and to request the Strategic Planning Committee include that section in the revisions to the proposed draft Strategic Plan.

CARRIED (Dr. Gilbert abstained from the motion.)

8. **Updates/Reports**

8.1 Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services – L. Wabange noted that the postcards for self declaration were completed. She distributed a sample card used to encourage students to declare. L. Wabange reviewed the report that was distributed prior to the meeting.

A member asked if there are still barriers for students declaring Aboriginal Status. Lisa Wabange explained that students are beginning to understand the benefits in declaring such as the related additional funding and support services and are less resistant to self declaration when the benefits are explained to them.

The Native Nurses Entry Program and Aboriginal Initiatives are also encouraging self-declaration. Aboriginal students in Science are encouraged to self-declare.
The updated numbers of self-declared students will be available in November.

- 8.2 Aboriginal Education – Charlotte Neckoway reported for Ethel Gardner. C. Neckoway reviewed the report distributed at the meeting. Dr. Gardner will be leaving Lakehead University on December 31st and the University will be seeking a new Chair.

The AMC reviewed the letter from Rosie Mosquito, Aboriginal Education, pertaining to the vacancy in the Chair position for Aboriginal Education, faculty retention and tenure, and that Lakehead University should be hiring more Aboriginal faculty.

MOVED (P. Smith/P. Capon) that AMC strongly encourages that Lakehead University and the Faculty of Education fill the vacated position of Chair of Aboriginal Education preferably with an Aboriginal candidate.
CARRIED

MOVED (P. Smith/P. Capon) that the issue of Aboriginal faculty and retention needs to be addressed and AMC needs to provide recommendations to the University on this issue and that this item be referred to the AMC Advisory Committee.
CARRIED

Dr. Gilbert noted that Aboriginal faculty have been hired in Orillia.

AMC will respond to Rosie Mosquito's letter by sending the motions as passed.

- 8.3 Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) – B. Sabourin reviewed the Aboriginal Initiatives report as submitted and noted many projects have been completed. A focus group will provide the draft Aboriginal post-secondary education plan in November.

A question was asked about the IILC project. It was explained that at present the Braun Building will be repaired since new construction was not approved by the province.

The AMC requested that the IILC Committee continue its work on planning the required space and making recommendations for a new structure. It was noted that work such as this contributes to the budgeting process and will assist when fund-raising begins. A budget planning seminar held last week emphasized that the type of information on space and needs are invaluable.

For the second year, the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives is presenting two cabarets featuring Tomson Highway. These cabarets will take place on

October 23rd at Confederation College and October 24th at the Lakehead University Outpost.

- 8.4 Board of Governors & Ad hoc Committee – T. Pile reported that a committee has begun the search for a new president. T. Pile asked for a discussion on interview questions that could be submitted from the AMC.

AMC would like the following questions to be asked during the interview process for the new President of Lakehead University:

1. What's your understanding of Lakehead University's current involvement in Aboriginal activities and communities, and what is your vision for Lakehead University's Aboriginal initiatives and activities?

2. What is your experience with Aboriginal initiatives that you bring to Lakehead University?

3. How would you address Aboriginal recruitment and retention for both faculty and students?

- 8.5 International Indigenous Learning Centre – There was no report submitted at this time.

- 8.6 LUNSA Update – LUNSA is preparing for LUNSA nominations for the new school year. No election date has been set at this time.

- 8.7 Native Access Program –B. Sabourin reported for G. Hendrick-Laliberte. Eighteen new students were accepted into the program and fourteen students are attending regularly.

- 8.8 Native Nurses Entry Program – S. Cornell summarized the report that was distributed with the meeting material. Two new staff were hired. The Distance Education piece is being worked on through KNET Telemedicine. There are seventeen students in the program; five are returning. The Elder from the program has resigned and another Elder will have to be found. Applications for students for the 2010-11 academic year are being reviewed.

B. Sabourin will send a letter to Isabelle Mercier on behalf of the University and AMC thanking her for her time and commitment as an Elder at Lakehead University.

- 8.9 Research Ethics Committee – S. Wolf reviewed the report that was distributed with the meeting material.

P. Smith will continue to Chair the Aboriginal Ethics Committee that will review the protocol for Aboriginal research at Lakehead University. It was noted that research participants cannot be coerced through the awarding of bonus marks

at Lakehead University. The Research Ethics Board is putting forth a policy that will permit disclosing the identification of a person if it is suspected that harm could come to that person or others. Provincial legislation also permits the disclosure of a person's identity under these circumstances. AMC discussed the issues surrounding confidentiality of research subjects.

9. Information Items

- 9.1 The Nanibijou Project Initial Findings Report was sent to AMC voting members in April 2009.
- 9.2 The Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer Report, Orillia, Ontario – February to April 2009 was sent to AMC voting members in June 2009.
- 9.3 Appointment to Senate Research Ethics Board
Dr. Sandra Wolf was approved as the AMC Representative on the Research Ethics Board for a 3-year term commencing July 1, 2009.
- 9.4 The correspondence from Chief Sharon Stinson Henry, Chippewas of Rama First Nation was distributed.
- 9.5 The Correspondence from Janet Beaver, Senior Education Advisor, Ogemawahj Tribal Council was distributed.
- 9.6 The Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services (ACSS) Executive Summary & Survey Report was sent to AMC official voting members in August 2009.
- 9.7 The 2008-2009 Annual Report to the Board of Governors' – Electronic Vote Results were distributed.
- 9.8 The 2009-10 to 2011-2012 Lakehead University Aboriginal Postsecondary Education Funding submission to the Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities – Electronic Vote Results were distributed.
- 9.9 The AMC Membership List was distributed.

10. Adjournment

MOVED (F. Gilbert/R. Wagner) that the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED