

## **Orillia Campus Plan**

Having completed Phase I of the Orillia campus project and the objectives of our first five-year plan, the Orillia campus is beginning the consultation process that will lead to the development of its next five-year plan.

Yolanda Wanakamik will be coming to Orillia in early October and will be working with staff in Orillia on the development of this plan.

## **Orientation**

H. Neil Monague from Christian Island First Nation shared some encouraging words and hand drummed for the new students at Orientation. He shared two songs: a welcome song and a travelling song. H. Neil Monague had all the students singing along with him while he hand drummed the travelling song. He chose the travelling song because we are all travellers throughout our school experience and onwards and it talks about how we never say goodbye, just say until later, or Baamaapii.

An Aboriginal student meet and greet took place at the orientation. Gertie Beaucage (Elder) facilitated a 4 hour cultural awareness session with 9 members of the OSA staff. We anticipate offering more of these sessions for staff, faculty and students.

## **Recruitment**

April Jones participated in the Henvey Inlet First Nation Education Fair (30 students) and the Metis Heritage Celebration in Oshawa (1500+ people) to promote Lakehead programs. April also attended the annual Aboriginal Post-Secondary Information Program general meeting/training session, with topics including: planning for the upcoming recruitment season, data collection and management, recruitment style, and communications and marketing. April has met with numerous prospective students over the summer months to discuss opportunities at Lakehead.

## **Projects in Progress**

We are currently working on a proposal for a sweat lodge site at Lakehead Orillia. Plans for the upcoming academic year include: current student cultural supports, Aboriginal events, Elder's in Residence program and the Aboriginal Elders Teaching Series; just to name a few. An event is being planned at Thunder Bay campus with APSIP, COU and the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives. Thunder Bay Aboriginal students are invited to spend

the day on campus learning about their post-secondary opportunities and the importance of self-declaration. The event will conclude with entertainment by A Tribe Called Red and Wab Kinew. This event will take place on Tuesday, September 18, 2012.