

**ADVISORS COMMITTEE FOR THE OGIMAAWIN-ABORIGINAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL (O-AGC)**

**TUESDAY, SEPTMEBER 10, 2013**

**2:00 – 3:30P.M.**

**ATAC 5035**

**MINUTES**

- Present:**
- Mr. Bruce Beardy, Native Language Instructors' Program
  - Ms. Sandra Cornell, Native Nurses Entry Program
  - Dr. Andrew P. Dean, Science & Environmental Studies
  - Ms. Judy Flett, Aboriginal Education Programs Coordinator
  - Dr. Rodney Hanley, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
  - Dr. Philip Hicks, Graduate Studies
  - Dr. Lori Livingston, Health & Behavioural Sciences
  - Dr. Wayne Melville, Acting Chair, Department of Aboriginal Education
  - Dr. Christopher Mushquash, Aboriginal Faculty, Psychology
  - Dr. Raymond Neckoway, Social Work & Aboriginal Faculty
  - Ms. Jerri-Lynn Orr, Native Access Program
  - Dr. Gillian Siddall, Social Sciences & Humanities
  - Mr. David Snake, Aboriginal Liaison Advisor, Orillia Campus (Teleconference)
  - Dr. Michelle-Marie Spadoni, Chair, O-AGC Advisors Committee, Aboriginal Faculty, Nursing
  - Dr. Constance Russell, Acting Dean, Education
  - Ms. Yolanda Twance, Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services
  - Ms. Yolanda Wanakamik, Coordinator of External and Graduate Relations, Office of Aboriginal Initiatives
  - Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives)
- Recording:**
- Ms. Ashley Dokuchie, Secretary, Advisors Committee for the Ojimaawin-Aboriginal Governance Council
- Regrets:**
- Ms. Tina Armstrong, Aboriginal Affairs, Northern Ontario School of Medicine
  - Dr. David Barnett, Engineering
  - Mr. Tom Beardy, Aboriginal Faculty, Education
  - Dr. Laura Buker, Aboriginal Faculty, Education
  - Ms. Anna Chief, Aboriginal Outreach/Recruitment
  - Dr. Bahram Dadgostar, Business Administration
  - Dr. Ruby Farrell, Aboriginal Faculty, Indigenous Learning
  - Dr. Sreekumari Kurissery, Interdisciplinary Studies, Orillia Campus
  - Ms. Tracey Larocque, Aboriginal Faculty, Kinesiology
  - Ms. Heather Moynihan, Engineering (Dean's Alternate)
  - Mr. Dennis McPherson, Chair, Indigenous Learning
  - Dr. Ulf Runesson, Natural Resources Management
  - Mrs. Marian Ryks-Szelekovszky, Vice-Provost (Student Affairs)
  - Dr. Peggy Smith, Natural Resources Management
  - Dr. Roger Strasser, Northern Ontario School of Medicine
  - Prof. Lee Stuesser, Law
  - Ms. Nancy Stevens, Lecturer, Social Work, Orillia Campus
  - Dr. Herman van den Berg, Orillia Campus
  - Ms. Dolores Wawia, Education Elder in Residence & Aboriginal Faculty
  - Ms. Wanda White, Aboriginal Faculty, Education
  - Dr. Sandra Wolf, Aboriginal Faculty, Education

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Dr. M. M. Spadoni, Chair of the O-AGC Advisors welcomed everyone and asked for introductions around the table.

The Chair welcomed the following new members:

- Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives)
- Ms. Jerri-Lynn Orr, Native Access Program Coordinator
- Mr. David Snake, Aboriginal Liaison Advisor, Orillia Campus
- Dr. Constance Russell, Acting Dean, Faculty of Education
- Dr. Wayne Melville, Acting Chair, Department of Aboriginal Education

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

3. **Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4. **Review of the Terms of Reference for the O-AGC Advisors Committee**

Dr. M. M. Spadoni reviewed the O-AGC Advisors Committee Terms of Reference with those in attendance.

5. **Approval of Minutes of March 26, 2013**

The O-AGC Advisors Committee Minutes of March 26, 2013 were approved and will be posted on the O-AGC website.

6. **Business Arising from Minutes** (not on the Agenda elsewhere)

6.1 Nishtam Watapiin Sub-Committee

Ms. Y. Wanakamik advised that Nishtam Watapiin Sub-Committee was struck following the O-AGC Retreat on June 25, 2012 to refine the priorities outlined in the O-AGC Retreat Summary Report. This committee developed a framework including the following priority areas:

1. Programs & Courses Related to Aboriginal Issues
2. Programs & Courses designed for Aboriginal students;
3. Aboriginal Research
4. Services Supporting Aboriginal Student Success
5. Improving the input of external and community membership and participation.

She will bring this framework back to O-AGC for consideration and further

discussion.

## 7. **Other Business**

### 7.1 Update on the Recruitment & Retention of Aboriginal Faculty Survey Report

Dr. M. M. Spadoni reviewed the recommendations in the Recruitment and Retention of Aboriginal Faculty Survey Report.

It was noted Ms. Karen Roche, Secretary of O-AGC had forwarded the Executive Summary and recommendations to President Stevenson on April 4, 2013.

## 8. **New Business**

### 8.1 Summer & Winter Institutes at Lakehead University

Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux discussed the concept of developing summer and winter institutes at Lakehead University for students who do not meet the regular admissions requirements. These institutes could include a variety of academic programming such as English, Mathematics, Chemistry, and Biology and will provide Aboriginal learners with an opportunity to bypass the Access Programs and enter mainstream programs at Lakehead University.

#### Teacher Education Certificate Program

Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux also discussed her idea of designing a summer institute to prepare teachers for teaching in northern remote communities. She had recently attended a SSHRC information session and grants are available to support this type of academic programming. She also advised that this would be a fee for service certificate program.

Dr. W. Melville and Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux will be scheduling a meeting to further discuss this initiative.

Dr. R. Hanley suggested that Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux contact MTCU to see how they would approach this type of teacher certificate program.

Dr. L. Livingston suggested that a certificate program in Health Sciences could be offered as well.

Dr. M. M. Spadoni advised that offering a certificate and/or mentorship program to prepare nurses for clinical practice in remote communities would be beneficial as well. She works with some of the nurses from the federal nursing stations and advised that there are a variety of different practices when working in health

care under the federal government and the degree itself does not prepare nursing graduates for the complexities of nursing in the northern remote communities.

#### 8.1.1 Quill to Quill Language Program

Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux had a meeting with Ms. Barb Gale from Quill to Quill and she has put together a language program based on songs, verses and rhymes. This program could be offered to teachers as it includes the basic foundation on language and could be designed for each community and dialect.

#### 8.2 Part-time Master's Programs

Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux discussed the need for establishing part-time graduate studies at Lakehead University. She advised that many of our Aboriginal Alumni are working professionals and it is difficult for them to pursue graduate studies on a full-time basis.

Dr. P. Hicks advised that this issue has been discussed at Graduate Council in the past and that perhaps this could be discussed again at an upcoming meeting. He also noted that the Lakehead University Course Calendar allows for flex-time graduate studies in Education and the Master of Public Health Programs.

Y. Wanakamik informed the committee that as part of her new position she is responsible for Aboriginal graduate student recruitment.

#### 8.3 Stacked Certification

Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux discussed the idea of developing stacked certification programs and courses at Lakehead University. These certification programs and courses would be aimed at working professionals and adult learners who desire advanced instruction in a specific subject area.

Dr. M. M. Spadoni advised that there is a definite need for certification programs as well as summer and winter institutes for Registered Nurses. She noted that she works with many nursing graduates who are not necessarily interested in pursuing a Master's degree, but would like to take advanced courses in Nursing.

### 9. **Draft Ogimaawin-Aboriginal Governance Council Agenda of September 23, 2013**

The committee reviewed the Draft Ogimaawin-Aboriginal Governance Council Agenda of September 23, 2013 as distributed.

## 10. Reports on status of ongoing initiatives

### 10.1 Aboriginal specific programs

#### Department of Aboriginal Education

The Department of Aboriginal Education has been active over the summer with the highly successful Native as a Second Language and Odaminowin Language and Cultural Camps and the Native Language Instructors' Program that graduated 15 students. The Department also welcomed back to the Thunder Bay Campus our community based Matawa HBEd (Aboriginal) P/J cohorts who returned for their six weeks of studies. The first Matawa cohort is looking at May 2014 for graduation.

The Department has updated the Transfer Credit Guide used by the Office of Admissions and Recruitment in processing applications to Lakehead programs from Queens, Ottawa and Nipissing. A protocol has also been established to review the Guide biannually to ensure it remains current.

#### Office of Aboriginal Initiatives

Aboriginal Student Orientation will be taking place on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 from 9:00 – 11:00a.m. below the President's Balcony. Please encourage all Aboriginal students to attend.

Fall Harvest will be taking place on Saturday, September 14, 2013 from 11:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. at the Sweat Lodge Site. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### 10.2 Kendaasiwin Centre

Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux had attended two presentations on the Kendaasiwin Centre given by President Stevenson. The first presentation was to Ms. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario and the second presentation was to Deputy Grand Chief Goyce Kakegamic of Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Ontario Regional Chief Stan Beardy and President Gary Lipinski of the Métis Nation of Ontario.

Overall the centre was well received by those in attendance.

## 11. Items for Information

11.1 O-AGC Advisors Committee Meeting Schedule 2013-2014

11.2 O-AGC Advisors Committee Membership List

## 12. Adjournment