



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

**Ogimaawin/Aboriginal
Governance Council**

ADVISORS COMMITTEE FOR THE OGIMAAWIN-ABORIGINAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

October 25, 2016

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Governance Conference Room UC2001

MINUTES

In attendance

Mr. Bruce Beardy

Ms. Anna Chief

Ms. Ashley Dokuchie, Recorder

Prof. Angelique EagleWoman

Dr. Nancy Luckai

Dr. Raymond Neckoway

Ms. Joy Nieminen

Ms. Jerri-Lynn Orr

Dr. Donald Kerr

Dr. Ulf Runesson

Dr. Chander Shahi

Dr. Peggy Smith, Chair

Ms. Yolanda Twance

Ms. Allysha Wassegijig*

Regrets

Ms. Tina Armstrong

Dr. David Barnett

Mr. Tom Beardy

Dr. Michel Bedard

Dr. Paul Cormier

Dr. Bahram Dadgostar

Mr. Gilbert Deschamps

Dr. Leisa Desmoulins

Ms. Karen Drake

Ms. Barbara Eccles

Dr. Ruby Farrell

Dr. Kim Fedderson

Mr. Christopher Glover

Ms. Lisa Harris

Dr. Peter Hollings

Dr. Dean Jobin-Bevans

Mr. John Kimball

Ms. Tracey Larocque

Mr. Dennis McPherson

Dr. Moira McPherson

Ms. Heather Moynihan

Dr. Christopher Mushquash

Dr. John O'Meara

Dr. Michelle-Marie Spadoni

Dr. Robert Robson

Ms. Marian Ryks-

Szelekovszky

Dr. Roger Strasser

Mr. Robin Sutherland

Dr. Cynthia Wesley-

Esquimaux

*Videoconference

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table and via videoconference.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

3. Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Dr. P. Smith informed the committee of her new appointment as the Interim Vice-Provost

(Aboriginal Initiatives) effective September 16, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

4. Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2016

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

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

5.1 Review of the Communications Recommendation in the Report on the Status of Indigenous Initiatives at Lakehead University 2015

5.1.1 The Report on the Status of Indigenous Initiatives at Lakehead University 2015 was distributed in advance with the meeting materials.

5.1.2 The “Draft Response from the President to the Report on the Status of Indigenous Initiatives at Lakehead University 2015” from April 18, 2016 was distributed in advance with the meeting materials.

The committee reviewed the “Communications Recommendation” in the “Draft Response from the President on the Status of Indigenous Initiatives Report 2015” from April 18, 2016.

2. COMMUNICATIONS: The relationship and roles of the O-AGC, its Advisory Committee, the President, Provost and Vice-President Academic (to whom the VP Aboriginal Initiatives reports to) and Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives need to be clarified through a review of the different bodies’ terms of reference, with an emphasis on transparency and improving communication among these parties.

The terms of reference for the O-AGC and the O-AGC Advisory Committee should be reviewed with a focus on promoting strong and effective communication pathways with the President, Provost and Vice-President Academic, and Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives.

5.1.3 The O-AGC Advisors Committee Terms of Reference were distributed in advance with the meeting materials.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposed amendments to the O-AGC Advisors Committee Terms of Reference on how to address the “Communications Recommendation” in the “Draft Response from the President on the Status of Indigenous Initiatives Report 2015” from April 18, 2016.

Dr. P. Smith suggested amending the O-AGC Advisors Committee Terms of Reference to include the following new section:

- The O-AGC Advisors Committee will work in an advisory capacity

in guiding the strategic direction of the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives.

The committee reviewed the O-AGC Advisors Committee membership list in the Terms of Reference, which includes the following:

- Each Aboriginal-specific program, department or position, including Aboriginal faculty (the 2003 list includes access programs, Native Language Instructors Program, Aboriginal Education Programs, Dept. of Indigenous Learning and Aboriginal Cultural and Support Services, plus the addition of new positions that have been approved, e.g., the Dept. of Aboriginal Education, Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives), Faculty of Education's Elder-in-Residence, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Education, Aboriginal Community Liaison, plus any future positions as they are approved;
- Each faculty (the Dean or designate); and
- Key administrative positions (e.g., Vice-President Academic, Vice-Provost, Student Affairs, Research Ethics Board).

The membership list in the Terms of Reference will be updated to include new positions and will be circulated at the next O-AGC Advisors Committee meeting.

There was a concern raised with including this proposed amendment, as non-Indigenous specific programs and positions would be guiding the strategic direction of the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives.

The committee agreed to continue the discussion on revising the Terms of Reference at the next O-AGC Advisors Committee Meeting on January 3, 2017.

5.2 Bi-Annual Self Assessment Report

The functioning of the Advisors Committee will be subject to review by the O-AGC every second year, including self-assessment by the Advisors Committee, to ensure that it is operating effectively and fulfilling its functions.

This item was postponed to the O-AGC Advisors Committee meeting in January 3, 2017. Dr. P. Smith will prepare a report for distribution at our next meeting.

5.3 Selection of Chair/Co-Chair: The Committee will choose its leadership every second year. The Chair or a designate will be the voting member to the O-AGC.

Dr. R. Neckoway agreed to serve as Chair of the O-AGC Advisors Committee to replace Dr. P. Smith effective immediately to June 30, 2017. A motion will go forward to formalize this appointment at the O-AGC Meeting on November 14, 2016.

6. New Business

6.1 O-AGC Advisors Representative on Joint SAC/O-AGC

Joint SAC/O-AGC Terms of Reference:

Composition: One representative from the O-AGC Advisors Committee

Terms of Office: (Ex-Officio)

Mr. B. Beardy has agreed to serve as the Joint SAC/O-AGC Sub-Committee until June 30, 2018. A motion will go forward to formalize this appointment at the O-AGC Meeting on November 14, 2016.

6.2 O-AGC Representative on Senate

O-AGC Bylaws:

3.3 – Appointment to Other University Bodies and Committees

3.3b – a representative to the Lakehead University Senate

The O-AGC is seeking nominations for a representative to be appointed to the Lakehead University Senate. This item will go forward for discussion at the O-AGC Meeting on November 14, 2016.

7. Other Business

7.1 Update from Aboriginal specific programs

Native Nurses Entry Program

Ms. J. Nieminen reported there are currently fifteen students enrolled in NNEP. Taniyen Wesley will be participating in the 2016 Canadian Race Relations Foundation National Conference in Toronto from October 25-28th, 2016 as a Youth Ambassador.

Office of Aboriginal Initiatives

Dr. P. Smith informed the committee that Ms. Rosan Wesley has been hired as the Aboriginal Student Counsellor. Ms. Wesley will be available to Aboriginal students on an as needed basis.

Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples will give a free public talk on “Free Prior and Informed Consent: A Local and Global Issue” on October 27, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in AT 2001.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

Dean A. EagleWoman informed the committee there is a search underway for an Indigenous Scholar. A Law Admissions Information Session was held on October 19, 2016. There were approximately twenty-five students in attendance and at least seven of them were Indigenous.

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada Post Secondary Partnership Proposal
Dr. N. Luckai reported that funding has been received from Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada for the expansion of the Native Access Program.

Native Access Program

Ms. J. Orr reported there are thirty students enrolled in the Native Access Program. A joint NAP and NNEP Holiday Feast is being planned for December 5, 2016. Mr. R. Sutherland is facilitating a weekly Community and Culture workshop with NAP students.

Aboriginal Education

Dr. D. Kerr and Mr. B. Beardy are working closely with Georgian College to offer our Native Language Teacher Certification program consecutively to their ANLP (soon to be Anishnaabemowin and Program Development program). Mr. B. Beardy is assisting the Ministry of Education planning committee with planning for the Indigenous Language Symposium for Spring 2017.

Aboriginal Outreach/Recruitment

Ms. A. Chief reported the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program is being offered on campus and in the local high schools. A partnership is being developed with the Athletics Department and Hammarskjold High School to deliver an Aboriginal Athletics Mentorship Program.

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services

Ms. Y. Twance reported that Sweat Lodge Ceremony will be held on Wednesday October 26th and Elders Council Meeting is being planned for November 25th. A series of Indspire and Lakehead Aboriginal Student Bursary workshops have been offered throughout the September and October. She has been attending the Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM), Student Success & Retention Subcommittee meetings and noted the group has been working on creating a document that highlights all of the retention initiatives at Lakehead University.

Orillia Campus

Ms. A. Wassegijig reported on November 2nd, Dr. P. Smith and Ms. J. Orr will be conducting the KAIROS Blanket Exercise at the Orillia Campus for any interested faculty, staff, and friends of the Lakehead community. On Wednesday, November 9th, Dr. C. Wesley-Esquimaux will be providing an open lecture on Truth and Reconciliation and conducting smaller class visits.

7.2 Joint SAC/O-AGC & Indigenous Content Requirement

The *CBC Unreserved* and *The Charlton – Carleton's Independent Weekly* have published articles on the Indigenous Content Requirement. The *CBC Unreserved* featured a radio interview with Dr. R. Robson and several students from the Indigenous Learning Program.

Dr. R. Robson, Dr. D. Jobin-Bevans and Dr. P. Smith have met with the students to find ways to address the issues. A faculty retreat and student advisory group for the Indigenous Content Requirement were recommended.

Dr. P. Smith would like to continue the conversation on the ICR at the O-AGC Meeting on November 14, 2016 and will distribute the links to the articles and radio interviews to O-AGC members.

Dr. P. Smith informed the committee that she has been working on a job posting for an Indigenous Curriculum Specialist and plans are underway to hire for the position in January 2017.

7.3 Kendaasiwin Centre

Dr. P. Smith and Mr. Richard Longtin, Director of Government Relations have been working on a federal grant application for the Kendaasiwin Centre.

The O-AGC Kendaasiwin Project Building Committee was re-appointed at the O-AGC Meeting on September 26, 2016 and they had their first meeting on September 29, 2016.

7.4 The Draft O-AGC Agenda of November 14, 2016 was distributed in advance with the meeting materials.

7.5 The O-AGC Advisors Committee Membership List was distributed in advance with the meeting materials.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.