

Indigenous Education Committee (IEC) Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2025

Public Meeting

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
J. Maracle	Present: Alison Billings (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Crystal Loft (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Gillianne Mundell (Elementary Land Based Indigenous Education Teacher) Jessi DiRocco (LDSB – Elementary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher) Kaycie Brant (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Liv Rondeau (LDSB – Vice Principal of Indigenous Education) Liz Coates (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) Patrick Vanderholst (LDSB – Secondary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher) Patty Brinklow (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte) Rachel Kolosov (LDSB Indigenous Student Trustee) Scot Gillam (LDSB – Superintendent) Tasha Wallace (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Guests from Indigenous Student Leadership Circle: Elijah Ward, Kingston Secondary School (KSS) Annie McLeod, Frontenac Secondary School (FSS)

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Trustees:	Members:
B. Godkin	Regrets: Bond Strand (LDSB – Elementary Teacher – Bridge Program) Brandon Maracle (Kingston Native Centre and Languages Nest) Danka Brewer (Shabot Obaadjiwan Omaamiwininii Community) Deb St. Amant (Queen’s University & Grandmother’s Council, LDSB Cultural Advisor) Cristina Warner (HomeBase Housing) Garnet Armand Ruffo (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Géorgie Gagné Jayne Blondin (Sexual Assault Centre – Kingston) Kristen Lemay (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) Linda Cory (Kagita Mikam) Lindsay Morcom (Queen’s & Ardoch First Nation) Martina Kataquapit (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Mary-Jane Vincent (LDSB – Indigenous Support Worker) Nathan Cheechoo (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Willow Prue (LDSB – Indigenous Student Support Counselor) Lindsay Rogers (Highland Waters Métis Council) Lorrie Larock (Youth Wellness Hubs of Ontario – One Roof) Martha Duncan (LDSB – Elementary Principal – Fairfield Elementary School) Mel Urquhart (Youth Diversion) Michelle Nyamekye (LDSB – River Teacher) Sandy Maracle (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte) Shannon Tyner (LDSB – Secondary Principal – Ernestown Secondary School) Taylor Arndt (KNCLN – River Program)

1. WELCOME

Crystal Loft and Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) opened the meeting.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made around the circle.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Consensus of IEC that the agenda be approved. Carried.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY: Consensus of IEC that the January 28, 2025, IEC Minutes be approved. Carried.

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5. INDIGENOUS TEAM UPDATES

- Gillianne Mundell, Elementary Land Based Indigenous Education Teacher, provided an overview of her role and the work she is currently completing in schools.
- Liv Rondeau, Vice Principal of Indigenous Education, provided a high-level overview of some of the work the team has been supporting since our last meeting. This included French and Indigenous Professional Development for teachers, Indigenous-specific projects at Katarokwi Learning Centre (KLC), Bayridge Public School, Holsgrove Public School, Bath Public School, Molly Brant Elementary School, and J.R. Henderson Public School, as well as work with NBE teachers. Liv also referenced the work we are continuing with our community members like Mandy Smart, Crystal Loft, Deb St. Amant, Carleigh Milburn, Gail Brant, Dianne Sedore, and Terri Ward.
- Jessi DiRocco, Elementary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher, provided an update on the Indigenous Student Leadership Circle. Jessi reviewed the program and the monthly face-to-face activities, as well as the upcoming leadership camping trip to Camp Muskoka at the end of March. Jessi and Pat Vanderholst, FNMI Support Teacher and Grad Coach, also discussed the Recognition of Experiential Learning Credit (RELC) being offered to the members of the Indigenous Student Leadership Circle.
- Rachel Kolosov, Indigenous Student Trustee, Elijah Ward, Indigenous Student Leadership Circle, KSS student, and Annie McLeod, Indigenous Student Leadership Circle, FSS student, described their favourite parts of being involved in the Indigenous Student Leadership Circle.
- Superintendent Gillam provided an overview of the Board Action Plan (BAP) SharePoint document and reviewed several of the initiatives and the process for confirming the BAP. The BAP will be shared with all IEC members prior to the May 27, 2025, IEC Meeting for final discussion and signing off. Questions or concerns can be shared with Superintendent Gillam prior to the May meeting to expedite the work that evening.

6. PLANNING AND INPUT FOR 2025-2026

- Members of the IEC will be asked to bring their thoughts to the May 27, 2025, IEC Meeting for a discussion around new initiatives and supports that might be part of the BAP moving forward. A reminder email will be sent out prior to the meeting.
- Indigenous community members will be asked to confirm their participation at the May 27, 2025, IEC Meeting and any new organization representatives can be confirmed at this time as well. Organization representatives are responsible for connecting with their supervisors to confirm their continued participation.

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- Superintendent Gillam will reach out to the six parent/caregiver representatives to determine their continued participation for next year. Any vacancies will be filled by a process to be determined and approved by consensus of the IEC. During this meeting, it was discussed that vacancies could be filled by an expression of interest process that will come to the whole of IEC for decision. This will be confirmed on May 27, 2025.
- IEC members will be asked to come to the May 27, 2025, meeting prepared to review and adjust any necessary items on the Terms of Reference. Determining the process for filling vacancies for the parent/caregiver role is one item that will be discussed and finalized.

7. MEMBER UPDATES

Members shared updates from their communities or organizations.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

9. CLOSING

Crystal and Mandy (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) closed the meeting.

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See Yourself in Limestone