

Indigenous Education Committee (IEC) Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2025

Public Meeting

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
J. Maracle B. Godkin	Present: Crystal Loft (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Mandy Smart (Mohawk Traditional Knowledge Keepers from Tyendinaga) Kaycie Brant (Parent/Caregiver Representative) 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) Mel Urquhart (Youth Diversion) Géorgie Gagné Lindsay Morcom (Queen’s & Ardoch First Nation) Deb St. Amant (Queen’s University & Grandmother’s Council, LDSB Cultural Advisor) Lorrie Larock (Youth Wellness Hubs of Ontario – One Roof) Lindsay Rogers (Highland Waters Métis Council)

Limestone District School Board

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Trustees:	Members:
	Regrets: Bond Strand (LDSB – Elementary Teacher – Bridge Program) Brandon Maracle (Kingston Native Centre and Languages Nest) Danka Brewer (Shabot Obaadjiwan Omaamiwininii Community) Cristina Warner (HomeBase Housing) Garnet Armand Ruffo (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Jayme Blondin (Sexual Assault Centre – Kingston) Kristen Lemay (Kingston Frontenac Public Library) Linda Cory (Kagita Mikam) Martina Kataquapit (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Mary-Jane Vincent (LDSB – Indigenous Support Worker) Nathan Cheechoo (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Willow Prue (LDSB – Indigenous Student Support Counselor) Martha Duncan (LDSB – Elementary Principal – Fairfield Elementary School) 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) Alison Billings (Parent/Caregiver Representative) Gillianne Mundell (Elementary Land Based Indigenous Education Teacher) Jessi DiRocco (LDSB – Elementary Indigenous Reengagement Teacher) Liv Rondeau (LDSB – Vice Principal of Indigenous Education)

1. WELCOME

Crystal and Mandy (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.

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4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY: Consensus of IEC that the March 18, 2025, IEC Minutes be approved. Carried.

5. INDIGENOUS TEAM UPDATES

- Most of the team was not present as they were at Camp Muskoka with the Indigenous Student Leadership Circle (ISLC). This 2-day overnight camping trip was the culminating activity for participants of the ISCL.
- Superintendent Gillam provided updates on the following initiatives:
 - Indigenous Student Leadership Circle
 - Indigenous Languages
 - Professional Development (PD) for staff
 - Community in Schools
 - Grade Coach and Ministry Pilot for Recognition of Experiential Learning Credit (RELC)
 - Resources and the Team
 - School Based Projects
 - River and Bridge updates
- Superintendent Gillam provided an overview of the Board Action Plan (BAP) SharePoint document and reviewed several of the Initiatives and process for confirming the BAP. The BAP will be shared with all IEC members prior to the May 27, 2025, 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. 2025-2026 CONFIRMATIONS

- Superintendent Gillam had confirmed that most IEC members have provided notice to remain on IEC for the 2025-2026 school year. Consensus of the circle was that an email will go to all members who have not yet provided confirmation to do so prior to September 2025.
- Superintendent Gillam confirmed that at least one caregiver will not be returning for the 2025–2026 school year. Discussion regarding whether this caregiver will be replaced—and if so, the process—will take place under the Terms of Reference agenda item. Two additional caregivers have yet to confirm their return; they will be contacted in the same manner previously agreed upon by the circle, with confirmation expected prior to September 2025.

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7. BAP 2025-2026

- Superintendent Gillam confirmed the 2025-2026 budget for the BAP and committed to bringing this information to the September 25, 2025, IEC Meeting for the purposes of planning and initializing the 2025-2026 BAP.

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Consensus of the circle was that the Terms of Reference (TOR) will be adjusted to show that Superintendent Gillam and Trustee Maracle will be Co-Facilitators of the IEC. Adjustments will be made accordingly to the TOR.
- Consensus of the circle was to add language to Section 4.0 to ensure that any guests who attend IEC understand that their participation is limited to viewing only. Additional language will also be included to provide an avenue for bringing concerns to IEC that do not include bringing them to an official IEC meeting.
- Consensus of the circle was that all members of IEC will demonstrate commitment to the students and circle by creating a singular commitment string for the entire IEC. Details to be confirmed by the September 25, 2025, IEC meeting.
- Consensus of the circle is that additional information will be added to the section that deals with missing consecutive meetings so that if members have a good reason for missing, that this is a conversation with the Co-Facilitators.
- Superintendent Gillam took leave of the meeting at this time.
- Consensus of the circle is that Co-Facilitator Maracle will be bringing back a process for determining new caregiver membership when the circle decides new caregivers are needed.
- Consensus of the circle was that we will add IEC members having their cameras on (if able) when joining the meeting virtually to this section of the TOR.
- Consensus of the circle was that adding that continual breaches of the code of conduct can result in removal from the IEC to Section 4.0. Wording will be shared with the circle prior to confirmation in the TOR. Co-Facilitator Trustee Maracle will bring draft language.
- Consensus of the circle was that only certain members of IEC require an alternate and these positions will be confirmed at the September 25, 2025, IEC meeting.
- A point was made to ensure that a two-spirited representative be present at each meeting.
- Consensus of the circle was to adjust the language in Section 3.0 B so that the term “within” is replaced with wording that recognizes that many community members do not reside in the LDSB catchment area but serve the students and the community.

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9. MEMBER UPDATES

Members shared updates from their communities or organizations.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, September 25, 2025

11. CLOSING

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