



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MINUTES

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.
WIFN Governance Building Wallaceburg, ON

Chair: Carol Bryden, Trustee of Education

Present: Carol Bryden, Margaret Palmer, Ray Power, Liz Gibson, Rob Cicchelli,
Celeste Noah, Caroline VanRoestel-Seward, Deb Crawford, John Snake,
Anika Altiman, Chenoa Plain, Lynda Classens, Vicki Ware, Tracy Verstraeten

Regrets: Lisa Demers, Scott Johnson, Steve DeGurse, Greg Mallette, Cynthia Blair,
Bev Bressette

Recorder: Margaret Palmer

1. Opening Prayer- All

Margaret Palmer, opened the meeting with prayer. A Prayer to Celebrate Diversity:
God Beyond All Names (adapted)

2. Welcome and Introductions

Carol Bryden: welcomed and thanked those in attendance, and introductions were made.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes of January 10, 2018

**Motion: (Liz Gibson, Ray Power). That the Minutes for the Indigenous Education
Committee Meeting of January 10, 2018 be approved as amended. Carried.**

4. Review of Agenda and Approval

**Motion: (Caroline VanRoestel-Seward, Tracy Verstraeten) That the Agenda for the
Indigenous Education Committee Meeting of Thursday, May 17, 2018 be approved
with the addition of presentations from Aamjiwnaang and Delaware Nations. Carried.**

5. Report from the Indigenous Community Partners

- **Delaware Nation: John Snake:**
Shared events in calendar with us.
- **Celeste Noah:**
Education Committee are looking for 2 students to join their board.
- **Aamjiwnaang: Vicki Ware:**
In the process of drafting service agreement with Lambton board. Looking to do the same with SCCDSB. Cathy Calvert has sent a contract to Vicki for education agreement. Rob Cicchelli offered a tour of St. Patrick's High School.
- **WIFN: Lynda Classens:**
Storytelling. RBC fund committee from across Canada. Toronto Public Library will be funding the activities on summer solstice celebration on June 21, 2018 at High Banks. Invited all to join them on June 21st.
- **Anika Altman:**
Concerned regarding an occurrence at UCC earlier this week and wanted to know what administration was doing to deal with the culturally sensitive reactions? Systemic racism is a concern. Deb Crawford, Director of Education, stated that the situation had been resolved at the school level. Ray Power, Principal of UCC, reported that the school and family had a dialogue which allowed for a common understanding of what had transpired.

6. Reports from Schools

St. Elizabeth - Liz Gibson, Principal

- Art lessons related to Indigenous culture (Norval Morriseau and legends)
- White Lightning and the Great Lakes Woodland Dance Troop came and taught the students dancing and history.

Ursuline College – Ray Power, Principal & Celeste Noah

- 10 students in the First Nations group.
- Made skirts.
- Attended an event at WIFN.
- Not a closed First Nations group.
- UCC is offering a grade 11 English course based on Indigenous books/ authors/ stories.

St. Patrick's – Rob Cicchelli

- Jay Stewart is leading the Indigenous group.
- Students have visited 5 different colleges.
- Great Lakes Secondary School invited the group to attend a college information session at their school. Jay and 4 students attended.
- Chenoa Plain hired as post-secondary school counsellor.
- PD in February for Social Studies/History teachers.

7. Report from the Board Tracy Verstraeten

- St Pat's leadership Group
- SLNFC
- Indigenous Inequities (water)
- Dance and drum
- 4 board event number 1

- Medicine pouches
- Aamjiwnaang events
- Miigwech to partners and students
- TRC Call to action #62
- Social Studies and History Refresh regarding residential schools

8. Next Meeting Date

Fall 2018 - date to be announced.

Tracy will be returning to the classroom. Caroline VanRoestel- Seward is retiring.

9. The meeting was adjourned:

Motion: (*Margaret Palmer, Tracy Verstraeten*) to adjourn the Indigenous Education Committee Meeting at 7:45pm. *Carried.*