

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Via: Google Meeting

MINUTES

Members:

Chair: Carol Bryden, Trustee

Board Resources: Lisa Demers, Superintendent of Education
Cortnee Goure, Indigenous Education Lead

Board Committee Members: Ray Power, Principal–Ursuline College Chatham
Mark Bernard, Principal–Holy Family Catholic School
Stacy Shepley, Principal–St. Elizabeth Catholic School
Ann Clarke–Chaplaincy Leader–Secondary–St. Patrick’s Catholic High School
Greg Mallette–Teacher–Secondary–Ursuline College Chatham
Paul Teetzel–Teacher–eLearning–Tech Support–Catholic Education Centre

Community Partnership Members: Vicki Ware, Education Manager, Aamjiwnaang First Nation
Beverly Bressette, Administration Assistant, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation
Jolene Whiteye, Education Manager, Eelūnaapéewi Lahkéewiit
Cecil Isaac, Elder and Cultural Advisor, Bkejwanong Territory
Robin Isaac, Harriet Jacobs Centre, Bkejwanong Territory
Deb Munroe, Education Director, Sarnia Lambton Native Friendship Centre
Deb Milliken, Elder, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation
Bary Milliken, Elder, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation

Student Members: Eden Monkhouse, St. Patrick’s High School
Leela McLaughlin, Ursuline College Chatham
Dakota Sands, Ursuline College Chatham

Recorder: Kim Wells

Guests: Scott Johnson

Absent: Mark Bernard
Stacy Shepley
Vicki Ware
Jolene Whiteye
Cecil Isaac
Robin Isaac
Deb Munroe
Eden Monkhouse



A. Opening Prayer

Deb and Barry Milliken

B. Ancestral Lands Acknowledgement

Cortnee Goure

C. Welcome and Introductions

Lisa Demers

All participants briefly introduced themselves.

D. Review of Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Minutes

Carol Bryden

MOTION BY Ray Power and seconded by Deb Milliken to adopt the IEAC Minutes of January 28, 2021. **CARRIED**

E. Adoption of Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Agenda

Carol Bryden

MOTION BY Paul Teetzel and seconded by Dakota Sands to accept the IEAC Agenda of October 15, 2021. **CARRIED**

F. Updates from Committee Members

Barry and Deb Milliken -

Barry and Deb engaged in circle at school with Mr. Styers recently after not being in a school for quite some time. It was an important connection. They felt honoured as chosen elders in the community to share what they know in a good way.

Beverly Bressette -

No updates at this time.

Ann Clarke -

No updates at this time.

Paul Teetzel -

St. Patrick's High School will be running an English course in the second semester: integrating Indigenous perspectives. Cortnee will provide the official name. This course will take the place of Grade 11 English and will be taught by Victoria Devlin. Paul and Cortnee will meet with Victoria and Community Partners to plan.



Greg Mallette -

UCC held their first Youth Leadership meeting. The school had graduated many students but were amazed by the approximate twenty students who came forward to our Meet And Greet. Students were asked what they would like to see happen this year. They made Orange Shirt Day into a week-long event, created slides and focused on the Medicine Wheel for healing each day. Every class took part in morning exercises, wrote down feelings and hashtags that line the main hallways of the school. A second Youth Leadership meeting will take place in a couple of weeks to discuss next projects.

Carol Bryden -

Carol introduced St. Clair Catholic District School Board's new Director of Education, Scott Johnson. Scott is committed to working with Indigenous partners and community members.

Carol's last meeting with the Board of Trustees was the first in-person meeting in a long time. All members observed and participated in Orange Shirt Day at the meeting.

It was a wonderful feeling to have most students back in the schools this year and trying to move forward through the pandemic.

Cortnee Goure -

St. Patrick's High School Youth Leadership Group had 17 students come forward. They are looking forward to seeing how their year will shape and integrate events into the school year. Orange Shirt Week provided education for 2 weeks. Classrooms signed up for daily sessions with Community Partners and connected with other school boards. Professional Learning was offered for staff and parents. There were 55 people involved in 3 sessions.

Treaty week is coming up and we are beginning to plan: daily sessions, partnerships with classrooms and how this will look in the school.

We are, once again, running the Anishnaabemowin course for secondary credit. We successfully ran parts 1 and 2 in 2020-2021.

Ray Power -

Truth & Reconciliation Week - the student voice came back and they wanted to know about the Medicine Wheel. They wanted to educate the school community to be aware, respect, and

honour. In addition to Orange Shirt Day, each grade wore a different colour of the Medicine Wheel. The students felt it was important and the commitment was powerful.

G. Reflecting Back on 2020-2021 BAP to Think Ahead to 2021-2022

We are preparing to submit the 2020-2021 Board Action Plan for signatures and starting to write the new one for 2021-2022. Members had access to a Jam Board to submit ideas, considerations, questions and reflections.

2021-2022 Ideas to Include:

1. Outdoor Learning Area with an Indigenous theme at UCC
(St. Patrick has an area they are currently using)
 - UCC has a new area they would like to build upon. Ray Power is looking for feedback from Barry and Deb, thoughts and ideas for design and connections to Indigenous traditions and cultures. He is putting a package together for Barry & Deb for support.
 - Student Leadership-what do the students want to see in the outdoor space? It is worth having the opportunity for design elements feedback.
 - important to instill Sacredness in the space
2. Orange Shirt Day planning in June at UCC
 - good idea to have Orange Shirts ready at the end of June, but this year, we were still ordering in September. Put in calendars and keep at forefront.
3. Supplementing a French credit with an Indigenous credit
 - This was successfully done last year and they are doing the same this year. There were 7 students who signed up for classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Some had commitment conflicts this semester so the class will be offered again next semester.
4. What do Student Leadership groups think we need?
 - Student Leadership-working on moving forward throughout the school year. Idea planning for Orange Shirt Day, connecting partners and getting established in June.
5. Indigenous English (NBE) course at St. Patrick's High School
 - will run 2nd semester this year
 - will move to mandatory for all grade 11 English classes in the 2022-23 school year
6. Increase in collaboration between Indigenous partners and our Wellbeing teams to support student wellbeing
7. With the focus that has highlighted the T&R report over the past year, I think it's



an opportune time to encourage non-indigenous students to take some of the specialized courses being offered

2021-2022 Ideas to Reflect Upon:

1. Reviewing successes from the past and building on re-introducing them to promote greater spread in the schools.

- continue to share in the home/school relationship through newsletters
- continue to offer PD for parents, to enable conversations at home
- put more items on social media
- highlight the Board website during certain time to access resources, ie: library books
- students continue to participate in events, ie: Water Walks, to raise awareness and understanding as a school and throughout the community
- individual school planning of events based on location and environment
- Orange Shirt Week-daily events planned for school community
- continue interactive mingling/connecting between Board and Reserves, ie: in-person and virtual

The Jam Board reflection tool will be available to all members, to reflect and add ideas moving forward, or email Cortnee and she will add. All ideas will be included in the 2021-2022 Board Action Plan.

H. Next Meeting Date

Lisa and Cortnee will send out possible dates for the next meeting.

I. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.