

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2023

Hosted by: Niagara Catholic

Honored Guest	Dr. Niigaan Sinclair
Brock University	Willow Shawanoo
Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre	Shannon Cotter and Roman Hill
Niagara College	Emily Schutt
Niagara Region Metis Council	Lorraine Martin
Niagara Regional Native Centre	Dawn Maughtin
District School Board of Niagara	Georgie Groat, Ann Gilmore, Marian Reimer Friesen, Nodin Buck, Fallon Farinacci
Niagara Catholic District School Board	Gary Parker, Pat Rocca, Nicole Pigeau, Marie Bowering

1. Welcome and Opening

Gary welcomed everyone to the meeting with traditional opening.

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda Approved

3. Minutes of June 8, 2023, Meeting

Approved

4. Co-Chair Discussion and Nominations

Did not have quorum, agreement that Willow will chair today's meeting

5. Sub-Committee Reports

- **BAP Committee** – Willow Shawanoo (Brock University), Emily Schutt (Niagara College), Shannon Cotter (FENFC), Dawn Maughtin (NRNC)
- **TOR Committee** – Will discuss in January meeting if changes are to be made

6. Board Presentations

Niagara Catholic District School Board

New Lead Position – Gary Parker has accepted role as Niagara Catholic Indigenous Education Lead. During the Truth and Reconciliation week, secondary school flew Every Child Matters flag and observed a moment of silence. An invitation went out to Niagara Catholic senior administration team, board trustees and secondary schools to join the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre for their Unity Walk that had approximately one thousand participants. Arrangements were made for NBE students attended Walking Through the Fire at PAC. Self-Identification Form correction to be made for Gender to be inclusive.

Staffing Update - Cindi Lee Ecker -Flagg has joined the Niagara Catholic Indigenous Education team as Indigenous Engagement and Student Support.

Working on having Indigenous Student Voice representation.

District School Board of Niagara

Indigenous Student Trustee Update – Nodin Buck is DSBN Student Trustee. Looking forward for this opportunity to represent his board and be the voice for students. Nodin will be attending conferences in the coming weeks.

Indigenous Student Rep program – Secondary Students seeking leadership opportunities. 28 students have registered for this program and will be supporting Nodin with student voice. This group of students presented to faculty on their positive and negative experiences they have had in school. The students guide the discussion in their group.

Teacher Navigator Walking Together – 84 elementary teachers attended and this was an excellent opportunity to build capacity in schools. These half day sessions had many speakers present to the teachers on various topics. It has received great feedback; teachers requesting full day sessions going forward as finding this information extremely valuable. This program will continue again this school year.

Niigaan will share slides with IEAC on information he has presented.

7. Round Table Presentations

DSBN – Nov 1 having a PIC Showcase at Edan – any organizations that want a table let Georgie know

NRNC – General Meeting is Oct 12
Oct 26 – Halloween Party
TBD – Christmas Party
Check Facebook for event updates

FENFC – Wonderful turnout for the walk on September 29th
Oct 26 – Halloween Party
Check Facebook for updates o programs
Youth Council Groups

NRMC – Had a very busy successful summer!
February 24 & 25 – MNO Annual Early Learning and Child Care Conference
November 8 – Indigenous Veterans Day
November 16 – Louis Riel Day

Niagara College – Convocation in two weeks will include Indigenous drumming
Partnership with Career Services to support in their next steps
Veteran’s Day – Making beaded Poppies & Veteran Speakers

NPAAMB – Opportunity Knocks

Brock – Oct 14 - Drumming and Drum Making

Lacrosse games for the next 3 years will be on September 30th

Screening of Nature of Healing

Drop in programs

Holiday Lunch on Dec 6th

Christmas movies and gingerbread house making on Dec 4th

Next meeting DSBN hosting on January 25th, 2024

8. Closing

Gary Parker