

**Indigenous Education Council
Minutes
Wednesday November 2, 2022
Brockville Campus/B105 & Microsoft Teams**

Attendees:

Shannon Hall	St. Lawrence College
Becky Smoke	Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education and Training Institute
Glenn Vollebregt	St. Lawrence College
Andre Leger	St. Lawrence College
Shelley Aylesworth-Spink	St. Lawrence College
Shirley Chaisson	St. Lawrence College
Holly Brant	St. Lawrence College
Mary Ann Lyons	St. Lawrence College
Helena Neveu	St. Lawrence College
Martha Kane	St. Lawrence College (student)
Bradley Box	St. Lawrence College (student)
Tracy Coady	St. Lawrence College
Ross McMillan	St. Lawrence College
Kayleigh Jordan-MacGregor	Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund

Regrets:

Heather Green	Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
Pauline Giles	St. Lawrence College (student)
Pamela Jacobs	St. Lawrence College (student)
Michael Cooke	St. Lawrence College
Katie Lamarche	St. Lawrence College

Co-chairs: Becky Smoke and Shannon Hall

1. Welcome in a good way – Helena Neveu

On the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee people, we have fire, smudge, tobacco, water, the teachings of the peoples. Welcome everyone and thanks to all for coming.

2. Introductions – Rebecca Smoke for Amanda Tarbell

Council participants introduced themselves. Rebecca Smoke is attending the IEC meetings in place of Amanda Tarbell, and has agreed to co-chair with Shannon Hall.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Minutes of June 8, 2022, IEC meeting were accepted as presented.

No additions to the agenda; accepted as presented.

4. Overview of Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund and Legacy Spaces Program – Kayleigh Jordan-MacGregor

There are a total of 76 legacy spaces in development.

Legacy Schools is a free national initiative for education, awareness and action, funded by the Legacy Space contributors; DWF provides training and resources annually. SLC has not yet participated in the training, but Shirley and Mary Ann receive the Legacy School toolkits for use at the college. Kayleigh also shared the digital link for the resources: <https://downiewenjack.ca/our-work/legacy-schools-programs/resources/>

DW Legacy Spaces are often in public spaces such as reception areas or break rooms. Kayleigh shared videos of other spaces. DWF also provides take-away materials for Legacy Spaces.

Ross updated the committee on the status of the SLC Legacy Spaces:

- Kingston: the seating area outside the Executive Suite
- Brockville: the main stairwell
- Cornwall: in the Aultsville theatre lobby

Helena suggested that the Fine Arts students be included in developing art for Legacy Spaces, and Mary Ann added that Graphic Design students could contribute as well. Ross advised that there will be a project committee to oversee the development of the SLC Legacy Spaces.

Kayleigh provided examples of how DWF assists organizations in creating more equitable workplaces.

5. Update on Indigenous Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

IEC accepted in principle the ILOs, which are now ready for formal acceptance; the acceptance ceremony will also likely to be a virtual event. Confederation College will assist with training and resources for curriculum developers; Shannon asked who the council believes should be at the formal acceptance.

Helena proposed that the IEC members all attend the formal acceptance ceremony, although the date is not yet confirmed.

Becky moved that once a date is made available, IEC members will attend. Shirley seconded this motion. No objections noted. Motion approved.

6. Discussion about IWKB work plan:

Goal 1: Leadership update from Glenn and Shelley

- elevating awareness of IWKB, and IDL
- establishing action priorities
- process for CET and college leadership accountability for moving the workplan goals forward.

Glenn advised that college leadership actions will be reported back to IEC, especially via the Action Plan. Concern was expressed over how senior leaders will connect with IEC members when there are only 4 meetings a year. The group agreed that additional meetings can be scheduled as required.

Head and heart work: challenging beliefs and attitudes

IEC supports bringing CET members to the table, but there is an expectation that leaders do some of the head and heart homework in incorporating IWKB into their actions; Glenn acknowledged that leaders struggle with not being sure of themselves.

It was suggested that the IEC focus on one or two actions at a time, and create a more defined timeline; use the breakout groups to establish deadlines.

Breakout group 1 (on-line group): establish work plan deadlines

- The online group worked on prioritizing long term goals: peer mentor program, deepening relationships between non-indigenous and indigenous to foster consensus of action, [indigenous] content courses, i.e. "Story of Indigenous People," Current Issues, Indigenous Storytelling, Healing Through Arts & Culture; Indigenous certificate program, deepening relationships with SLC communities.
- The IEC will move to advance the long-term goal priorities once IEC has heard back from CET.

Breakout group 2: select 2 short term goals to implement by 31 March 2023

- In-person group proposed advancing the DW Legacy Spaces by the end of the current fiscal year (Ross & Helena)
- Action plan for SLC staff participation in Kairos Blanket Exercise and Coursera Indigenous History course by the end of the current fiscal year (Shelley, Grant);
- Advance indigenous cultural visibility with flags or artwork (TBC: bring back to circle) by end of fiscal year

Shirley moved that the IEC supports the proposed short term goal priorities. Holly seconded the motion. No objections noted. Motion approved.

7. Membership

It was decided that the IEC will bring in community members as guests, to give them an opportunity to participate in the committee's work before deciding if they want a permanent role.

Suggestions were sought for additional community representation. Can Tyendinaga send an alternate if Heather Green is unable to attend? ACTION: Holly will connect with Heather to discuss additional representation.

Shirley moved that the IEC seek additional membership in the SLC communities.

Becky seconded the motion. No objections noted. Motion approved.

8. Other business

Wellbeing of indigenous staff – Becky Smoke

Becky asked the IEC to acknowledge that {collective we} need to take care of the wellbeing of indigenous staff. Do indigenous members have unmet needs? Having supports in place will help with recruiting and retaining indigenous employees.

ACTION: IEC members will send suggestions with Tracy to be aggregated and shared with IEC

9. Next meeting

The next meeting of the IEC will take place on Cornwall campus. February 2023 is the suggested date, pending availability of the members.

ACTION: Tracy will send out an email poll with possible dates.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM by Glenn, with thanks to the co-chairs, and for everyone's participation.