



# NORTHERN COLLEGE INDIGENOUS COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

## Minutes

**Date: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 1:00 p.m.**

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Present: Lillian Trapper (Chair), Audrey J. Penner, Laura Flood, Dorothy Larkman, Melanie Verreault, and Sharon Nate

Resource: Doug MacDougall, Cam McEachren, Joe Nakogee, Susan Hunter, and Christine Heavens, Caitlyn Lefebvre, William Small, Monique Lafond, Hope Kooses

Guest: Mike Metatawabin (Wawatay)

Regrets: Kathy Cheechoo

### 1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1:00 p.m.

(a) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY- L. Trapper, Chair

(b) WELCOME – L. Trapper, Chair

(c) INTRODUCTIONS –NONE

(d) PRESIDENT’S UPDATE – A. Penner –Reports (attachments) from Senior Management including:

- Glenn MacDougall (Acting VP of Academics and Student Success)
- Mitch Dumas (VP of Corporate Services)
- Cam McEachern (Executive Director of Student Services, Institutional Research and Registrar)
- Christine Heavens (Executive Director of Business Development and Employment Services)
- Susan Hunter (Director of Marketing, Communications and External Relations)

Lillian asked what will happen to Laurention University and Northern College’s partnership since Laurention is closing. NC is looking into other universities that had a previous relationship with NC. One big hurdle is that NC does not have the capacity requirement for faculty in nursing to have a PhD in Nursing.

### 2. AGENDA

(a) MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Correct spelling error under 1(c) Wuban to Wabun

(b) ADOPTION

Moved by: Melanie Verreault

Seconded by: Sharon Nate

THAT the agenda for the Meeting of the Northern College Indigenous Council dated April 8th, 2021, be adopted with revisions/with additions/as presented.

### 3. DIALOGUE WITH SENIOR MANAGEMENT

*(Questions for Senior Management arising from attachment)*

- Glenn MacDougall, Acting Vice President, Academics and Student Success
- Mitch Dumas, Vice President, Corporate Services
- Cam McEachern, Executive Director, Student Services, Institutional Research and Registrar
  - o Cam explained the difference between direct (enrolled right out of high school) and indirect entry (out of high school 2 or more years)
- Christine Heavens, Executive Director, Community, Business Development and Employment Services
  - o Explained which projects were accepted and which is still pending shown on “Proposals for Funding and Training” chart. Approved proposals are shown as green under the column “Project Secured”
- Susan Hunter, Director, Marketing, Communications and External Relations

### 4. STANDING ITEMS

(a) RESOURCE REPORTS –(attachment)

1. Diane Ryder, Campus Manager
2. Willard Small, Indigenous Student Advisor
3. Joseph Nakogee, Indigenous Student Advisor
4. Monique Lafond, Indigenous Student Advisor
5. Hope Kooses, Indigenous Recruiter and Pathways Navigator
6. Caitlyn Lefebvre, Indigenous Liaison Officer – Sharon Nate would like to meet with Caitlyn or someone from the College about the Conversational Cree course being offered through NTD. Mattawa is developing a language revitalization program using the Maori method. Mattawa Tribal Council develop a one-year certificate program and is in the middle of developing a two-year program and then a third year for a Bachelor of Arts.

(b) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (attachment)

(Meeting Held on January 19<sup>th</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021)

Moved by: Laura Flood

Seconded by: Melanie Verreault

THAT the minutes of the meeting held January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, be adopted with revisions/ as presented.

Moved by: Audrey Penner

Seconded by: Melanie Verreault

THAT the minutes of the meeting held March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, be adopted with revisions/ as presented.

(c) BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Territory Acknowledgement – New acknowledgement added to the four campuses as follows:

Acknowledge the territorial lands of the Ojibwa Cree, Algonquin and region #3 of the Metis peoples' homeland.

Christine Heavens asked about the Territory Acknowledgement when visiting/working outside any of the four campuses catchment area. It would be up to the employee to find out if there is a Territory Acknowledgement statement, which would be used while visiting in another location outside Northern College's catchment area. If there is no Territory Acknowledgement then the employee would be advised to contact the local Tribal Council or the PTO (ex NAN). A new procedure for employees, staff and faculty of Northern College will be added to the College's Territory Acknowledgement.

2. Terms of Reference – Dorothy Larkman volunteered to be on the Executive Committee as Vice Chair. There is still an open seat that is required for the Executive Committee.
3. Update from EDITF on deliverables and terminology – PowerPoint (Appendix A) presentation was presented to the Council.

Questions or comments on the presentation are:

- For slide # 4 – add another bullet that how history has impacted Indigenous peoples today, an understanding of what Indigenous peoples went through and how their culture was impacted by its history.
- Presentation will be emailed to committee members

4. Wawatay- update from Mike Metatawabin

Wawatay is looking to digitize oral histories recorded from Indigenous peoples. The recordings are analog and Wawatay wants to be able to preserve these recordings before they are lost. Recordings date back to 1984 and they are still recording today. The recordings contain stories of our communities, of our people, and of our Elders. Its on our language and history, teachings and legends.

An MOU between Northern College and Wawatay was shared at the previous meeting in March. The MOU will have both a signature line for Northern College's President & CEO and the Chair of NCICE.

A concern was mentioned that the MOU did not have First Nations OCAP principles. It was brought to attention that Northern College never claims ownership of intellegial property, the property will always remain with whoever brought the property to Northern College.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) Virtual Pow Wow – the powwow committee is looking to hold a virtual powwow late September or early October. The aim is to have the event during Cultural Awareness week (usually 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September) Participants who will be drumming, dancing, speaking etc. will do so within their own homes or in small groups. This would be a live event through Zoom that is live streamed to Facebook. This would help anyone who is unable to view event through a Zoom link. This would not replace the annual powwow.
- (b) Sacred Garden – this idea was put forward by Joanne Alvarez from AlgomaU to build a site where sacred plants such as sage, tobacco, cedar and sweetgrass can be grown to facilitate teachings. The location is tentatively set in front of Timmins campus' atrium and hopefully break ground for the site spring of '22. A letter of invite will be drafted and sent to the community who might be interested in joining the committee.
- (c) Indigenous education for all- update from Glenn MacDougall on how we can assure all learners study Indigenous history/culture. ....  
Northern College is wanting to ensure all college graduates, whether it be a certificate or diploma are made more aware of Indigenous culture and working with Indigenous Peoples.

This will be by means of additional general education electives, some will be mandated within the program and others will be as electives. There is currently 20 general electives and another 10 that is in the process of being developed for Northern College. Outdated electives are in the process of being updated as well.

The Skills Catalyst Program fund for the municipal accelerator program in partnership with Northern College provides micro-credentials to individuals. Ray and Mercer from Sudbury developed a 20 our module on Building Relations with Indigenous Partners. Another contract with them to build an adult additional 25 hours on Indigenous learning and Cultural Awareness general education course.

These are online general ed electives which is a choice students have. Discussions are still being held with program Dean to determine should they be incorporated into every course in some aspect or be a unique course onto itself.

This is part of the college's Strategic plan, now in the process of determining how to get it done, for example if built into the program that already has 24 courses, what is taken away to insert this course.

The list of courses offered at Northern College has Indigenous Relation right at the bottom. The selection process can be changed to it no longer appears at the bottom of the list. Pursing micro credentials to offer students courses outside of their program which will be on their transcript.

Would like to have the Indigenous courses acknowledged by First Nations if possible. This might be endorsed by one Indigenous community but not liked by another. The more Indigenous communities, councils and individuals who are part of the process means bringing different perspectives and knowledge.

Moving the courses from elective to a mandatory course will only improve society.

**6. MEETING CONCLUSION**

(a) CLOSING COMMENTS – Audrey thanked everyone for their hard work and informed committee that Stephanie Tamming will be join the Indigenous Services team.

Lillian would like to receive all documents at least one week before meeting.

All documents will be added to the invite.

Senior Management reports and resource reports will be part of the meeting's agenda (also sent with invite) and questions can be asked on the reports during the next NCICE meeting.

(b) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – future items will be emailed to Armanda

Approval of the revised Territory Acknowledgement needs to be completed before the next Board of Governors meeting, complete process to be done by May 21<sup>st</sup>.

(c) NEXT MEETING – September 2021 – doodle poll will be sent out mid-August