

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Committee Name:** Indigenous Circle on Education (ICE) **Date of Meeting:** December 17, 2021 **School/Department:** Indigenous Studies (IS)

**Members Present:** Jonathan Boyer-Nolan, Chair (Nogdawindamin Family and Community Services); Marnie Yourchuk, (North Shore Tribal Council); Kim Falcigno (Oshki-Wenjack); Stephanie Roy (Kenjgewin Teg); Crystal Derochie (Indigenous Friendship Centre); Thomas Kakapshe, (Neech-Ke-Wehn Homes); Christine Sayers (Batchewana First Nation)

**Regrets:** Dr. Common (President); David Oraziotti (Dean of Environment, Technology, and Business); Ted Recollet (Elder-in-Residence); Gloria Harris (Missanabie Cree First Nation); Jennifer Fletcher (Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians); Mindy Taylor (Anishinabek Nation - AEI); Melissa Hurley (Metis Nation of Ontario); Jerrell Bighead (Indigenous Student Union); Darryl Williams-Jones, Vice-Chair (Garden River First Nation)

**College Resource Present:** Colin Kirkwood (Vice President Academic and Research); Marilyn King (Dean, Health and Community Services); Carolyn Hepburn (Dean, Indigenous Studies and Academic Upgrading); Barbara Nolan (Elder-in-Residence); Barb Bringleston (Senior Manager Strategic and Executive Relations); Dianne Tian-Agawa (Assistant to the Dean, Indigenous Studies and Academic Upgrading)

**Quorum:** Yes


**Next Meeting:** TBD

ITEMS FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

- (1) Specify a request to meet with a sub-committee of the Board of Governors—provide agenda topic(s), background information, recommendation(s) made, and any action taken to date.
- (2) Specify a request for written direction and/or approval—provide background information, recommendation(s) made, and any action taken to date.
- (3) Describe significant points of interest for Board information.

Use space below to complete (1), (2), and/or (3) only as warranted:

March 1, 2022  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

DTA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Meeting Recorder

<b>AGENDA ITEMS/ HIGHLIGHTS</b>	<b>FURTHER DISCUSSION/ RECOMMENDATIONS MADE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
Welcome	J. Boyer-Nolan welcomed everyone.	
Opening Prayer	Elder B. Nolan opened the meeting with a prayer.	
Review and Approval of December 17, 2021 Agenda	Members reviewed the December 17, 2021 agenda.	Motion to accept December 17, 2021 agenda made by Thomas Kakapshe. Seconded by Christine Sayers. Moved.
Review and Approval of June 29, 2021 Meeting Notes	Members reviewed the June 29, 2021 meeting notes.	Motion to accept June 29, 2021 meeting notes made by Thomas Kakapshe. Seconded by Crystal Derochie. Moved.
Review and Approval of September 1, 2021 Meeting Notes	Members reviewed the September 1, 2021 meeting notes.	Motion to accept September 1, 2021 meeting notes made by Thomas Kakapshe. Seconded by Christine Sayers. Moved.
ICE Terms of Reference	<p>The final draft of the ICE Terms of Reference as developed by the sub-committee was reviewed by members. J. Boyer-Nolan asked members if they had any further recommended changes.</p> <p>A conversation occurred as to whether the Elders-in Residence should be ex-officio or voting ICE members. Previously, Elder B. Nolan expressed her preference to be considered a voting member. It was discussed whether the Elders-in-Residence are college employees or independent consultants who provide a service to the college. ICE members present determined they would like the Elders to serve as voting members if possible. It was suggested that B. Nolan serve as a primary and T. Recollet as an alternate.</p>	D. Tian-Agawa will send an electronic vote to members re: Elders as ex-officio or voting ICE member.

	<p>A conversation occurred regarding Michipicoten First Nation’s seat. There has not been a representative from Michipicoten First Nation at ICE meetings in quite some time.</p> <p>Some of the changes made by the ICE working committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revising the name from the Indigenous Circle on Education to Indigenous Education Council</li> <li>• Changing “committee” to “council”</li> <li>• Meeting schedule revised to a minimum of four quarterly meetings per year; subcommittees may be created based on identified workplace needs and priorities</li> <li>• College Deans were added as ex-officio members</li> <li>• A seat for Nogdawindamin was added</li> </ul>	<p>C. Hepburn will reach out to Michipicoten First Nation to determine if they wish to retain their seat on ICE.</p>
<p>Traditional Land Acknowledgement</p>	<p>ICE members reviewed the proposed Sault College Land Acknowledgement.</p> <p><i>We are grateful to Mother Earth for providing us the land, water, air, and food needed to sustain all life, and we acknowledge Indigenous Peoples as the original stewards of this land who have lived in harmony and in respect with all Creation. As we are all relations, it is important to recognize this interconnected relationship with one another and our obligation to respect the land that has nourished, healed, protected, and embraced us. We honour Batchewana and Garden River First Nations as the original caretakers of the land that Sault College is situated on and acknowledge the contributions of the historical Metis Nation of SSM in the stewardship of this territory.</i></p> <p>Members were pleased with the overall Land Acknowledgement but suggested the following revisions:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize historical names of territories</li> <li>• Acknowledge treaties. Add “located in the Robertson-Huron Treaty territory” at the beginning</li> </ul> <p>C. Hepburn shared she would like to create a video to accompany the land acknowledgement.</p>	<p>C. Hepburn will make the revisions and send out to members for their review and approval.</p>
<p>College Updates</p>	<p>C. Kirkwood shared details regarding the approach being taken for winter delivery. Initially, it was planned the college for the most part would return to normal operations with students studying on-campus. However, COVID-19 numbers have escalated, and public health authorities are indicating that students should not be invited back to campus. As a result, the college has reverted to remote delivery. Students who have a practical component to their program will continue to access the college observing covid-19 safety protocols. C. Kirkwood added that everyone who is on-campus is required to be fully vaccinated.</p> <p>C. Kirkwood advised that negotiations with faculty have been taking place since summer. Last week, the faculty union had an opportunity to vote either to support a strike or vote against the strike. Although the support for a strike locally at Sault College was the second lowest in the province, provincially, 59% of faculty who voted supported the strike. The faculty union is in a legal position to begin labor actions. The labor actions at this point are not expected to be a walkout; what is being discussed is some work to rule and some rotating walkouts. Specific details are not currently available. It is anticipated that additional information will be available in January.</p> <p>C. Kirkwood shared that he hosts a monthly faculty forum. The meetings serve to allow for discussion of college strategy, for college faculty and staff to give feedback, and for interaction/socialization. The forums are very well attended</p>	

	<p>and foster a strong sense of community. This fall, it was decided there would be a standing agenda item relating to Indigenous issues to discuss a variety of things in response to truth and reconciliation. Guest speakers will present on different issues; C. Hepburn and Elder B. Nolan have already presented, and it has been a positive experience for everybody.</p>	
<p>Indigenous Studies Update Report</p>	<p>C. Hepburn gave an overview of Indigenous Studies update report. The report was distributed to members. Key highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On November 4, 2021, Sault College and Nogdawindamin Family and Community Services entered</li> <li>• into a new Memorandum of Understanding. The department continues to facilitate activities to support the objectives of the MOU</li> <li>• Garden River First Nation Niin Wigwamis (My Little House) Initiative: Sault College has been approached to provide potential training to community members to construct the units. Work remains ongoing</li> <li>• Garden River First Nation – FedNor Jobs and Growth Development Fund: Proposal submitted to provide in-community training in the areas of renewable energy and wastewater/water treatment</li> <li>• Pikangikum First Nation – FedNor Jobs and Growth Development Fund: Proposal submitted to provide in-community training in areas of carpentry, electrical and plumbing and automotive technician</li> <li>• Indian Friendship Centre Sault Ste. Marie facilitated \$10,000 donation to the Sault College Student Union food bank</li> <li>• Algoma University/Shingwauk Kinoomage Gamig: Proposal successfully submitted to the Ontario College Micro-credential Fund to create a suite of micro-credentials based on identified community need</li> </ul>	

	<p>ACADEMIC AGREEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New 2 + 2 agreement signed with St. Paul’s University allowing SSW-Indigenous Specialization graduates to enter the 3rd year St. Paul’s Honours B.A. in Human Relations and Spirituality program. Reciprocal pathway currently being finalized</li> <li>• Discussions ongoing with Algoma University regarding a 2 + 2 agreement between Sault College’s SSW-Indigenous Specialization program and Algoma University’s Bachelor of Social Work program</li> <li>• Updated MOU developed with Kenjgewin Teg for the delivery of Sault College’s Anishinaabemowin Program</li> <li>• Currently updating/finalizing MOUs with AEI and SGEI</li> </ul>	
ICE Strategic Planning Discussion	<p>A conversation occurred regarding departmental needs in terms of available resources and staffing. C. Hepburn shared that there are no funds for positions that are needed and current staff are working at capacity. Potential initiatives such as curriculum development and additional student supports are hindered without the needed resources.</p> <p>J. Boyer-Nolan suggested the formation of sub-committees to address and find potential solutions/develop plans regarding departmental needs. ICE requested that a “wish list” be prepared and shared to outline specific challenges and needs.</p>	
Next Meeting	<p>The next ICE meeting will be held toward the end of January or early February 2022. Date to be determined. C. Hepburn stated she would like to schedule 2022 ICE meetings for the year.</p>	
Closing Prayer	<p>Elder B. Nolan closed the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:00am.</p>	