

## October 2, 2023 OIEC Advisors Committee Meeting Summary

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**In Attendance:** Denise Baxter; Dr. Kristin Burnett; Daniel Cox; Lisa Harris (Chair); Dr. Jula Hughes; Mercedes Jacko; Dr. Rhonda Koster; Dr. Brigitte Leblon; Keira Loukes; Sheryl O'Reilly; Jerri-Lynn Orr; Lisa Primavesi (Vice-Chair); Dr. Todd Randall; Dr. David Richards; Dr. Chander Shahi; Larissa Speak; Andrea Tarsitano

**Not in Attendance:** James Aldridge; Dr. Elizabeth Birmingham; Brandon Chevrier; Anna Chief; Dr. Paul Cormier; Fiona Farquhar; Christopher Glover; Dr. Wayne Melville; Heather Moynihan; Dr. Christopher Mushquash; Dr. Lana Ray; Dr. Mirella Stroink; Robin Sutherland; Dr. Michelle-Marie Spadoni; Dr. Juan Sanchez Martinez; Dr. Sharla Mskokii Peltier; Yolanda Twance

**Administrative Resources in Attendance:** Marcie Morrison (Secretary)

**Invited Guest:** Roshni Antony - Associate Vice-President, Human Resources (Lakehead University)

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### Update from the Committee Chair

The Chair highlighted the focus of the Committee's work for the 2023-24 term:

- Indigenous students/student services
- continuation of the Advisors Committee terms of reference review
- reviews of University wide policies at every meeting

To ensure meaningful discussion and problem solving, all members were encouraged to attend all Committee meetings this term. It was noted that members may send a designate.

November 14, 2023 Meeting Focus and Timing (9:00am-12:00pm):

The Chair noted that this meeting has been extended by one hour, beginning at 9:00am (ET), to accommodate the important presentations and discussions planned:

- Strategic Enrolment Management Presentation (Andrea Tarsitano and James Aldridge)
- Nijji Indigenous Mentorship Program Presentation (Lisa Harris)
- Indigenous Access Programs Presentation (Lisa Primavesi)

### Update from the Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives

An update on the Indigenous Content Requirement initiative was provided.

### Joint SAC/OIEC Sub-Committee Update

On April 20, 2023 the OIEC Advisors Committee approved the following reappointments:

- Wendy Parks, for the term commencing July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
- Jessica Metcalfe, for the term commencing July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

## **New Indigenous Verification Policy Presentation and Consultation**

Highlights from the presentation that was provided included:

- background information
- list of similar policies from other universities
- consultation plan/groups

To begin the consultation, the group was asked the following questions:

- What would you recommend be included in the verification process?
- How do we ensure that spaces for Indigenous people are protected?
- What are the grey areas to be mindful of?

Following a discussion, members were invited to send additional feedback directly to Denise Baxter and/or Roshni Antony for consideration.

## **Advisors Committee Terms of Reference Review - Round Table Discussion**

A memo outlining the review process to date, and that included the first draft of proposed revised OIEC Advisors Committee Terms of Reference was circulated with the meeting package. Members were invited to leave feedback directly in the feedback document in advance of the meeting, and had the opportunity to share feedback during the meeting. The following recommendations were made:

- In addition to the Vice-Provost's portfolio, consider including other portfolios to the membership, such as External Relations and Administration and Finance (e.g. residence, security, etc also support students).
- Consider adding student(s) to the membership.
- Given the scope of internal topics primarily related to academics and student services, would it be more appropriate for the committee to be advisory to the Provost? The Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives also reports to the Provost directly, so this might be more expedient.

Deadline to submit feedback is October 18, 2023.

## **Nanabijou Child Care Centre - Round Table Discussion**

The following concerns with regards to daycare needs of Lakehead students at the Nanabijou Child Care Centre were brought to the group's attention:

- there is a child care crisis at Lakehead
- it was reported by the Indigenous Student Counsellor - Indigenous Student Services Centre, that there are six students planning to leave their programs this week because of childcare issues
- LUSU has a legal agreement with the centre - students pay an annual fee that goes directly to the child care centre, yet the services don't seem to be available to Lakehead students
- hours of operation are traditional and don't align with students schedules
- the Indigenous Student Counsellor - Indigenous Student Services Centre, has made multiple attempts to connect with center to request information on child care enrollment numbers related to Lakehead students
- the Indigenous Student Counsellor - Indigenous Stu

## **Sharing Circle**

Members were invited to share information about projects, work, accomplishments, concerns, upcoming events, etc., happening within their departments. Highlights included:

- Lakehead Civil Engineering PhD student Tristen Brown has been awarded the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, one of the most prestigious national awards for doctoral students.
- growth of the Indigenous Access Programs this year
- MOU with Rainy River First Nations - will be on campus to meet with the Deans
- Radio Hall initiative
- September 30 Day of Truth and Reconciliation events at Lakehead
- The Right Honourable David Johnston visit to campus on October 2, 2023dent Services Centre is working with the LUSU President to address all of these concerns and to get answers

The Vice-Provost (Students) and Registrar has agreed to bring these concerns to the attention of the Strategic Enrolment Management Steering Committee. All members were encouraged to raise awareness on this issue in their respective departments.

It was suggested that individual(s) from the Nanabijou Child Care Centre be invited to a future Advisors Committee meeting for further discussion.

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#### **Items Received for Information**

- Universities Canada's Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation
- Report from the Office of Indigenous Initiatives
- Report from the Chair on Truth and Reconciliation
- Draft Minutes of the April 3, 2023 Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council Meeting

The next Advisors Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on November 14, 2023, from 9:00am to 12:00pm (ET).

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