



CHARTING OUR OWN PATH FORWARD
Education Forum 2018

**COOPF Background and
Report Back**

January 16 – 18, 2018 Chelsea Hotel

BRIEF BACKGROUND

Mandate Focus for COOPF Initiative

- ***Resolution 12/12*** – directs FNECU to work with First Nations to develop recommendations to the Chiefs in Assembly on systems and funding mechanisms
- ***Resolution 13/46*** – provides context on First Nation position on our inherent jurisdiction over education

Previous Activity

- Environmental Scan
- Focus Group Sessions
- Education Officer Gatherings
- Large Gatherings – Symposiums, Summit and Forums
- COO Website – Member’s Forum

Current Activity

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sep 2017 | Develop Engagement Guide |
| Oct – Nov 2017 | Grassroots Engagement |
| Dec 2017 | Coordinator Roll-up |
| Jan 2018 | Province-wide Forum - Toronto |
| Feb – Mar 2018 | Grassroots Engagement |
| Apr 2018 | Coordinator Roll-up |
| May 1-3, 2018 | Province-wide Forum – Thunder Bay |
| Late May 2018 | Final Roll-up |
| June 2018 | Recommendations |

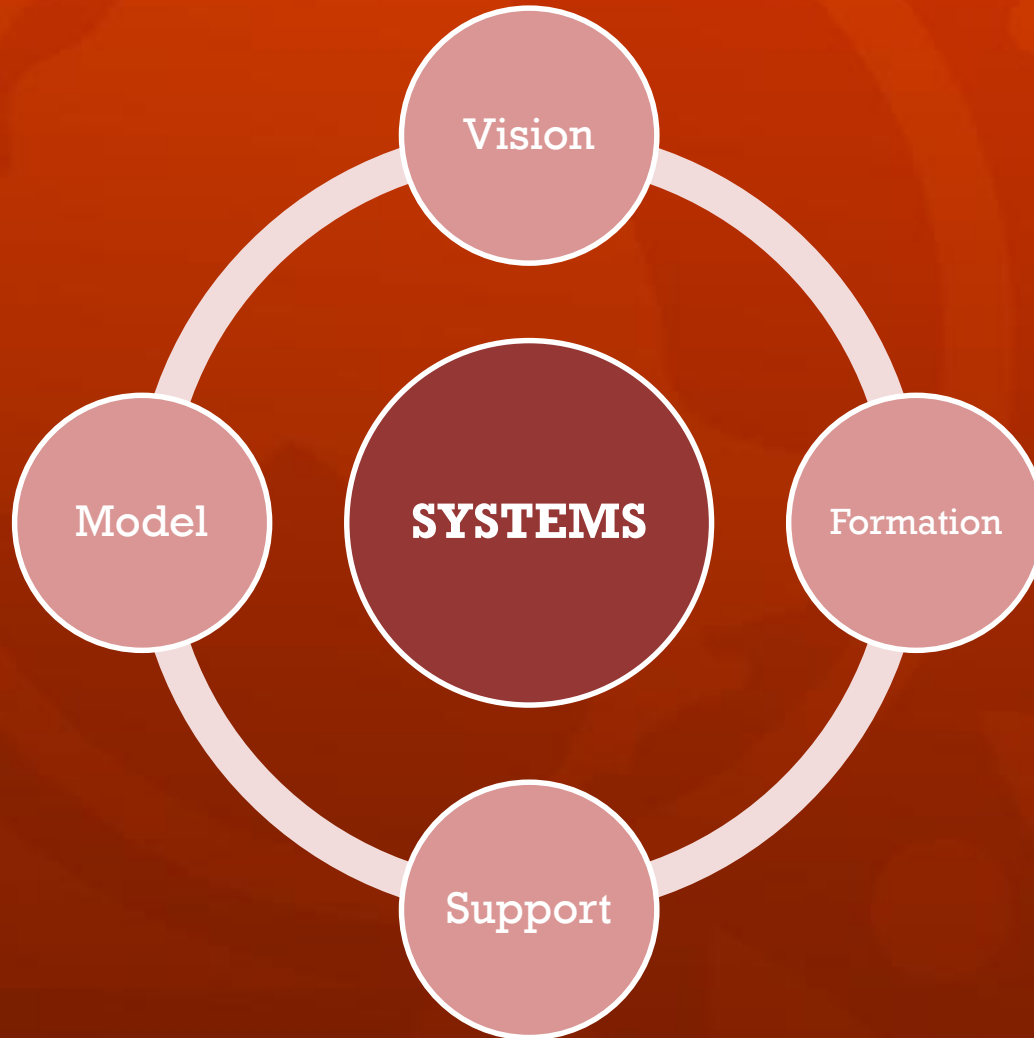
COOPF Living Document

- Evergreen (living) document
 - Provides context
 - Embraces a spirit of unity, vision and organic evolution
 - Synthesizes collective input to date
 - Ideas and options on systems and funding utilizing the Support Circles Framework lens
- COOPF 2018 document (available for next round of engagement Feb/Mar)

Community Engagement Process

- Facilitated by PTOs/IFN/COO
- Engagement guide - Systems Focused discussions
 - In anticipation of necessity to focus on funding for Feb/Mar (MC)

Focus Areas of Engagement



Community Engagement Participation

3 PTO's conducted sessions and submitted engagement reports:

- Anishinabek Nation
 - November 21 & 23
- Grand Council Treaty #3
 - November 28 – 30
- Association of Iroquois & Allied Indians
 - December 14

REPORT BACK

Consistent Themes

1. First Nations control over First Nation Education is an inherent right that must be recognized.
2. First Nations require decision-making autonomy in developing education systems that meets the needs of our communities.

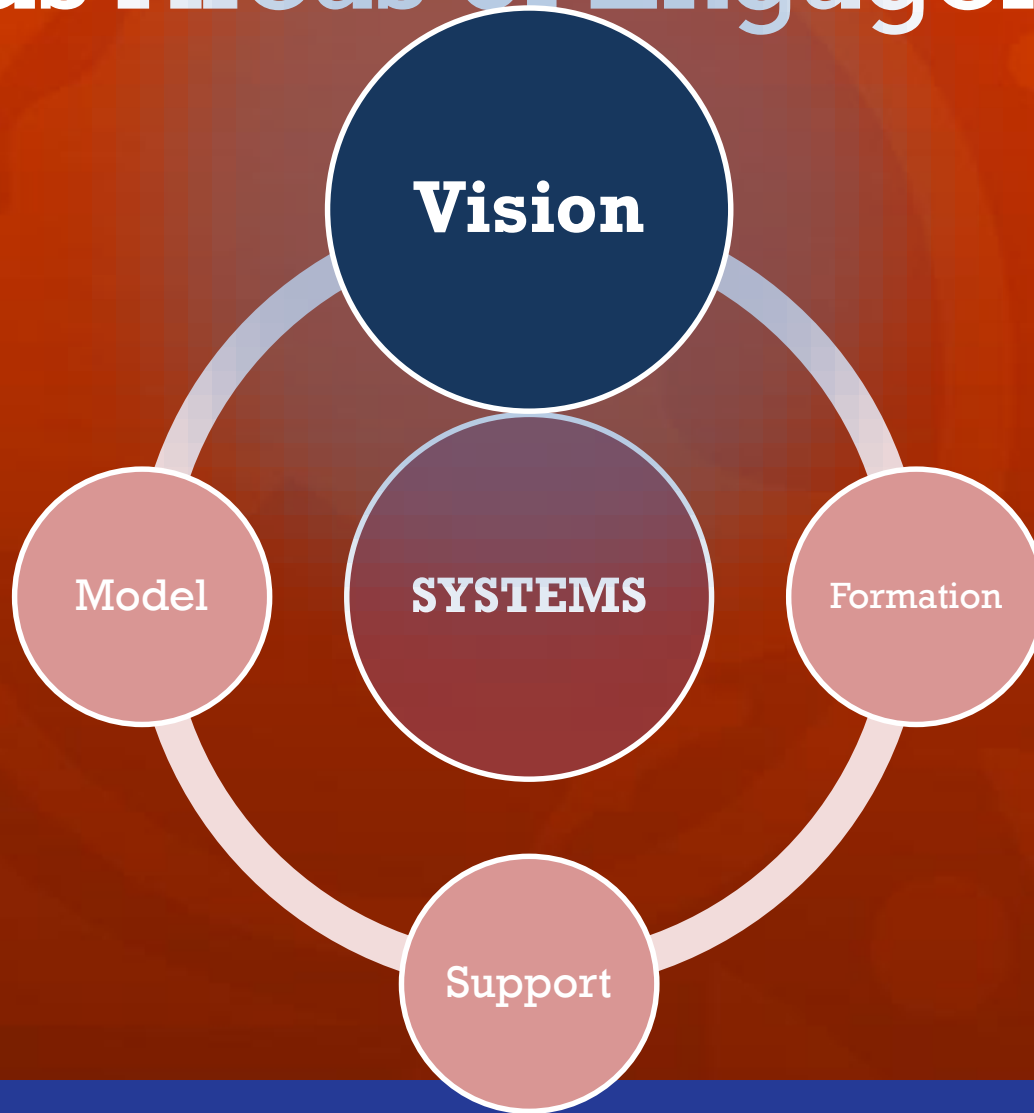
Consistent Themes

3. Effective and successful First Nation Education systems must be rooted in our own culture, language and teachings.
4. First Nations capacity development is necessary to develop, nurture and maintain First Nations education systems.

Consistent Themes

5. Diversity of Nations, regions, languages and culture must be recognized and honoured in systems development.
6. The Memorandum to Cabinet will alter the course for the future work of Charting Our Own Path Forward.

Focus Areas of Engagement



Vision Statement

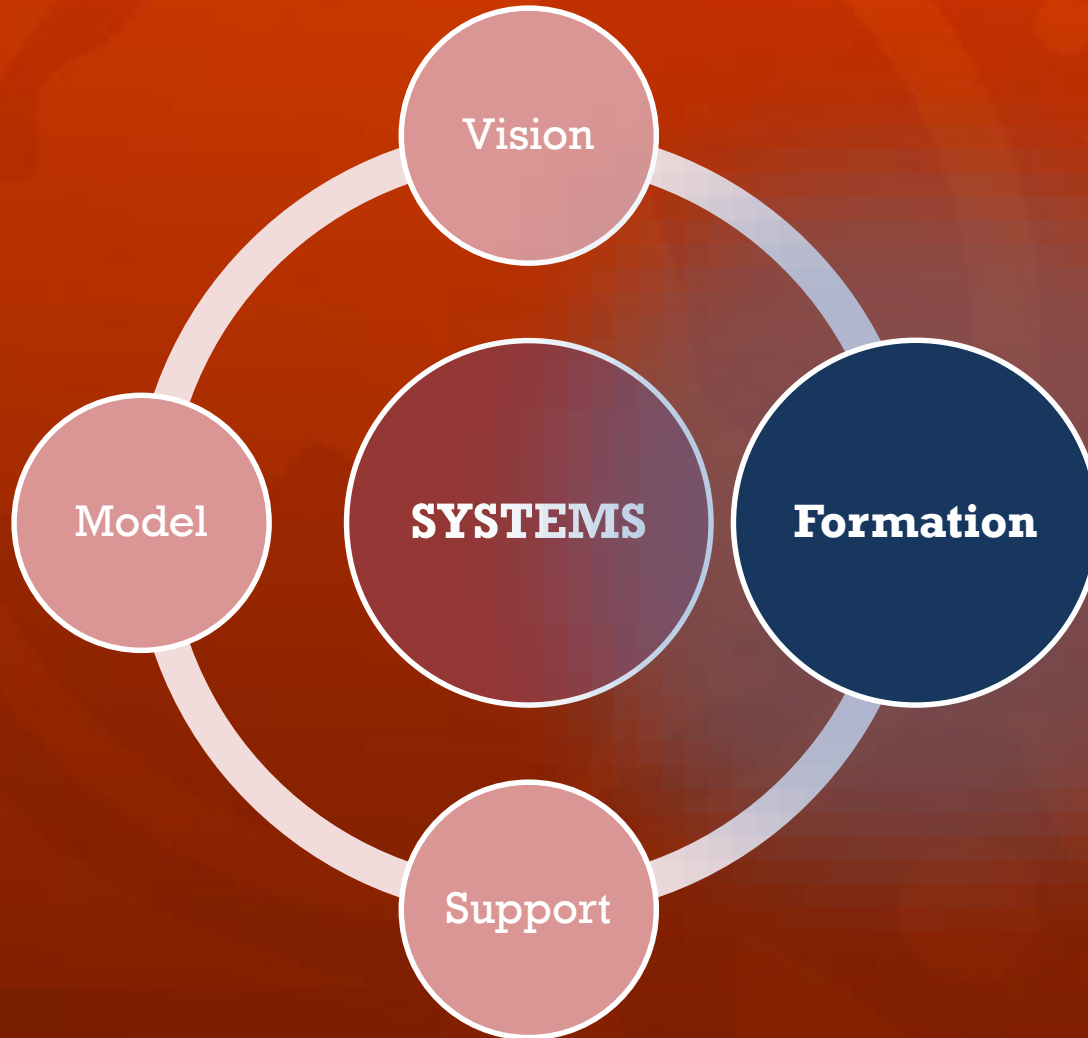
“As First Nations people, our lifelong learning systems ~~is~~ are embedded in the knowledge of our ancestors, our language, ways of being, ceremonies and connections to the land.

We are united, obligated and committed to maintain our inherent jurisdiction over the education of our people; ensuring the empowerment and success of future generations, grounded in our identity as the original people of this land.”

Future Considerations

1. The vision needs to be shorter.
2. Are we united?
3. Are we obligated?
4. Should we include nationhood?
5. Does the vision statement conflict with community vision statements on education?

Focus Areas of Engagement



SINGLE FIRST NATION SYSTEM

PRO's

- Autonomous decision making
- Control, ownership, independence
- Culture, language specific to FN

CON's

- Limits financial resources
- Less expertise, resources, ideas, access to services
- Limited capacity in communities
- Changing vision of FN leadership
- Can minimize accountability factors

COLLECTIVE SYSTEM

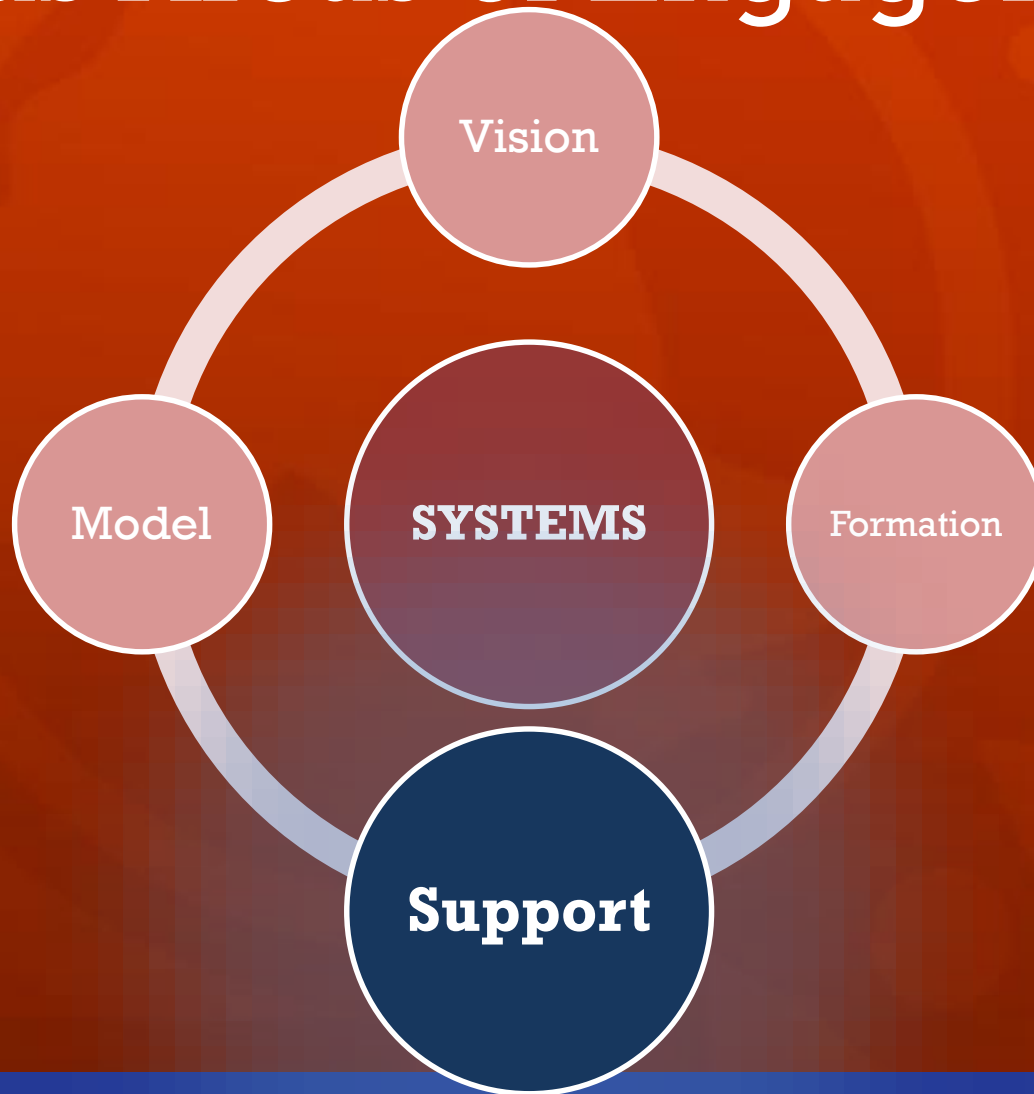
PRO's

- Strength in numbers, stronger voice
- Financial benefits
- Larger pool of resources, services, expertise
- Meets local specific needs
- Boosts regional economic growth
- Creates transparency

CON's

- Loss of decision making autonomy
- Uniqueness of communities compromised
- Shared financial resources (less to go around)
- Accountability to communities lessens

Focus Areas of Engagement



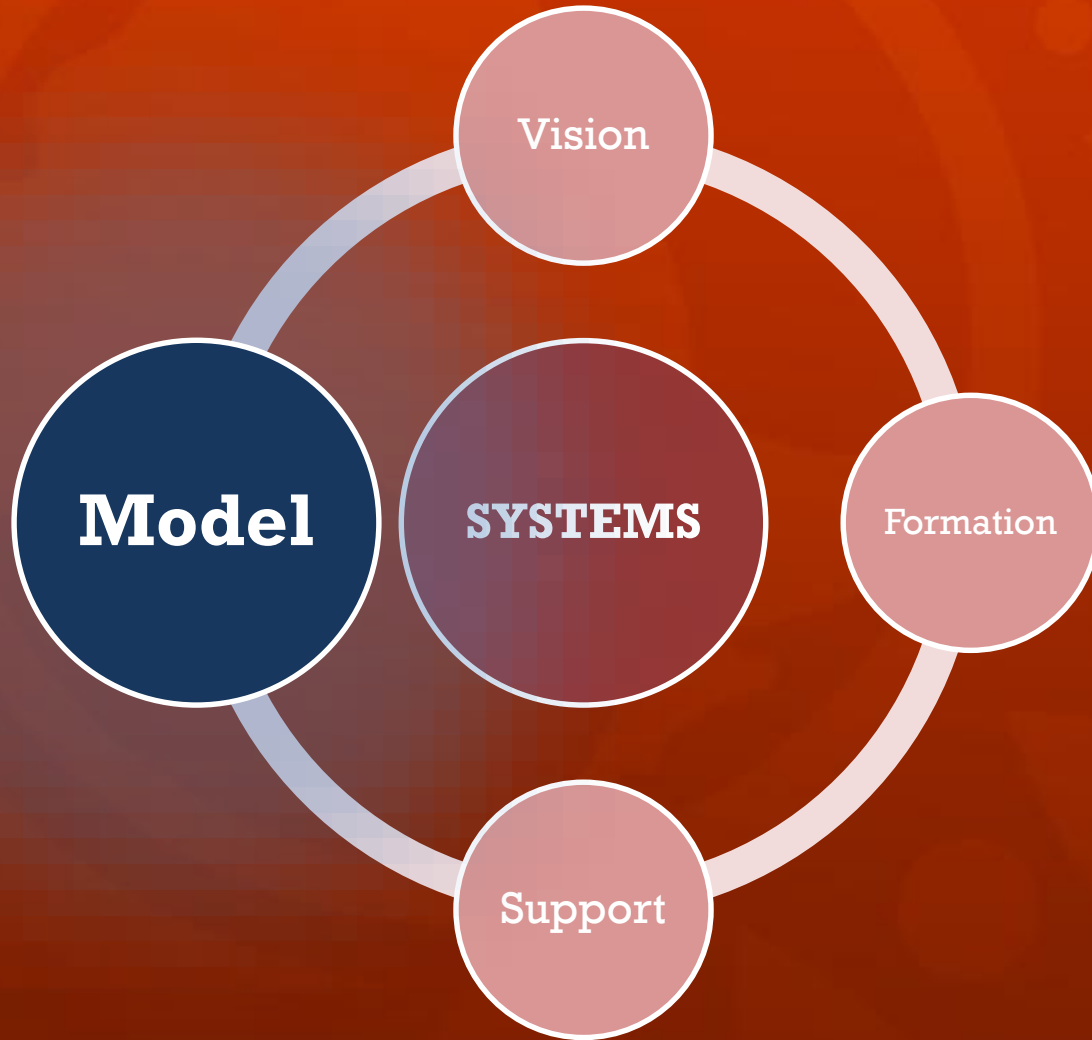
Levels of Support

- Varying levels, access and availability of supports in communities
- There is need in all communities
- Capacity development is the barrier and the solution

Possible 4th Level of Support

- Benefit to share information and advocate
- Must have clearly defined roles and responsibilities
- Cannot interfere with treaties or inherent rights
- Cannot take funding from communities

Focus Areas of Engagement



Graphic Model

- A lot of challenges were reflected regarding the graphic
 - Difficult to capture in a graphic until systems evolve organically
 - Will retain records of all input and make revisions at a later date

Forum

Living Document

2nd Round of Engagement

NEXT STEPS

Forum

- Presentation on Memorandum to Cabinet focusing on implications and next steps
- Breakout discussions will focus on strength-based approaches to community priorities and needs

Living Document

- The COOPF 2017 Living Document will be updated with input received from Fall 2017 engagement and this Forum
- Updated version (COOPF 2018) will be circulated during Feb/Mar grassroots engagement for discussion and input

2nd Round of Engagement

- Provide updates on the activities related to the Memorandum to Cabinet
- Obtain input on the supports required by communities regarding the implications of the Memorandum to Cabinet
- Inform the subject matter to be discussed at the May 2018 COOPF Forum in Thunder Bay and the formulation of recommendations to the Chiefs in Assembly (June 2018)

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