



CHARTING OUR OWN PATH FORWARD
Education Forum 2018

First Nation Lifelong Learning
Table (FNLLT):
Engagement Overview

Wednesday January 17, 2018

FNLLT Background

- A bilateral process between the province and First Nations in Ontario to ensure the unique needs of First Nation learners are met in the provincial education system.
- Work is guided by a jointly developed 3-Year Strategic Plan and a Terms of Reference.

3-Year Strategy

- Designed to incorporate First Nations as full partners in the design, development, implementation and analysis, on a yearly cycle, of the necessary tools, projects and programs required to fully support First Nation learners (lifelong learning) in the provincial education system.

Mutual Priorities

Overarching Priority:

Partnership/Relationship Protocol

- 1. Relationships**
- 2. Languages and Culture**
- 3. Curriculum**
- 4. Information, Access and Accountability**
- 5. Policy Development**

FIRST NATIONS IN ONTARIO

CORE MEMBERS



FNECU



COO
Education
Unit



EDU
(includes
EYD)



MAESD
(TBD)

CENTRAL POLICY AND PLANNING CIRCLE

AS REQUIRED:



First Nation
Trustees
Council



SHEJ



Other
Ministries

FUNCTION

- ▶ Meet monthly
- ▶ Set priorities
- ▶ Establish timelines and work plans
- ▶ Establish communications protocol (internal/external)
- ▶ Identify task team activities

RC, CCOLL,
EDU/ MAESD
(TBD)

CONNECTIONS

- ▶ Share information with minister's advisory councils and other Steering Committees as required.

Meets
Biannually

STEERING COMMITTEE

CPPC Internal Task Teams

1. Development of Partnership/Relationship Protocol
 - Develops and maintains the protocol that guides all activities associated with the FNLLT
2. Development of Engagement Strategy
 - Determines the best avenue to obtain input on priorities and focus areas
3. Research
 - Determines research requirements to inform FNLLT activities

Year 1 Engagement Timeline

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

Grassroots Engagement

- Led by Provincial Territorial Organizations (PTO), Independent First Nations, and the Chiefs of Ontario
 - First Nation Lifelong Learning Table Coordinators
- Engagement Guides included information and questions related to each of the mutual priorities and associated focus areas

Grassroots Engagement cont'd

Fall 2017 Sessions

- Nishnawbe Aski Nation - October 16, 17, 2017
Thunder Bay
- Anishinabek Nation - November 21, 2017
Sault Ste. Marie
- Anishinabek Nation - November 23, 2017
Toronto
- Grand Council Treaty #3 - Nov 29, 30 and Dec 1, 2017
Winnipeg
- Association of Iroquois & Allied Indians - Nov 30, 2017
London

Outcomes of Fall 2017 Engagement

What is Working Well

- First Nation Trustees are more involved in Indigenous Education Advisory Councils and District School Boards.
- District School Boards:
 - Provide more information between bands, school boards and parents;
 - regularly visit schools, staff and all students;
- First Nations have more input in the planning process.

Outcomes of Fall 2017 Engagement

What is Working Well

- Open communication between school boards, bands, and parents.
- There have been improvements to the curriculum regarding the history of First Nations peoples.
 - In response to TRC Calls to Action #62 and #63, the Ontario government in partnership with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit partners, as well as education stakeholders are enhancing age- and grade-appropriate learning and teaching about First Nation, Métis, and Inuit perspectives, cultures, contributions, and histories, including the history and legacy of residential schools, treaties, and the Indian Act.
 - A Steering Committee and Joint Implementation Working Group have been set up with First Nation, Métis and Inuit partners.
 - The curriculum revisions occurred in the summer of 2016 and the winter of 2017. The final electronic release of the revised curriculum policy documents will be in Spring 2018 with mandatory implementation in all schools in September 2018.

Outcomes of Fall 2017 Engagement

Consistent Themes – Languages and Culture

1. Increased First Nations student achievement and well-being within provincial schools is contingent on regular, daily access to languages and culture.
2. Effective and authentic educational change will only come with increased First Nations teachers and staff within provincial schools.
3. First Nations are diverse and territorial / regional approaches to education must be considered.

Outcomes of Fall 2017 Engagement

Consistent Themes – Relationships

4. Elders and community members play a key role in achieving meaningful change within provincial schools.
5. Elders and community members are essential in the development of effective languages programs within provincial schools.
6. Work done within the First Nations Lifelong Learning Table must be grassroots driven and should include opportunities for community feedback and input throughout the entire process.

Outcomes of Fall 2017 Engagement

Consistent Themes – Relationships (cont'd)

7. Increased partnerships and collaboration between First Nations and school boards in Ontario will strengthen relationships and increase First Nations participation in schools.
8. First Nations must be full partners in the process of reshaping education system to better meet the unique needs of First Nations students.

Outcomes of Fall 2017 Engagement

Consistent Themes – Curriculum

9. First Nations curriculum development needs to be First Nations led based on regional / territorial culture and knowledge.

Outcomes of Fall 2017 Engagement

Consistent Themes – Information, Access and Accountability

10. First Nations capacity development is critical to facilitate needed change within First Nations education.

Province-wide Roll-up

- Full Fall 2017 FNLLT Engagement Roll-up Report can be found on the COO Education Portal at <http://education.chiefs-of-ontario.org/article/first-nation-lifelong-learning-table--7504.asp>

Additional Related Activities

Education Services Agreement/Reverse Education Services Agreement (ESA/RESA) Working Group

- Through the *Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples*, Ontario has committed to working collaboratively with First Nation partners to improve student well-being and success.
- In 2012, All Chiefs Resolution #12/39 called for the ministry to work with First Nations on RESAs.
- In 2013, the Ministry of Education provided guidance on the development of ESAs/RESAs through The Education Services (Tuition) Agreement Guide.
- On September 22, 2017, the Ministry issued a B-memo to all Directors of Education and Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities in Ontario . The Deputy Minister also provided this B-Memo to First Nation leadership in Ontario, and the Minister provided it to Regional Chief Isadore Day.

Additional Related Activities cont'd

Education Services Agreement/Reverse Education Services Agreement (ESA/RESA) Working Group

- As of October 2017, a Working Group, with representatives from First Nations across Ontario, Trustee and School Board associations, and the Ministry has been established to advise on issues related to ESAs and RESAs. The Working Group is looking at ways to improve the ESA RESA structure, concentrating on the following principles:
 - Equity, Access, Relationships, Simplicity, Transparency, and Accountability.
- The Working Group has met on three occasions, October 30-31, 2017; December 12-13, 2017; and January 10, 2018. A fourth meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2018.

Questions/ Discussion

For more information:

- Contact COO Director of Education, Julia Candlish at julia@coo.org or 416 597-1266
- Contact Ministry of Education – Executive Director Indigenous Education Office, Taunya Paquette at Taunya.Paquette@ontario.ca or 416-314-5739
- See COO Education Portal at <http://education.chiefs-of-ontario.org/article/first-nation-lifelong-learning-table--7504.asp>
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