

Neegahnee daa



Charting Our Own Path Forward

Education Symposium 2015: Building a First Nations Education Framework

*Embassy Ballroom, Victoria Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario
November 17-19, 2015*

AGENDA

Tuesday, November 17th

ONTARIO-WIDE FRAMEWORK OPTIONS- 1st SUPPORT CIRCLE

8:00 AM	REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST
8:45 AM	Opening Prayer – Elder Sam Achneepineskum Welcoming Remarks – Michele Solomon , Councilor, Fort William First Nation
9:00 AM	Skit – Centre for Indigenous Theatre: Sarah DeCarlo
9:15 AM	Welcoming Remarks – Isadore Day , Wiindawtegowinini, Ontario Regional Chief; Gord Peters , Grand Chief, Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) and COO Education Portfolio.
9:30 AM	Opening Keynote Address – The Right Honourable Paul Martin <i>Anchoring the three day event, this address will focus on next steps for First Nations education. With elections behind us, the speaker will also give guidance on managing external relations. The speech will be followed by a dialogue between Grand Chief Gord Peters and Rt Hon Paul Martin and a Q&A.</i>
10:30 AM	COOPF Update and Symposium Overview – Julia Candlish , Director of Education, Chiefs of Ontario <i>Overview of COOPF initiative, recent activity, where we are at, goals for 2015: This presentation will set the context for the work over the 3-day Symposium. An overview of the work that has been developed on systems and funding for First Nations education in Ontario will be provided as a basis for discussion. Questions and dialogue to follow.</i>
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH
1:00 PM	1st Support Circle Panel – (Community/Places of Learning): Mary Elijah -Oneida; Peter Garrow -Akwasasne; Jennifer Manitowabi -Lac Seul. Moderator- Gina McGahey , AIAI <i>Panellists will provide examples of how communities are exercising control over education and navigating through obstacles to attain their overall goals. Q&A will follow.</i>

2:00 PM	Discussion and Input – Opportunity for dialogue and input provision on the roles, responsibilities and relationships of the Support Circles for education. Sharing and summarizing to follow.
3:00 PM	Closing Address – Drs. Stan and Peggy Wilson – Indigegogy <i>With experience in various levels of education, the speakers will explain what Indigegogy is and how it serves as a focal point for Indigenous people’s teaching and learning. This session includes practical suggestions on what we can do to regain a healthy balance, maintain and deliberately enact cultural sovereignty.</i>

Wednesday, November 18th
ONTARIO-WIDE FRAMEWORK OPTIONS- 2nd and 3rd SUPPORT CIRCLES

8:00 AM	BREAKFAST
9:00 AM	Opening Address – Dr. Cynthia Wesley- Esquimaux – Building Bridges <i>Moving out of intergenerational trauma to a place of healing and revitalization through education. The speaker will draw from her extensive experience and share perspectives on how to move forward in support of community education goals.</i>
9:45 AM	2nd Support Circle Panel - (Tribal Council/ Regional Collective Level) Panellists: Stephanie Roy -KTEI; Andy Graham - Bimose TC; Sharon Nate - Matawa TC; Marc Manatch – Ogemawahj TC; Matthew Angees - KERC; Dr. Rhonda Paulsen - Indigenous B.Ed. program, Trent University Moderator- Debbie Mayer , Mississauga First Nation <i>Panellists will provide insights on how they support First Nation communities in exercising control over education. Presentations will describe their respective frameworks through which they operate and offer insight on responding to community needs.</i>
11:30 AM	Discussion and Input – Opportunity for dialogue and input provision on the roles, responsibilities and relationships of the Support Circles for education. Sharing and summarizing to follow.
12:30 – 1:30 PM	LUNCH
1:30 PM	3rd Support Circle – Systems Ideas and Options - Julia Candlish , Director of Education, Chiefs of Ontario <i>Based on input received to date, this presentation will utilize the Support Circle lens to provide ideas and options for a First Nation education system in Ontario.</i>
2:30 PM	Discussion and Input – Opportunity for dialogue and input provision on the roles, responsibilities and relationships of the Support Circles for education. Sharing and summarizing to follow.
3:30 PM	Closing Address – Dr. Jean Clinton – Importance of Wellness <i>Renowned for her work in Psychiatry, Behavioural Neurosciences, Child and Youth mental health programs, Dr. Clinton ends this day by providing insight into developing governance models in education that include child and youth welfare, early learning, mental health, and the role of connectedness and relationships.</i>

Thursday, November 19th
ONTARIO-WIDE FRAMEWORK OPTIONS- FUNDING SYSTEMS

8:00 AM	BREAKFAST
9:00 AM	Opening Address – Dolores Wawia – Championing Native Language & Education <i>Reflections of the Professor Emerita and a former Elder-in-Residence of Lakehead University. Moments and milestones in her 40 year journey, as an educator and pioneer for First Nations’ education.</i>
9:45 AM	Education Funding Presentation – Julia Candlish , Director of Education, Chiefs of Ontario <i>This presentation will provide an overview on input received to date on ideas and options related to funding mechanism, flow and levels for First Nations education.</i>
10:45 AM	Discussion and Input – Opportunity for dialogue and input provision on funding flow options for First Nations education, while exploring various accountability mechanisms to respond to community needs.
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH
1:00 PM	Discussion and Input Continued –Participants will continue to discuss and explore funding options that respect regional diversity and First Nations’ autonomy and control. Sharing and summarizing to follow.
2:00 PM	Closing Keynote Address – Chief Wilton Littlechild , Commissioner, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) <i>The Truth and Reconciliation Canada Commissioner will speak of the TRC’s 12 key recommendations that call upon the government of Canada to improve Indigenous education, revive languages and work together with First Nations.</i>
3:00 PM	Closing Prayer – Elder Sam Achneepineskum