

Overview - Special Education

**SPECIAL EDUCATION INFORMATION
SHARING FORUMS – TORONTO/THUNDER
BAY – JANUARY 2017**

Chiefs of Ontario (COO)

First Nations Education Coordination Unit (FNECU)

Ontario First Nation Special Education Working Group
(OFNSEWG)

WHO'S WHO?

COO

The main objective of the Chiefs of Ontario office is to facilitate the discussion, planning, implementation and evaluation of all local, regional, provincial, federal and national matters affecting the First Nations in Ontario.

The COO Education Sector is responsible to the Chiefs in Assembly and the Political Confederacy

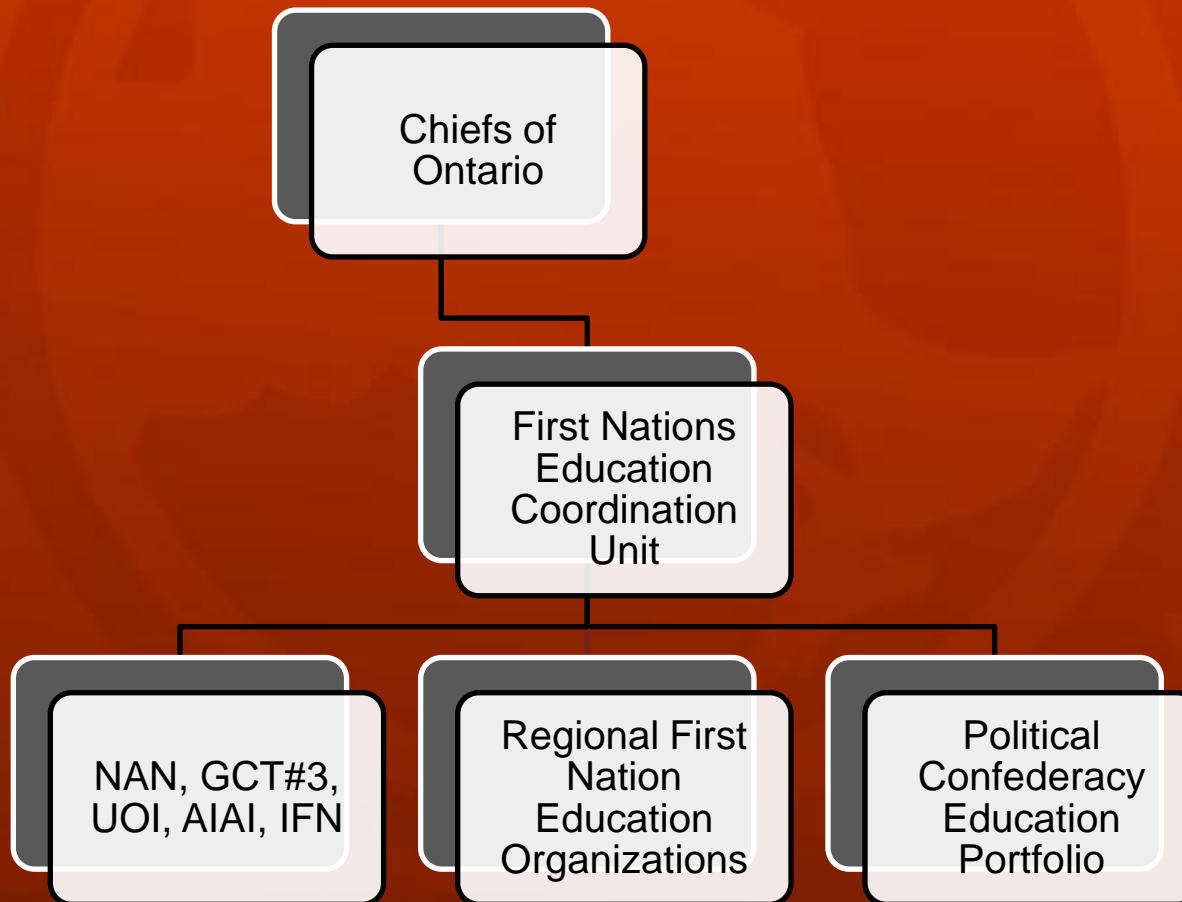
COO Education Sector

- Julia Candlish, Director of Education
- Robin Cavanagh, Research and Policy Analyst
- Nicole Nicolas-Bayer, Lifelong Learning Project and Research Coordinator
- Lisa Wabegijig, Special Education Support Technician – Central and Northeast
- Brent Bissaillon, Special Education Support Technician – North and Central
- TBA, Special Education Support Technician – North and West
- Patrik Lowen, Special Education Support Technician – South
- Holly Golabek, Education Coordinator

FNECU – Est. 2000

- A technical and advisory body operating under the umbrella of the Chiefs of Ontario
- Focuses on education issues impacting First Nations people and First Nations communities along the lifelong learning continuum
- Implements the mandates provided by the Chiefs in Assembly
- Supported by the coordinating capacity of the COO Education Sector

FNECU - Structure



FNECU Members

- Dobi-Dawn Frenette, Nishnawbe Aski Nation
- Yolanda Fobister, Grand Council Treaty #3
- Gina McGahey, Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians
- Diane Maracle-Nadjiwon, Independent First Nations
- Murray Waboose, Union of Ontario Indians
- Rosie Mosquito, Aboriginal Institutes Consortium
- Nelson Toulouse, AMO Language Commission
- Darian Baskatawang, Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council
- Debbie Terrance, Ahkwesahsne Mohawk Board of Education
- Audrey Powless-Bomberry, Six Nations of the Grand River

OFNSEWG – Est. 2005

- A joint technical and advisory body of the Chiefs of Ontario and Indian Affairs (INAC)
- Is accountable to the FNECU to provide recommendations on issues and specific strategies for political review and/or approval for action
- Implements the mandates provided by the Chiefs in Assembly

OFNSEWG – Members

Name	Organization
Julia Candlish	Chiefs of Ontario
Dobi-Dawn Frenette	Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Murray Waboose	Union of Ontario Indians
Gina McGahey	Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians
Yolanda Fobister	Grand Council Treaty 3
Debbie Terrance	Independent First Nations
Shelley Knott-Fife	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Christine Lapensee	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Peggy Nolan	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Mandates

Special Education Resolutions from the Chiefs in Assembly

- 06/64 Ontario First Nation Special Education Strategy
- 08/86 First Nation Special Education Audit and Evaluation
- 09/40 High Cost Special Education Program
- 10/24 High Cost Special Education Program
- 13/11 High Cost Special Education Cont'd
- 12/15 Continued Analysis of Special Education
- 20/16 HCSEP – Federal Budget 2016 Increase

Historical Timeline



Voluntary HCSEP Work Plan Process – 2011-2016

Purpose:

- A tool to aid in accurate codification of expenses
- Allow redirection of funding from communities anticipating a surplus to those anticipating a deficit
- Retains more HCSEP funding to be utilized by Ontario region HCSEP recipients
- Provide information to better understand special education needs and support advocacy efforts

Work Plan Process Results

	Total Work Plan Submissions	# of submissions predicting surplus	Total Surplus Predicted	# of submission prediction deficit	Total Deficit Predicted	Overall deficit Predicted	Total Redistributed	#of communities receiving redistributed funds	Range of Redistribution Amounts
2011-12	42	6	141,921.16	27	2,948,150.36	2,806,229.20	705,061.00	14	3,339 - 65,200
2012-13	51	8	192,746.90	31	4,009,104.41	3,816,357.51	192,746.00	13	5,000 - 18,396
2013-14	55	10	343,365.00	42	3,404,253.59	3,060,888.59	343,365.00	15	5,800 - 26,000
2014-15	77	8	239,141.91	65	7,052,389.09	6,813,247.18	163,597.00	28	2,800 - 20,594
2015-16	63	13	410,875.00	48	4,851,591.00	4,440,716.00	674,300.00	33	8,896 - 28,000
			1,328,049.97		22,265,488.45	20,937,438.48	2,079,069.00		

Toolkit and Capacity Building - 2014

Toolkit Training

- **Module 1: Background information: How did the HCSEP get started?**
- **Module 2: Explanation of low-cost funding, high-cost funding**
- **Module 3: Eligible and ineligible expenses**
- **Module 4: Funding Formula**
- **Module 5: HCSEP Reports**
- **Module 6: Ontario High Cost Special Education Work Plan Process**
- **Module 7: Working with the Province**
- **Module 8: Individualized Education Plans (IEP)**

March 18th & 19th, Sudbury
March 20th & 21st, Thunder Bay
March 24th & 25th, Toronto

Meeting Special Education Requirements:

A Toolkit to Better Assist our Children



March 2014

Ontario First Nation Special Education Working Group

Access the Special Education Toolkit at <http://education.chiefs-of-ontario.org/article/special-education-185.asp> or ask your Special Education Support Technician for a copy

Preliminary Analysis - 2015

1. Low-cost funding levels
2. High-cost funding levels
3. Low-cost – High-cost split
4. Funding Formula
5. Timeline
6. Reporting
7. Communication
8. Lack of Analysis – First Nation Access to Data
9. Need for support and capacity building



**Charting Our Own Path Forward:
A Preliminary Analysis of the HCSEP
2015**

By

First Nations Education Coordination Unit
Chiefs of Ontario

Access at <http://education.chiefs-of-ontario.org/article/special-education-185.asp>

Federal Budget 2016 Increase

Elementary & Secondary Funding breakdown by year (in millions)*

		2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Totals
Current On Reserve Education System							
Line 1	Immediate Funding Needs and Program Cost Growth	35.8	85.5	143.6	206.7	276.0	747.6
Line 2	Language and Culture (New)	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	275.0
Line 3	Literacy and Numeracy	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	100.0
Line 4	Special Needs Education	115.5	115.5	115.5	115.5	115.5	577.5
Totals		226.3	276.0	334.1	397.2	466.5	1,700.1
Supporting System Transformation (New)							
Line 5	Implementing Transformation	46.6	91.4	132.8	234.3	319.0	824.1
Line 6	Innovation, Research, Measurement, Evaluation	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	37.5
Line 7	The Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	30.0
Totals		60.1	104.9	146.3	247.8	332.5	891.6
Administrative Costs							
Line 8	Administrative costs	1.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	9.1
Total – Improving Primary and Secondary Education for First Nations Children							2,600.8
Investing in First Nations Schools (Infrastructure)							
Line 9	Infrastructure	96.60	282.90	197.40	183.70	208.80	969.40
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		384.10	665.80	679.80	830.70	1,009.80	3,570.20

Ontario Region Increase

- Previous allocation ~ 25 million
- 2016/17 allocation increased by ~22 million
- 88% increase
- Will continue to increase over the next 4 years
- Recipients were notified of increased allocations via a letter from INAC to Chief and Council on August 22, 2016

Resolution 20/16

- Extend the deadline to use additional funding
- Support four HCSEP Research and Support Technicians for a period of two years
- 75% of the remaining additional funding will be allocated through the existing funding formula
- 25% of the remaining additional funding will be allocated to recipients through a needs-based process
- The Federal government will be responsible to apply Jordan's Principle above and beyond the funding for HCSEP

Status – Funding Extension

Announced at Special Education Information Sharing Forum on Jan 10:

- Funding Approach Management Regime for the HCSEP will change immediately from “set” to “fixed”
- The option to use the fixed funding approach to allow for two years to spend an allocation
- INAC will provide details regarding individual funding arrangements in the final allocation letter

Status – Support Technicians

- Lisa Wabegijig – Central/North-East
- Patrik Lowen – Southern
- TBA – North-West
- Brent Bissaillion – North-Central

HCSEP Recipient Challenges

- Lack of capacity
 - Exacerbated by additional funding
- Access to professionals
 - Especially for remote communities/orgs
- HCSEP issues
 - Timing
 - Yearly funding
 - Inadequacy of formula
 - Unclear guidelines

Status – Needs-Based Process

- Two deadlines for applications:
 - October 31 and Dec 19
- ~ \$5 million set aside (25%)
 - All used for 1st call for applications
- INAC in the process of pooling surplus funds to accommodate 2nd call applications
- Contemplating an early call for applications in April 2017

Evaluation

- An evaluation tool has been developed for HCSEP
- Purpose – to collect information to inform recommendations to the Chiefs in Assembly on HCSEP reform – June 2017
- Information being collected by Support Technicians until mid March

Next Steps

- Analysis of information collected via evaluation tool
- Recommendations will be circulated for input (April/May) prior to presentation to Chiefs in Assembly in June 2017
- Continuous improvement through communication with Support Technicians

**What do you want to get
out of this Information
Sharing Forum?**