

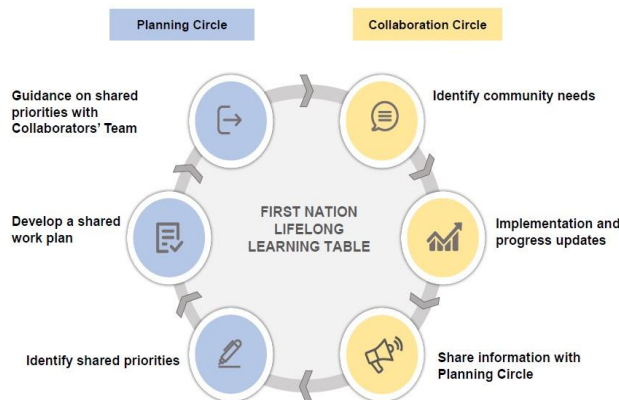
First Nation Lifelong Learning Table (FNLLT) - Amended Terms of Reference -

1. Context

- i. Recognizing both the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, First Nations in Ontario and the Ministry of Education acknowledge the importance of working together in the spirit of reconciliation to identify priorities, challenges and opportunities to support the educational success and well-being of First Nations students.
- ii. The First Nation Lifelong Learning Table (FNLLT) is designed to function as a relationship table through which representatives from the Ministry of Education and First Nations are able to share information and discuss key education priorities for First Nations students in Ontario.
- iii. The FNLLT is a bilateral process (see 1.1 Structure) established to explore ways to support and collaboratively improve educational opportunities and outcomes for First Nations learners.
- iv. The FNLLT is not a decision-making body. The representatives at this table cannot make policy or financial commitments on behalf of the Minister of Education, Government of Ontario, Chiefs of Ontario (COO) Leadership Council or the Chiefs in Assembly. Each party will be responsible for undertaking their own due diligence in following internal approval processes.

1.1 Structure

- i. The FNLLT is comprised of two circles: the Planning Circle and the Collaboration Circle.



1.2 Purpose

1.2.1 FNLLT Planning Circle

- i. The purpose of the FNLLT Planning Circle is to bring together the COO Chiefs and Technical Committee on Languages and Learning (CTCLL) and the Assistant Deputy Ministers of the Ministry of Education to:
 - a. discuss opportunities to address recommendations from the Collaboration Circle
 - b. ensure effective communication and engagement processes are followed between First Nations in Ontario and the Ministry of Education
 - c. set shared priorities for further exploration, engagement and implementation of recommendations
 - d. provide guidance and input to the Collaboration Circle
 - e. respect the individual engagement and decision-making processes of each partner and provide recommendations on addressing shared priorities to the decision makers of the First Nations in Ontario and the Ministry of Education
 - f. identify and discuss emerging issues and opportunities as they arise and determine options for how they can be addressed

1.2.2 FNLLT Collaboration Circle

- i. The Collaboration Circle brings together technical representation from the First Nations in Ontario and the Ministry of Education to discuss the needs of First Nations in Ontario regarding the education of First Nations learners in the provincial educational system. The Collaboration Circle will:
 - a. engage with communities to seek information on and input into education priorities that impact First Nations students to inform the priority setting at the Planning Circle
 - b. develop recommendations and work plans that reflect action to be taken by the Collaboration Circle on shared priorities as identified by the Planning Circle
 - c. ensure effective communication, engagement and information sharing processes are followed between First Nations in Ontario and the Ministry of Education

- d. provide work plan updates within their respective entity and to the Planning Circle
- ii. The Indigenous Education Office of the Ministry of Education will be the ongoing representatives from the Ministry of Education on the Collaboration Circle. Other areas of the Ministry will be invited to attend on an ad hoc basis, as the Circle discussions require their area of focus.

1.2.3 Relationship between the Circles

- i. The Collaboration and Planning Circles will work together in a cycle that shares information between the Circles to inform each other's work.
- ii. The Collaboration Circle will share information with the Planning Circle about identified needs of First Nations and implementation and progress updates.
- iii. The Planning Circle will use this input to identify shared priorities and develop a shared work plan.
- iv. The Planning Circle will provide guidance on addressing the shared priorities to the Collaboration Circle to further inform their work.

2. Logistics

2.1 FNLLT Planning Circle

i. Composition and Structure

a. Participants

- i. Representatives from the CTCLL (including members from Provincial Territorial Organizations, Independent First Nations, Mushkegowuk Council and unaffiliated First Nations), Knowledge Keepers, Ministry of Education officials, and observers. See Appendix A for a full list of participants.
- ii. The FNLLT Planning Circle will be co-chaired by the Director of Education for COO and the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Indigenous Education and Well-Being Division at the Ministry of Education.

b. Frequency of Meetings

- i. The Planning Circle meets every two months.

c. *Length of Membership*

- i. There is no set limit to length of membership. Circle members will participate at the discretion of their representing body.

d. *Use of Alternates*

- i. Members will make an effort to attend all meetings to support continuity and discussions. If members are unable to attend, where possible, members can send alternates on their behalf.
- ii. Alternates are required to abide by the Terms of Reference for the Planning Circle.

e. *Standing Updates*

- i. The Planning Circle will have designated time each meeting for updates from the Co-Chairs of the Coordination Circle

ii. *Knowledge Keepers*

- a. First Nation Knowledge Keepers are equal and full members of the Planning Circle. In addition to being full members, they also open and close each Planning Circle meeting. The Ministry of Education will provide honorariums to Knowledge Keepers opening and closing the meeting. COO will provide honorariums to other participating Knowledge Keepers.

iii. *Expectations of Members*

a. Co-Chairs will:

- i. coordinate with note takers (see 2.1.v Observers) to review meeting minutes before distribution
- ii. ensure that meeting minutes are distributed to attendees following each meeting
- iii. report on any emerging shared priorities and any updates to the work plan.
- iv. ensure the development of a meeting report for the Collaboration Circle summarizing outcomes of each Planning Circle meeting

b. Members are expected to:

- i. work together to identify and work on joint priorities

- ii. develop a shared work plan
- iii. seek necessary approvals from leadership of their respective organization to bring back to the Circle
- iv. use alternates where members are unable to attend

iv. *Decision-Making*

- a. The FNLLT Planning Circle is not a decision-making body. The representatives at this table cannot make policy or financial commitments on behalf of the Minister of Education, Government of Ontario, COO Leadership Council or the Chiefs in Assembly.
- b. The First Nation representatives from COO's CTCLL will process recommendations through the established internal process at COO. This includes consensus building through the CTCLL, which will then take recommendations to the COO Leadership Council and/or the Chiefs in Assembly for consensus building and collective decision making.
- c. The representatives from the Ministry of Education will process recommendations through the established internal process at the Ministry. This process may vary depending on the recommendation being provided. This may include, but is not limited to, seeking Minister's approval for any commitments on behalf of the Ministry and Cabinet approvals for any legislative recommendations.

v. *Observers*

- a. COO and the Ministry of Education will bring observers to take notes on Circle discussions.
- b. The Ministry of Indigenous Affairs will be invited to bring observers.
- c. Co-Chairs may invite additional observers to meetings, at their discretion.

2.2 FNLLT Collaboration Circle

i. *Composition and Structure*

- a. The Collaboration Circle will be co-chaired by the Provincial Education Lead for the COO Education Sector and the Director of the Indigenous Education Office of the Ministry of Education
- b. The Collaboration Circle also includes the FNLLT Coordinators with representation from the following entities:

- i. Chiefs of Ontario
- ii. Association of Iroquois & Allied Indians
- iii. Nishnawbe-Aski Nation
- iv. Anishinabek Nation
- v. Grand Council Treaty #3
- vi. Mushkegowuk Council
- vii. Six Nations of the Grand River Territory
- viii. Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- ix. ix. Independent First Nations
- x. Other unaffiliated First Nations

ii. Frequency of Meetings

- a. The Collaboration Circle Co-Chairs will work with their respective internal support teams to coordinate and convene monthly meetings and an annual planning meeting.

iii. *Expectations of Members*

- a. The Collaboration Circle Co-Chairs will serve as liaison with the Planning Circle and:
 - i. jointly develop meeting reports for the Planning Circle summarizing outcomes of each Collaboration Circle meeting
 - ii. attend all Planning Circle meetings and share information, work plan updates and obtain guidance to be relayed to the Collaboration Circle
 - iii. relay information and updates from the Planning Circle meetings to the Collaboration Circle
- b. All members of the Collaboration Circle are expected to:
 - i. prepare for and attend all meetings of the Collaboration Circle. In the event a member cannot attend a meeting, they will send an alternate
 - ii. engage with First Nation communities, organizations and designated entities to seek information on and input into education priorities that impact First Nation students to inform the Planning Circle in their efforts to set joint priorities and develop recommendations
 - iii. develop recommendations and work plans to actively address identified joint and any emerging priorities

- iv. undertake consensus building and obtain requisite approvals of Leadership within the community or organization they represent
- v. establish and attend sub-committee meetings (as necessary)
- c. Ministry representatives are expected to:
 - i. Provide updates to respective areas of the Ministry and seek answers for any questions or issues raised during Circle discussions.
- iv. *Information-Sharing with the Planning Circle*
 - a. The Co-Chairs of the Collaboration Circle will ensure that meeting reports are distributed on a timely basis via internal communication processes of each partner to the members of the Planning Circle
 - b. The Co-Chairs of the Collaboration Circle will report on work plan progress at each meeting of the Planning Circle
- vi. *Observers*
 - a. COO and the Ministry of Education will bring observers to take notes on Circle discussions.
 - b. Co-Chairs may invite additional observers to meetings, at their discretion.

2.3 Information Sharing

- i. Best efforts will be made by Circle participants to share relevant materials with Co-Chairs in advance of the meetings.
- ii. The Ministry of Education will share meeting minutes with Planning Circle members once approved by both Co-Chairs from previous Circle meetings.
- iii. To best function as a relationship table, representatives from the Ministry of Education and First Nations will share information and discuss key education priorities for First Nations students in Ontario.
- iv. The Ministry of Education and First Nations will share information in good faith to engage in open dialogue.
- v. The co-chairs of the Planning Circle and the Collaboration Circle will jointly develop an annual report for distribution to the Ministry of Education and the First Nations in Ontario.

3. Confidentiality

- i. All Members (including Alternates) are required to maintain confidentiality with regards to materials and discussions that they receive, create, or engage in as a result of their participation.
- ii. Materials and discussions are intended for the internal use of the Parties and not for public communication, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.
- iii. Members may share meeting materials and discussions with the leadership and decision-makers from their respective organizations, unless otherwise specified during the Circle discussion.

4. Amendments to the Terms of Reference

- i. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually by both the Planning Circle and the Collaboration Circle. If amendments are deemed necessary, once agreed upon by the FNLLT, they will move through the respective decision-making processes of each partner for approval.

Appendix A: FNLLT Planning Circle - Membership & Attendees

- Representatives from the CTCLL, including members from:
 - Association of Iroquois & Allied Indians
 - Anishinabek Nation
 - Grand Council Treaty #3
 - Mushkegowuk Council
 - Six Nations of the Grand River Territory
 - Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
 - Independent First Nations
 - Other unaffiliated First Nations
- Knowledge Keepers
- Ministry of Education officials, including:
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Years and Child Care Division
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, Education Equity Secretariat
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, Education Labour and Finance Division
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, French Language Education Division
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Education and Well-Being Division
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy & Planning Division
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, Student Achievement Division
 - Assistant Deputy Minister, Student Support and Field Services Division
- FNLLT Collaboration Circle Co-Chairs:
 - Provincial Education Lead, COO Education Sector
 - Director of Indigenous Education Office, Ministry of Education
- Observers from:
 - Ministry of Education
 - Ministry of Indigenous Affairs
 - COO

Appendix B: FNLLT Collaboration Circle - Membership & Attendees

- FNLLT Coordinators from:
 - Chiefs of Ontario
 - Association of Iroquois & Allied Indians
 - Nishnawbe-Aski Nation ○ Anishinabek Nation
 - Grand Council Treaty #3
 - Mushkegowuk Council
 - Six Nations of the Grand River Territory
 - Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
 - Independent First Nations
 - Other unaffiliated First Nations
- Observers from:
 - Ministry of Education
 - Chiefs of Ontario