



Policy Section: **Community Relations**

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Policy Name: Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

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Policy Statement

Keewatin Patricia District School Board recognizes the importance of collaboration and communication with Indigenous partners and is committed to the implementation the Ontario First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework **(2007)** and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action. It is the policy of KPDSB to seek input and recommendations on meeting the needs of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students, including delivering content that is inclusive of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples. Keewatin Patricia District School Board will seek the input and recommendations from local and regional First Nations, Métis, and Inuit partners through the establishment of a representative advisory committee.

Rationale

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board recognizes the importance of collaboration and communication between First Nation, Métis and Inuit rights and interest holders, and the Board. In order to improve communication and receive input, the committee would provide opportunities for senior administration, and trustees to interact directly with representatives of First Nation, Métis and Inuit partners wherever they may reside within the geography of the Board.

Guidelines

The mandate, membership, operating procedures, and meeting dates are established in the Terms of Reference, Indigenous Education Advisory Committee. (Appendix A)

Cross References:	
Policies: 315, Voluntary & Confidential Self Identification for First Nation, Métis & Inuit Students 617, Honorariums to Support Students	Date Adopted: February 8, 2000 Dates Reviewed: Dec 2004/ Feb 13/07; Nov 11/08; Nov 8/11; Feb 10/15; Date Revised: April 11/17; April 11/23;
Procedure: 315, Voluntary & Confidential Self Identification for First Nation, Métis & Inuit Students	Review by: 2027



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Appendix A

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Profile

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) is guided by the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and the Ontario First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework (2007). It is collectively responsible for providing cultural and educational expertise and strategic direction to engage students and improve student achievement and well-being.

Scope

1. The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board (KPDSB) is committed to establishing partnerships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples to provide quality education for all students at the elementary and secondary level.
2. In order to provide quality education, KPDSB will work with FNMI partners to:
 - i) Consult on relevant policies;
 - ii) Communicate and share information;
 - iii) Support community/parent/guardian/caregiver engagement;
 - iv) Develop strategies and initiatives to engage students and improve student achievement and well-being;
 - v) Promote wise, evidenced-based practices;
 - vi) Maintain a reporting procedure on wise, evidenced-based practices.
3. IEAC will provide guidance that will help improve the effectiveness of the programs offered at KPDSB as they relate to current and future Indigenous students.
4. IEAC will work in collaboration with KPDSB staff to support Indigenous learners, families, and communities by identifying priorities for, and make recommendations on the development of new programs, training and services that meet the existing and future needs of Indigenous communities.

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Structure

IEAC will be composed of internal and external representation which shall include First Nation, Métis, and Inuit community members and parents. The only members with a term of appointment will be the Trustees, as they rotate membership on committees annually (with the exception of the Indigenous Trustee who will remain on the committee for the duration of their four-year term, and the Indigenous Student Trustee who holds that position for one year).

Structure:

- IEAC will maintain two co-chairs: the Director of Education and the Indigenous Trustee.
- An elder will be an integral member of the committee.
- Indigenous community representatives
- Staff / Resource representatives



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- Parent representatives
- Each member must demonstrate their commitment through regular attendance.
- IEAC shall meet a minimum of four (4) times per year.

Decisions will be made by consensus. In exceptional circumstances, if consensus cannot be attained, decisions will be made by a majority vote. Quorum will be defined each year by the number of individuals that are appointed to the committee annually. Quorum will equal 50% plus 1. If quorum is not reached at the meeting as determined by the annual membership, an electronic vote will take place. All members of IEAC shall have a single vote (with the exception of Staff/Resource members.)

Co-Chairs:

The co-chairs maintain the administrative duties of the committee. They will ensure the moral, legal, and ethical obligations of the Committee are met. They facilitate meaningful discussion at each meeting according to the agenda priorities.

Elder:

The elder maintains the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual balance of the Committee. They provide a foundation of traditional knowledge and experience to help guide the members.

Community Representatives:

Community members hold the Committee accountable to the needs of Indigenous students and communities.

Staff/Resource Representatives and Trustees:

Staff members, including Trustees are responsible for ensuring that tangible measures are taken to enable students to succeed.

Staff/Resource members are non-voting members of IEAC. They actively support the committee by providing support and guidance in realizing the goals and vision of IEAC.

Parent Representatives:

Parent Representatives hold the Committee accountable to the needs of their children by offering suggestions and engaging in meaningful discussions with all committee members.

Conflict of Interest

Committee members will act with honesty, in good faith, and in the best interest of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee. If a conflict of interest arises, the member will declare the conflict in advance of the meeting or as soon as reasonably possible and then remove themselves from all proceedings related to the conflict.

Confidentiality

During the course of IEAC committee meetings, individuals may share personal anecdotal stories and experiences. All members shall respect the privacy of each member and their personal stories and experiences.