

LAMBTON COLLEGE COUNCIL ON INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

MINUTES of 2025-06-26

Lambton College – Room E1-209

PRESENT

Phyllis George, Chair, General Manager, Tecumseh Community Development Corporation
Dave Machacek, Senior Vice President, Academic & Student Success, Lambton College
Jane Manning, Director, Indigenous Education, Lambton College
Kurtis Gray, Associate VP, Student Success, Lambton College
Jarvis Nahdee, Lambton College Board of Governors and Community Member
Ian Duckworth, Post Secondary Counsellor, Southern First Nations Secretariat
Andrea Auger, Indigenous Professor, Lambton College
Summer Catt, Indigenous Student Navigator, Lambton College
Debbie Dolson, Post Secondary Counsellor, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation
Jeffery Blackbird, Support Worker/Life Coach, Walpole Island Employment & Training
Holly Altman, Administrative Assistant, Indigenous Student Centre, Lambton College

REGRETS

Vicki Ware, Education Coordinator, Aamjiwnaang First Nation
Erica Peters, Post Secondary Counsellor, Walpole Island Post Secondary
Alicia Round, Co-President, Indigenous Student Council, Lambton College
Laura Spero, Post Secondary Counsellor, Aamjiwnaang First Nation (Designate)
Ky Nahmabin, Indigenous Student Success Coordinator, Lambton College

COPIES TO

Janelle Nahmabin, Chief, Aamjiwnaang First Nation
Leela Thomas, Chief, Walpole Island First Nation
Kimberly Bressette, Chief, Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point First Nation
Todd Cornelius, Chief, Oneida Nation of the Thames
Justin Logan, Chief, Delaware Nation
Joe Miskokomon, Chief, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation
Roger Thomas, Chief, Munsee-Delaware First Nation
Nikki Van Oirschot, Chief, Caldwell First Nation
Rob Kardas, President, Lambton College

Phyllis opened the meeting at 11:13 am.

1. Welcome & Minute of Silence (Phyllis/all)

Phyllis welcomed everyone to the meeting followed by one minute of silence.

2. Land Acknowledgment (Dave)

Kurtis Gray provided the land acknowledgement as Dave was going to be another few minutes before he can join the meeting.

NOTE: Dave Machacek joined the meeting at 10:17 am.

3. Approval of Agenda (all)

Defer Item #10 as Alicia could not be here today.

MOTION: To accept the Agenda of June 26, 2025, with note above.

Moved by: I. Duckworth

Seconded by: D. Dolson

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes – April 10, 2025 (all)

- Updates on action items were provided.

MOTION: To accept the Minutes of April 10, 2025.

Moved by: J. Nahdee

Seconded by: I. Duckworth

CARRIED

5. Lambton College Updates (Dave/Kurtis)

- Hosted three Convocations with more than 3000 graduates attending, which was the largest registration for this event ever.
- Hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the new student residence which will feature up-to-date accommodations with 311 beds
- The north building has been taken down
- Enrollment is at 6% this fall, which is up by 1% from last year
- International enrollment is at 3100, down from 4700 last year
- SWAC held graduation ceremony this week

6. Indigenous Outdoor Space (Kurtis & Jane)

- Due to a few variables, the grand opening will be pushed from September 17 to a later date.
- Conversations have been happening about naming the IOS
- Committee members considering what the IOS represents and consider possible names
- Current research happening on other space names to ensure the name is not in use

7. Truth & Reconciliation Taskforce (Kurtis & Jane)

- A handout was provided – “Truth and Reconciliation Taskforce Phase One Report Lambton College”.
- An overview of the draft report was provided. Discussed layout, process, recommendations, anecdotes, consultation, etc.
- It was mentioned to highlight in the report that it is a living document; include a footnote on last page with acronyms, acknowledge movement of what has been done so far.
- Requested members to provide comments and revisions in the next two weeks.
- Also, waiting to hear for further feedback from task force.
- Looking to have phase two start in the fall.

ACTION ITEM: To arrange a virtual meeting for two weeks from today to discuss progress and improvements to the report.

Lunch Break at 12:00 noon; resumed meeting at 12:06 pm.

8. Indigenous Peoples Education Circle (IPEC) (Jane)

- IPEC meeting in two weeks in Toronto/Virtual
- IPEC Indigenous Action Plan – final report is with IPEC Executive for review & input by Friday – after any changes, the draft report will be sent out to all IPEC for review and approval
- Once approved by IPEC, can pass along to the IEC

9. Indigenous Professor Update (Andrea)

- Had three graduates from the LIBI program with one expressing pathway to university
- Currently have 12 students registered for the fall (eight are new; four are returning)
- Attended the Counsellors Forum
- Curriculum coaching in CYCP program
- Indigenous nursing course in the 2025F term
- Participated on stage at Convocation
- IEC Regional Retreat
- Blanket Exercise

10. Indigenous Student Council Update (Alicia)

- Tabling as noted above in acceptance of Agenda

11. Indigenous Student Centre Update (Summer/Holly)

- Hosted a tour group from Walpole Island
- Co-planned and participated in IEC Retreat
- Indigenous Student Success Celebration
- Visited a Northern high school to promote Indigenous Studies
- Recruitment included Walpole Island and Aamjiwnaang's pow wows; looking at Kettle Point and Delaware Nations's pow wows.
- Hosting an Appreciation Event at the Kettle & Stony Point Education Hub on July 15
- Indigenous PD included workshops on Allyship and TRC

12. IEC Regional Retreat (Jane)

- Compiling information/survey
- Feedback was positive and there was direction on hosting an event every one or two years
- Event provided an opportunity to network and come together with joint issues

13. Community Needs Discussion/Roundtable (all)

- Tecumseh put in a proposal for an initiative for youth ages 16 – 29 to help with self-esteem and communications; it was approved but waiting for the government announcement
- Walpole Island Employment & Training is currently interviewing students for their summer student employment program. They are also looking at partnering with Lambton College on a program.
- Chippewa of the Thames is in the early stages of creating a Trades School
- Phyllis thanked Lambton College for the nomination for the Premier Award

14. Other Business (all)

- Nothing at this time.

15. Next Meeting (all)

- To be determined

16. Adjournment (all)

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Moved by: D. Dolson
Seconded by: I. Duckworth

CARRIED

17. Optional Tour – Indigenous Outdoor Space

All members participated in the tour of the Indigenous Outdoor Space following the adjournment. The tour was provided by Brent Thomas, Director of Facilities at Lambton College.