

DIBAAJMOWIN

*A monthly communication from the
Kinoomaadziwin Education Body*

August
2018



Mnoomni
Giizis



Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishnawbek council members and education staff, with employees of the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body, at the 2018 Annual General Membership meeting on June 5, 2018. From left to right: Tracey O'Donnell (KEB), Lorianne Cook (BZA), Myles Becker (BZA), Andrea Crawford (KEB), Kelly Crawford (KEB), Chief Melvin Hardy (BZA), Yvonne Kowtiash (BZA), and Ron Fisher (BZA).

2018 Annual General Membership Meeting

The Kinoomaadziwin Education Body held its Annual General Membership meeting on June 5, in Thunder Bay. A dinner was hosted for the membership, before the audited financial statements of the organization were reviewed.

Participants also heard updates regarding the 2018-2019 operating budget, staffing, head office set up, communications, work plans and other miscellaneous items.

A full report on the AGM meeting is available to all Participating First Nations in the media section of the KEB website.

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We Are Moving!

On September 17, 2018, the KEB will relocate to its permanent head office in Nipissing First Nation. We may experience a temporary loss in telephone and fax service. Email service will not be affected. Notification of our new contact information will be provided ASAP. Miigwech for your patience during these transitional days!

Message from the Director of Education

Aanii Kina Wiya!

We are pleased to introduce the inaugural edition of *Dibaajmowin* - a monthly newsletter produced by the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body (KEB), to ensure consistent and timely updates to AES Participating First Nations.

As we head into another academic year, our communities are busy preparing to accept the first classes of students entirely operated under community-established education laws. AES communities and schools will be faced with new opportunities and challenges this year, as they navigate self-governance and identify a new operational norm.

Throughout this important and exciting transitional time, the KEB continues to implement the work plans of the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement and the Master Education Agreement. The administrative office will reach a milestone in its implementation efforts on September 17, as we open the doors to our official head office in Nipissing First Nation!

Some of the things to look forward to in the coming months include the official AES launch event, the implementation of a new student information management system, and our fall REC meetings. Staff at the KEB are always available to provide assistance to our communities, so please reach out to us often!

Baa Maa Pii!



UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors continues to meet on a bi-weekly basis to govern the AES's corporate administrative body. Among its primary tasks, the board reviews and approves major organization decisions, ensures the implementation of organizational policies and plans, and oversees the administrative operation of the Anishinabek Education System. Communiqués from each board meeting will soon be made available to all PFNs in the media section of the KEB website, at www.aes-keb.com.

Catherine Pawis (Chair)
Lisa Michano (Co-Chair)
Lauri Hoeg (Treasurer)
Evelyn Ball (Secretary)

Janice Cada
Marianna Couchie
Judy Desmoulin
Nichole King

Jeanne Naponse
David Shawanda
Elaine Stewart
Vicki Ware



Board of Directors Annual Retreat

The Board of Directors attended a retreat on May 24 & 25, in North Bay. Elder John Sawyer, of Nipissing First Nation, provided traditional support and opened the retreat in a good-spirited way.

In addition to reviewing the corporate bylaw of the KEB and the responsibilities of the Board of Directors, the retreat supported the development of the 2018-2019 strategic plan. New vision and mission statements were also created by the directors.

The strategic direction will provide the foundation for the work plans of the KEB staff for 2018-2019. The new vision and mission statements identify what the organization will strive to achieve over the coming years.

VISION

Anishinawbe Aadzwin

*A holistic learning path
using Anishinabek ways of
knowing, celebrating a
bright future for our people.*

Anishinawbe Bimaadzwin

MISSION

Embracing Our Past

—
**Empowering Our
Future**

KEB STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Marvin Assinewai – REC Coordinator (region 2)

Ahnee!

I'm Marvin Assinewai from Aundeck Omni Kaning FN. I've worked in education for over 35 years. My wife Carlene and I enjoy watching our many grandchildren play hockey. I love to be outdoors, golfing, fishing, hunting and snowmobiling. I look forward to the opportunity to help Anishinabek students achieve their education dreams and I feel honoured to work with the First Nations, school boards, and beyond. I look forward to working with and meeting many of you in the future!



Cindy Fisher

REC Coordinator (region 1)

Bozhoo!!!

I am Cindy Fisher and I was raised on Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Territory. My whole working life has been with Pic River in the field of education. The experience that comes from this is immense and I look forward to using this knowledge in my new role.

I am grounded in who I am as Nishnaabeg and I bring this world view with me in all that I do. We have always known that we were the ones who could build an education system that would answer our own needs.

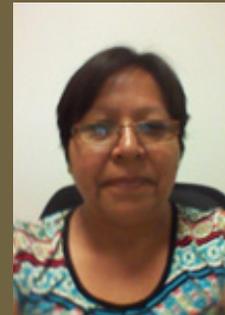
Here we are, making it a reality!

I look forward to meeting with all of you, getting to know where you are, and working together to get our communities where they want to be in education.

Meeway! Miigwetch!

Lisa Wabegijig

REC
Coordinator
(region 3)



Aanii - My name is Lisa Wabegijig and I am a member of the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek. I have 30 years of work experience in management, administration, project coordination, and community engagement.

Some of my past work experience has been with First Nations, Nogdawindamin, INAC, and most recently with the Chiefs of Ontario.

My husband Rick and I have three children, and I am a proud Nokimis to one grand-daughter who is almost two! I have served as an elected councillor in my home community, and I enjoy travelling to, and working with, First Nation communities to help them in whatever way I can.

Miigwech!

Laurianne Iserhoff – Finance Officer

Hello everyone!

My name is Laurianne Iserhoff and I am pleased to be working as the new Finance Officer for the KEB. My many years of experience working in the fields of finance and education will be well-used in this role.

I am Cree from Waskaganish First Nation in northern Quebec, but my husband and I currently reside in Nipissing First Nation.

I look forward to settling into my new position and getting to know the communities of the Anishinabek Education System!

Andrea Wemigwans

Executive Administrative Assistant

Aanii!

My name is Andrea Wemigwans and I am a Mohawk from Kahnawake.

Before my time with the KEB, I worked with the Wikwemikong Board of Education for over 10 years, as an Executive Administration Assistant to the Education Director. I have over 25 years of office experience, with a degree in French Studies and a minor in Translation from Concordia University. Manitoulin Island has been my home for over 12 years, where I am currently the President for the Ngwaagan Gamig Recovery Centre Inc., in Wikwemikong.

My husband and I enjoy fishing in our spare time, and I am excited about being part of the KEB journey!

Dylan Shigwadja

Data & Information Management Officer

Aanii, my name is Dylan Shigwadja and I am from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory on Manitoulin Island. I have previously worked in the education sector, in multiple capacities.



I have hands-on experience with implementing performance-measurement tools and performance indicators, training, and facilitating workshops. During my down time, I enjoy being with family, travelling, and performing as a part-time professional musician. As a new employee, I am very humbled to be part of a great team and I look forward to making my contribution during my experience here at the KEB. Chi-Miigwetch!

Andrea Crawford – Communications & Operations Manager



Aanii kina wiya!

Andrea ndizhnikaaaz, Dokis First Nation ndoonjibaa. I am excited to be working for the Kinooaadziwin Education Body as the Communications & Operations Manager. My education includes an honours degree in Communications, with diplomas in Public Relations and Journalism. Over the last 10 years, I have been fortunate to maintain a professional career with First Nations, in several communication capacities.

My husband Nick and I are always busy with our two young children, a 4-year-old boy and 1-year-old girl. We love going on new adventures with the kids and spending time with family at our cottage in Dokis. I am looking forward to being part of the AES journey - Aho!

SUPPORTING COMMITTEES

IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

- I** **Purpose:** the Parties of the Implementation and Operations Committee monitor and assess the implementation of the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement and the Education Fiscal Transfer Agreement.
- O** **Members:** 1 representative of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
- C** 1 representative of the Kinooaadziwin Education Body
1 representative of the Participating First Nations
- Meetings:** the IOC meets annually, or as necessary

JOINT MASTER EDUCATION AGREEMENT COMMITTEE

- J** **Purpose:** is the primary body through which the Master Education Agreement (MEA) will be supported. This committee promotes the objectives and successful implementation of the MEA and the Multi-Year Action Plan.
- M** **Members:** 5 representatives from the Ministry of Education
- E** 5 representatives from the KEB
- A** **Meetings:** the JMEAC meets three times per year, or as necessary
- C**

DATA, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE

- D** **Purpose:** to provide feedback and support to the Joint Master Education Agreement Committee, in the areas of data collection and management, research, evaluation, reporting, and implementation of the Data & Information Sharing Agreement, as they relate to the Multi-Year Action Plan.
- R** **Members:** 2 representatives from the KEB (minimum)
- E** 4 representatives from the Ministry of Education
- C** **Meetings:** the DREC meets on a monthly basis

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- S** **Purpose:** to provide support, advice and recommendations on matters related to special education, where there are opportunities to enhance the provision of special education services to Anishinabek students through better access, coordination and alignment of services.
- E** **Members:** 2 representatives from the KEB (minimum)
- C** 3 representatives from the Ministry of Education
2 representatives from District School Boards
- Meetings:** the SEC meets on a monthly basis

Student Information Management System

The official vendor for the Anishinabek Education System's student information management system (SIMS) is *PowerSchool*.

After a lengthy proposal process, *PowerSchool* has demonstrated itself to be the most economical, accommodating and functional software vendor for the AES's needs. A staggered implementation plan is now being developed, and implementation will occur throughout the 2018-2019 academic year.

Dylan Shigwadja, the KEB's Data and Information Management Officer, will be contacting Participating First Nations to provide further information about *PowerSchool*, and to discuss implementation and community-level support for the collection of student consent forms.

For questions regarding *PowerSchool* and your community's transition to the new SIMS, please contact Dylan at dylan.shigwadja@a-e-s.ca.

KEB Website

The official website of the Kinooaadziwin Education Body is now live for public viewing.

Read up on the history and the structure of the Anishinabek Education System, as well as the plain-language versions of the Agreements.

The site is also regularly updated with news, events, employment opportunities, reports, community information and more.

Check in often for up-to-date information on the KEB's latest happenings!

www.aes-keb.com

Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund

The application period for the Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund closed on June 29. Since then, the Joint Master Education Agreement Committee has reviewed 27 submissions and approved the funding of 19 proposals for the 2018-2019 academic year. Applicants have been notified of the results of this year's submissions and the Kinooaadziwin Education Body is looking forward to the results and outcomes that the funded projects will produce. We would like to thank all applicants for their submissions and we wish the successful proposals the best of luck in their work plans.

Miigwech!

COMMUNICATIONS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Grand Opening and Official Launch

October 2, 2018, is the date for the official launch of the Anishinabek Education System and the grand opening of the KEB head office. We look forward to celebrating with our communities and special guests!

For more information, please contact
Andrea Crawford at andrea.crawford@a-e-s.ca.

Fall REC Meetings

The annual fall REC meetings will take place in November and December throughout each region of the Anishinabek Education System. The meetings provide networking opportunities for PFNs and allow communities to engage with Ontario District School Boards.

Dates and locations for the meetings will be announced in the coming weeks.

For more information, please contact the Regional Education Council Coordinator in your area.

Keeping Up With the Changes!

Has there been a recent change of leadership in your community, or a change of staff in your school?

If you know of any contact changes that may affect the delivery of communications from the KEB to your community, please let us know!

We strive to update our Participating First Nation contacts regularly, but notifications from the communities are greatly welcomed.

To notify us of an important staff change, please contact Andrea Wemigwans at:

andrea.wemigwans@a-e-s.ca

705-753-0009

Chi-Miigwech!

Making Cents of Self-Governance

Please join Kelly Crawford and Helen Bobiwash for a special webinar on September 12, 2018.

This one-hour Adobe Connect session, will focus on the grass-roots application of First Nation education laws, establishing education policies and procedures, and determining best practices for financial planning.

For more information on this event, please contact Kelly Crawford at:

kelly.crawford@a-e-s.ca



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