# DIBAAJMOWIN JULY

## A Message from the Interim Director of Education Team

The summer is in full swing and there is much to celebrate after another successful school year. The Kinoomaadziwin Education Body congratulates all of the graduating students who worked hard throughout the year to earn their diplomas. What an achievement to be proud of!

While students and educators are now enjoying a well-deserved summer break, we know that there is still much planning and preparation underway for the upcoming school year. There are many activities and events happening throughout the Anishinabek Nation, from pow wows to professional development sessions to youth camps.

However you might be spending these summer months, we hope that everyone has an opportunity to rest, relax, and try something new. September will arrive before we realize it!

From the Interim Director of Education Team



# ANISHINABEK EDUCATION SYSTEM



#### Acronym Guide

- AES Anishinabek Education System
- KEB Kinoomaadziwin Education Body
- DSB District School Board
- **REC** Regional Education Council
- **PFN** Participating First Nation

# 🛉 Multi-Year Action Plan (MYAP)



### **Strategic Initiatives: Summer Reach Ahead Pilot**

The Summer Reach Ahead pilot program is underway! To continue supporting Anishinabek student success and well-being throughout the summer, the KEB launched the Summer Reach Ahead pilot program to provide AES Participating First Nations with the opportunity to develop unique learning programs for students.

This summer, the pilot program is supporting four AES Participating First Nations. The communities participating in the pilot were invited to develop Reach Ahead courses that are more reflective of local culture and community. Courses offered through the pilot range from Grade 8 to Grade 9 Reach Ahead credits, dual-credit opportunities in partnership with post-secondary education organizations, and land-based learning high school courses for students who might want to earn additional credit to support graduation pathways from high school. The program wraps up in August, and we can't wait to learn from the pilot communities regarding how their experience went.

## **Anishinabek Education System Youth Leadership Gathering**

The KEB is hosting a one-day virtual Youth Leadership Gathering called "Maamwi Anishnaabeg Weshginiijig". This event will happen on August 25, 2022 and is open to youth from AES communities aged 16-25. The event will feature guest speakers who will provide practical presentations on leadership skills that will empower and inform Indigenous youth in their daily lives, and as future leaders.

The KEB has committed to implementing an AES Youth Council in an effort to provide a voice for youth within the AES. In early 2022, the KEB started community outreach with youth by hosting virtual engagement sessions and received input on how youth envision what the AES Youth Council will look like. To help guide this planning, a Youth Council Implementation committee has been established that will plan for regular engagement opportunities during the school year. In early spring 2023, the KEB will work with youth to plan for the inaugural Youth Council elections!

# New Employees Update



#### **Finance Manager**

#### Kelly Bahm



Hello Everyone! My name is Kelly Bahm I am very grateful to have my new position as the Finance Manager. Currently, I reside in North Bay although I'm from New Liskeard, where my previous work experience was at a First Nation in Quebec. I'm a member with the AFOA and have a CAFM (Certified Aboriginal Finance Management) certificate. I look forward to developing working relationships with the First Nation communities. Miigwech to Creator for this wonderful opportunity at the KEB and may the great spirit guide us in our journey together!

#### **Communications Officer**



#### Jodi Taylor

Good day all! My name is Jodi Taylor. I am the new Communications Officer here at KEB. I am an Oji-Cree that is a Constance Lake First Nation Band Member. I've lived here in the Nipissing territory for a great amount of my life and consider it my home. I have a background in marketing, promotions, communications, theatre arts, and web design. I have spent years as a speaker for various reasons (confidence building, workshops, etc.) within schools and various First Nation communities. I am looking forward to this new journey with the KEB, along with all the great work ahead!

#### Summer Students

#### Lucy Dokis - Reach Ahead Program Assistant



My name is Lucy Dokis and I am the Reach Ahead Program Assistant for the summer. I am from Dokis First Nation but currently reside in Peterborough where I attend Trent University in the Indigenous Bachelor of Education Program. I will be working remotely this summer, which gives me the opportunity to spend more time with my cat Luna. I look forward to supporting the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body within this position and hope that my time in this organization helps me with my future aspirations.



#### Katya Serre - Negotiations Assistant

Aanin! My zhagaanaash noozwin is Katya Serre. I am a fourth year student at Nipissing University taking Fine Arts and Indigenous Studies. I am from Nipissing First Nation and hope to take the skills learned in university back to my community. I have been an artist all my life and have an interest in cultural arts and community arts, and I would like to have a career in the cultural sector, whether that is in the arts, education, or administrative field. I am so grateful for this summer opportunity at the KEB and have already been learning a lot!

#### Eli Paibomsai- Educational Assistant

Eli Paibomsai is the current Educational Assistant for the KEB and he is from White Fish River First Nation. Eli has just completed his grade 12 year at Lo Ellen Park Secondary School and is advancing to learning history and concurrent education at Laurentian University in the autumn of 2022. He has a love for history, geography, politics and the humanities, enjoying teaching about these subjects above all else. Eli is very eager to help further the education, learning, and understanding of the Anishinaabe of Turtle Island.

# 🕇 NIIGAAN GDIZHAAMI FUND

The 2022-2023 Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund received 24 proposals for this year's call for proposals. Proposals have been screened and letters have gone out to all successful applicants. Congratulations!

The Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund Coordinator is working on contracts for the successful proposals. First Nations can anticipate to receive contracts for signature by mid-August 2022.

Final reports are due for the 2021-2022 Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund projects by August 31, 2022. The Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund Coordinator has offered to meet with First Nations to work through the final reports together. If you would like to meet with Tammy, please do not hesitate to reach out to her by telephone at 705-303-7845 or email at ngfund@a-e-s.ca.



# 🛨 "Special Education" – Supporting All Learners

Professional development planning for special education is underway for the upcoming school year. Based on community feedback, focus for special education topics include culturally relevant strategies, mental health and well-being, assessments for special education, understanding psychology reports, best practices, and understanding students born with addictions. Keep an eye on the KEB social media sites for updates and registration. If you are interested in other topics for your community or school, please let us know!

In addition to these upcoming sessions, support for special education is available to all AES Participating First Nations in several special education areas:

- developing or updating community special education plans/polices
- supporting AES students attending on-reserve or off-reserve schools
- offering professional development on special education topics.

If your community or AES student has a question or needs support for special education, please contact Colleen Sheriff at <u>colleen.sheriff@a-e-s.ca.</u>



# Regional Education Council Highlights

## Region #1

- Long Lake #58 completed Ezhi Kendmang Anishnaabe Naadziwin (EKAN) with Anishinaabe facilitator, Sandi Boucher.
- Implementation of the AES student information system, PowerSchool, continues. Training sessions were held in June, at Long Lake #58, and in Thunder Bay. Next steps include a two-day in-person training session at region 1 schools towards the end of the summer.
- Biigtigong Nishnaabeg celebrated the groundbreaking of its new elementary school on June 22. The modern facility will be 2,780 square meters (29,924 square feet) and sized to accommodate a student population of 175. Congratulations!
- Lady Mary Creations, Anishinabek artisan Mary Magiskan held four Artist-in-Residence workshops in Long Lake#58 and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg, working with birch bark and quills.



## Region #2

- On June 8, at the KEB Annual General Meeting, elections for the KEB Board of Directors took place. Congratulations to Sherry Dayfox (Sheshegwaning First Nation), who was reelected to the Board of Directors for Region #2, for a three-year term from 2022-2025. Region 2 is also represented by Robert Beaudin (Sheshegwaning First Nation), Jackie Tangie-Roy (Michipicoten First Nation) and Linda Peterson (Michipicoten First Nation).
- Congratulations to the successful applicants in REC #2 for approval of the 2022-2023 Niigaan Giizhaami Fund. There are some great initiatives taking place over the course of the summer and upcoming school year and we are looking forward to providing highlights of the projects as they are implemented.
- Region #2 will continue in the development of plans around each of the priorities that the PFNs have determined for the region.



## Region #3

- The First Nations in REC #3 are deeply sorry to have lost one of its long-standing representatives, Catherine Pawis ba. Catherine played a critical role in the implementation of the AES and was an strong figure in REC #3 since 2018. The communities will certainly miss her knowledge, her kindness, and her contributions to the work of REC #3.
- We are also sorry to lose another longstanding REC #3 Rep, Nancy Allaire, of Nipissing First Nation. Nancy served as a REC #3 Representative since 2018. Her passion for education, her expertise and knowledge, and her kindness will be missed. Congratulations on your retirement Nancy!
- Welcome to the new REC Representatives, Daniel Stevens, Education Director from Nipissing First Nation and Ashley St. Pierre, Education Counsellor from Moose Deer Point First Nation.
- REC #3 received a one year funding approval from ISC Research & Innovation Funding for its Project Coordinator for the Community Profile Books project. The Community Profile Books Project will be busy this year with completion of six books and one updated book.
- Fall meetings are set to take place on October 19-20, 2022 in North Bay. Day one of the meeting is for PFN representatives only, while Day 2 will see the communities joined by partner District School Boards with a focus on Special Education.

#### Region #4

The region has been thinking and talking about language planning in June. A gathering was hosted by the Ogemawahj Tribal Council (OTC) with the guidance of the Region #4 working group. The working group includes Regional Education Council Coordinator, Indigenous Education Officer for the Barrie Region, OTC Education Advisor, and KEB Culture and Language Coordinator. The gathering was attended by regional early learning staff, school board and First Nation school teachers, and post-secondary staff. The group spent two days sharing resources and discussing approaches to regional language support and initiatives. We are excited by the outcomes and plan to host more of these events in the coming year.







## ★ Data Management

Soon the kids will be back in school and the student forms will be going home. Do not forget to fill out the AES Consent forms in the packages!

If you did not receive the consent forms they can be found at the following website: <u>https://aes-keb.com/consent-forms/</u>

The AES Consent forms only need to be filled out once. If you are unsure if this was previously completed, please contact your First Nation Education Department. Two information sessions will be held in September. Please join us in one of the information sessions where any questions about data collection and consent forms can be answered.

AES Consent Form Session for Parents/Guardians and students 16 years of age and older September 7, 2022 at 6:30 PM September 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM

A session for administrators will also be held in August:

AES Consent Training Sessions for Administrators August 30, 2022 at 11:00 AM

For more information please contact: Tracy Hanzlik Data Management Officer <u>tracy.hanzlik@a-e-s.ca</u>



## **Board of Directors Elections**

The Kinoomaadziwin Education Body held its annual Board of Directors elections at the June 8th Annual General Meeting in Chippewas of Rama First Nation. Elections were held to fill open positions in each of the four Regional Education Councils. Below are the results of the elections and the full KEB Board of Directors composition.

REC 1	REC 2	REC 3	REC 4
Judy Desmoulin - Elected! 2022-2025 Tim Hardy - Elected! 2022-2025 Lisa Michano 2021-2024 Stan Sabourin 2020-2023	Sherry Dayfox - Elected! 2022-2025 Jackie Tangie-Roy Robert Beaudin 2021-2024 Linda Peterson 2020-2023	Phyllis Anderson - Elected! 2022-2025 Vacant 2021-2024 Marianna Couchie 2020-2023	Lise Kwekkeboom - Elected! 2022-2025 Chenoa Plain - Elected! 2021-2024 Nancy Assance 2020-2023



KEB full-time contract positions:

Human Resources Officer

Accounts Payable Clerk

Visit <u>www.aes-keb.com/employment-opportunities/</u> for the full posting details.

Deadline Friday, August 5, 2022

## 🕇 Upcoming Events

OJIBWE ONLINE SUMMER LEARNING COURSE (LNOAO) July 4 - July 29

MAAMWI ANISHNAABEG WESHGINIIJIG: YOUTH LEADERSHIP GATHERING August 25, 2022 - Online

GATHERING OF COLLEAGUES September 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

AES CONSENT FORM SESSION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER September 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. September 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

AES CONSENT TRAINING SESSIONS FOR ADMINISTRATORS August 30, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

To learn more about upcoming events at the AES and KEB, please follow us on Facebook or visit the website's event calendar: <u>https://aes-keb.com/calendar/</u>

