

DIBAAJ MOWIN

March

2023

A Message from the KEB

Boozhoo Indinawe maaganidog,

March is a busy month at the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body and throughout the Anishinabek Education System. We recognize the many efforts of the Participating First Nations that are conducting year-end processes and planning for the new fiscal year.

Over the next several weeks, there will be many opportunities for us to gather, both in-person and virtually, at special events like the Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum and the Regional Education Council Spring Meetings. At each of these events, we look forward to providing updates about ongoing work and hearing from you on important issues and priorities.

As we all transition from Ziisbaakto Giizis and into Nmebin Giizis, we hope everyone finds opportunity to enjoy the spring season, the period of renewal and rebirth, that we are gifted with each year.



Last 2 months in Review

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)



Youth Council and Leadership

Starting in November 2021, the KEB hosted a monthly Youth Council Leadership series on zoom. Youth were invited to attend each session to learn about the importance of the AES Youth Council. At each session, youth heard about the structure and role of the youth council, and about the stand-up election process that will be adapted to elect the 1st AES Youth Council. Throughout the year, 96 youth showed an interest in learning about the youth council. The first AES Youth Council election will happen on April 5th at the Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum.

Language and Culture

Nbisiing, in partnership with the AES, hosted a Nishnaabemwin Promotion Camp bringing together students from Nbisiing and St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School.

The students heard from Elders and language carriers who hoped to inspire the next generation of Nishnaabemwin speakers.



★ Ezhi Kendmang Anishinaabe Naadziwin "Sharing the Knowledge of the People"



Wasauksing First Nation hosted a two-day EKAN training session March on 1-2, 2023, at the Gathering Place. The session was held as part of a pilot implementation for the cultural training program, in partnership with Near North District School Board (NNDSB).

In the spring of 2022, school board staff and NBE teachers completed four other modules in the program via a hybrid model of in-person and on-line learning. After a long hiatus, due to COVID, the training was able to take place in person with some of the NNDSB elementary schools and local First Nation staff and schools.



The intent of the training is to support the cultural competency development of educators and education staff working in schools with AES students under Education Service Agreements, and in AES communities. The program offers an opportunity to "learn together."

The program was developed for the AES, to provide educators with a greater understanding and knowledge of the Anishinabek people through cultural understanding and lived experiences. The training helps all participants to build their understanding of Indigenous history, culture, perspectives, and world-views. This is essential to staff who have responsibility for Indigenous programming, and who support Indigenous students in numerous capacities.



First Nations partnering in the implementation of the program can tailor the different modules to the histories, language, and traditions of their First Nations.

The session in Wasauksing First Nation was supported by local knowledge keepers/facilitators, including Maurice Switzer Bnesi, from the Mississaugas of Alderville First Nation, and Waabkanii Kwe, Christine King, from Wasauksing First Nation.

★ KEB Team Highlights

In addition to our team of employees, the KEB works with skilled contractors throughout the year. They enhance the efforts of the KEB team and support the strategic goals of the AES.

Meet our current contractors!

Linda Sullivan - Early Years

Linda's career has transitioned from community development, to national-level mental health policy implementation and health transformation, to Indigenous child welfare system reform, to supporting communities of the AES. Linda is currently contracted with the KEB to support Early Years initiatives, but she has worked with the AES previously, supporting the development of system-wide standards. In every pursuit, Linda has had the good fortune to work with dedicated and passionate individuals who have graciously given their time and wisdom to help her learn and contribute to positive outcomes for those impacted by each project. Linda believes her work with the AES has afforded her an opportunity to understand the foundational pieces necessary to building a strong education system that is responsive and reflective of the needs of today's students and tomorrow's leaders and community builders.

Roslyn Bowness - First Nation Family and Student Advocate

Roslyn is currently supporting the work of the AES as the First Nation Family & Student Advocate. She previously worked for the Near North District School Board for 30 years, serving her last eight years as a Superintendent of Education. In this role, Roslyn provided system leadership for Special Education, Indigenous Education, Mental Health and Equity and Inclusive Education. She continues to be grateful for every opportunity to learn and work together with First Nation community representatives toward the success and well-being of every student.

As the First Nation Family & Student Advocate, Roslyn engages with families throughout the AES, collects relevant data, and finds collaborative solutions to engagement. This strengthens existing partnerships with key roles in education systems that support Anishinabek families such as the Human Rights and Equity Advisors, Indigenous Graduation Coaches, and Indigenous Education Leads. The anticipated outcomes of Roslyn's work are to strengthen partnerships between PFN students, families, and provincially funded schools.

Erin Dokis - Community Profiles Project Coordinator

Erin has worked in the field of education for Indigenous learners, both in her academic and professional life. She carries a wealth of experience in research with First Nation communities across the province and understands the importance of listening and building trust when engaging in any kind of research. The work that she has done in support, administration, and teaching positions has given her a well-rounded understanding of education systems. In her work as the Community Profiles Project Coordinator for REC 3, Erin has built strong relationships with local knowledge keepers and historians of the PFNs, education directors, project administrators, and publishing partners, all in the spirit of sharing stories, knowledge, and learning. Her work as the Community Profiles Project Coordinator will assist communities to develop profile books that will be used to share the history of each community and can be utilized in First Nation and provincial schools. What a great project that shines on the strength and history of the REC 3 and instills a sense of pride in everyone - especially the youth!

★ Regional Education Council Highlights

Region 1

Regional Education Council 1 held an in-person meeting, hosted by Biigtigong Nishinaabeg, at the Turtle Lodge on February 15, 2023. All four PFNs from the region were present and motioned a partnership with Anishinabek Employment & Training Services to support language initiatives.



Biigtigong Nishinaabeg Endzhi-gkinoohmaading Girls Club hosted a Valentine's Day Sweetheart Dinner on February 14, for the community and invited guests, including REC 1 Representatives.

A local band, "No Agenda", shared classic songs and entertained over 100 guests.



Biigtigong Nishinaabeg Endzhi-gkinoohmaading grade 3 & 4 class released fish fingerlings restocking the area lake.

Region 2

A few events were held over the past few months in Sheshegwaning First Nation. One of the events was held at St. Joseph's Anishinabek, Sheshegwaning's elementary school, where they hosted a Valentine Formal Dance for parents organized by the student Chief and Council.



St. Joseph's Anishinabek Elementary School also hosted their Winter Fun Day! This day included lots of activities, such as a building activity that encouraged students to make their own sliders out of cardboard. Then they took them to the hills to race!

The Health centre held a Wellness and Nutrition Day for the students



Region 3



On February 8, 2023, students in the Outdoor Education class at Nbisiing Secondary School were taught how to prep moose legs to make bags. The bone from the moose leg was used to create scrapers and awls for the students. They kept the tendons from the moose to make sinew, and hooves to make rattles during a future project. These teachings were led by two Nipissing First Nation women, Brenda and Audrey. Nbisiing Secondary School is proud of the efforts that go into making sure their students continue to learn traditional ways.



Region 4

In the spring, Aamjiwnaang school and pre-school come out to learn about their connection to the plant world with creation stories and teachings about how sacred, loved, and needed the maple trees are.

Aamjiwnaang sugar bush teachings were led by Sophie Solares, her Dad Roger Williams, and her family picked up a community tradition of harvesting maple sap 13 years ago. While they don't hold title or ownership of the sugar bush, they care for it year-round.

While working in the bush, Sophie's family noticed tapping plugs way up high in the trees. She estimates the trees to be 80-90 years old and the plugs confirm stories in her community of harvesting that used to happen in the past.



★ Anishinaabemowin Resources

In preparation of the upcoming Easter celebration, the KEB is pleased to share this Anishinaabe language resource with all Participating First Nations of the AES.

As part of our ongoing efforts to support communities in language revitalization, the KEB is continuing to develop resources and tools that may be used by the Participating First Nations at your convenience.

Click the image to download the booklet from our website!



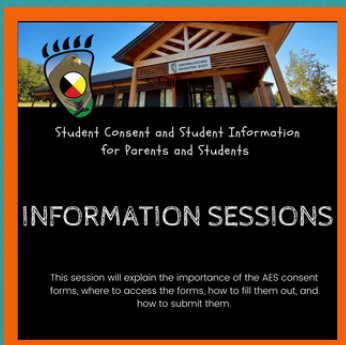
★ Student Consent Forms

We encourage all of our Participating First Nations to continue collecting AES student consent forms! If you require any assistance with your collection process, please reach out to our Data Management Officer, Tracy Hanzlik, at tracy.hanzlik@a-e-s.ca.

Tracy would be happy to connect with you and offer an information session in your community!

Are you a parent looking to learn more or fill out a student consent form for your child?

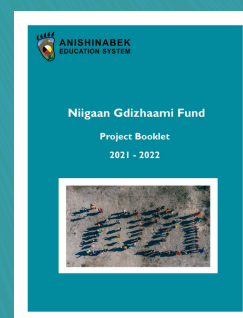
Please click on the following link for a fillable version of the consent form! www.aes-keb.com/consent-forms



★ Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund

The Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund will soon be releasing its annual Call-for-Proposals on April 4th! Please check out the [webpage](#) for the Fund to find all the resources needed for your 2023-2024 application.

You can also browse through the Fund booklet from 2021-2022, to see some of the amazing projects that have been completed!



2021-2022
Niigaan Gdizhaami
Fund Booklet

★ Job Opportunities



Finance Manager (full-time permanent)

Summary:

The Finance Manager provides financial and accounting support services in a timely and accurate manner in accordance with the best accounting practices for the KEB. The position reports to the Director of Education (Enaagdenjget) and provides support to the KEB Board of Directors, the Finance Committee and, as required, the Human Resources Committee. The Finance Manager plays a key role in the overall implementation of the Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement, the Master Education Agreement, and their respective fiscal agreements. The Finance Manager has the full responsibility of ensuring sound financial management and proper accounting.

Find the full job posting and all of our employment opportunities on our website!

<https://aes-keb.com/employment-opportunities/>



★ Upcoming Events



Proposal WRITING WORKSHOP
with Michael Jacobs

Michael S. Jacobs is the Chief Executive Officer for Carleton College's Professional Services Office. He is a proud Anishinabe from the Lake Superior region.

With a career spanning over 20 years in the indigenous consulting industry, Michael has extensive experience in proposal writing and business development, and extensive experience in proposal development and delivery services for projects committed to indigenous communities.

Mike is a facilitator with a strong ability to translate First Nations-related program objectives into realistic, actionable solutions for indigenous and non-indigenous clients.

Tuesday, April 11, 2023
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

In this session Michael will discuss the following topics:

- Writing your Request for Proposals
- Researching Funding Applications
- Proposal Writing
- Native Disbursement Fund Proposals
- Recent Funding Decisions

Register by scanning the QR code or by clicking the link:
<https://aes-keb.com/calendar/registration/2023/04/11/ProposalWritingWorkshop>

For more information contact Tammy Domszala at tdomsz@aes-keb.com

April 11, 2023
Proposal Writing Workshop

Join us ADDRESSING RACISM SERIES
with SANDI BOUCHER

Sandi Boucher is a proud member of Sisseton First Nation. She is an expert in the areas of Indigenous non-aligned education and Canadian reconciliation with 20+ years of experience in writing and delivering facilitation. Through her work, Sandi supports both sides of Canadian reconciliation by creating safe spaces, not only for Indigenous peoples but for non-Indigenous as well.

Staying in Your Power
Wednesday April 12, 2023
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

There is no power in attempting to control the actions of another. The power is in recognizing one's own role, knowledge and the ability to change the situation. Sandi will share the facilitator knowledge as it applies to relationships. She will also discuss ways to resolve prior situations to be ready for challenges long before they need to be.

This is the final session of a three part series.

Register by scanning the QR code or clicking the link:
<https://aes-keb.com/calendar/registration/2023/04/12/StayingInYourPower>

For more information contact Nancy Gibson at ngibson@aes-keb.com

April 12, 2023
Addressing Racism Series with Sandi Boucher:
Staying in your Power

BUDGETING WORKSHOP
with Michael Jacobs

Michael S. Jacobs is the Chief Executive Officer for Carleton College's Professional Services Office. He is a proud Anishinabe from the Lake Superior region.

With a career spanning over 20 years in the indigenous consulting industry, Michael has extensive experience in budgeting and business development, and extensive experience in proposal development and delivery services for projects committed to indigenous communities.

Mike is a facilitator with a strong ability to translate First Nations-related program objectives into realistic, actionable solutions for indigenous and non-indigenous clients.

Thursday, April 13, 2023
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

In this session Michael will discuss the following topics:

- Budgets
- Budgeting Systems
- Budget Calculations and Expenses
- Budget Development and the Role of the Budget Officer
- Budgeting for Program Development and Revenues

Register by scanning the QR code or by clicking the link:
<https://aes-keb.com/calendar/registration/2023/04/13/BudgetingWorkshop>

For more information contact Tammy Domszala at tdomsz@aes-keb.com

April 13, 2023
Budgeting Workshop

Join us for a series of professional development sessions with **DR. LAYLA HALL**

Dr. Hall is a Clinical Psychologist with extensive experience in the areas of professional development, assessment and interpretation of psychological reports, and cultural competency. She is currently the Director of the Assessment and Interpretation of Psychological Reports in the School Setting at Carleton College.

The Assessment Process and Interpreting Psychology Reports in the School Setting
April 20, 2023
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

This presentation will provide an overview of the assessment process and how to use the results of the assessment to inform the school setting. It will also provide an overview of the assessment process and how to use the results of the assessment to inform the school setting.

This PD session with Dr. Hall is open to everyone!

Register for the sixth and final session!
Scan the QR code or copy the link:
<https://aes-keb.com/calendar/registration/2023/04/20/AssessmentProcess>

For additional information contact Colleen Duff at cduff@aes-keb.com

April 20, 2023
Special Education Series with Dr. Layla Hall:
The Assessment Process and Interpreting
Psychology Reports in the School Setting

To see all of our upcoming events at the AES and KEB, please follow us on Facebook or visit our website's event calendar:
<https://aes-keb.com/calendar/>