

DIBAAJMOWIN

January
2024

A Message from the KEB

Aanii kina wiya!

Here we are again at the start of a new year, ready to embark on new adventures. The last year was one of many changes and achievements, and we begin 2024 with gratitude for the past and anticipation for the opportunities ahead of us.

As we move into Mukwa Giizis (Bear Moon - February), we look forward to meeting with the PFNs to continue important work related to the Anishinabek Education System's Financial Agreement with Canada. We also have many events planned for PFNs to participate in, including the next session of the Indigenous Language Teachers Learning Circle, a special land-based learning event in Region 4, and several online professional development sessions.

However we connect throughout the winter, the staff and Board of the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body hope the new year is keeping each of you well and warm. 😊



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)

Language and Culture

Language and Culture Lead Zachary Beaudette has been supporting various initiatives over the last few months including:

- supporting the Indigenous Language Teachers Circle, with the next session to be hosted in February 2024.
- kweji-kinoomaagzidaa - Bi psindwaadaa a Barbara Nolan megwaa gkinomwinang dbaajmonan miinwa Anishinaabe Naadziwin dash.
- Discussions for the KEB to offer AQ courses related to teaching Ojibwe and teaching Lunaape.

LOOKING FORWARD: The next Indigenous Language Teachers Circle will take place in February 2024, on Manitoulin Island.



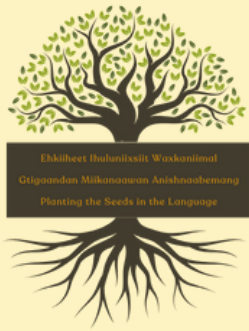
Professional Development

The development of the Ezhi Kendmang Anishnaabe Naadziwin (EKAN) program has evolved over three years. A new call out for interested participants for the 2023-2024 year went out in the fall. The program is intended to be implemented in partnership with a PFN and a school board.

A team consisting of the First Nation, the Regional Education Coordinator, a facilitator, local Elder, and board lead - may customize the delivery of the materials to the region where the program is taking place. The program name translates to "Sharing the Knowledge of the People". This offers a foundation of learning and relationship building for all participants.

LOOKING FORWARD: Planning teams will be meeting in January and February 2024 to move implementation forward.





Anishinabek Education System GTIGAANDAN MIIKANAAWAN ANISHNAABEMANG (PLANTING THE SEEDS IN THE LANGUAGE)

Over the next few months, the Gtigaandan Miikanaawan Anishnaabemang (Planting the Seeds in the Language) project team will be engaging with PFNs in each Regional Education Council to hear community voices and gain input to the development of a 10-year language strategy for the AES.

The PFNs can expect to see the project team working on the following activities:

- developing community language profiles;
- community engagement on language strategies;
- hosting regional language meetings;
- organizing an annual language conference; and
- collecting language survey responses from PFN members and AES students.

The Kinoomaadziwin Education Body is seeking your input on a language survey that will inform the development of a 10-year action-based language strategy for the AES.

Please answer the questions and enter your name into a draw for some great prizes!



Participating First Nations Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3X79H9F>
Open until: February 29, 2024



Student Survey

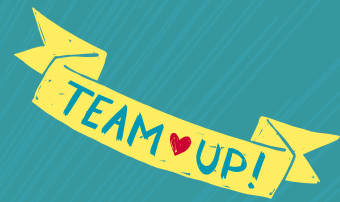
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D8V55B2>
Open until: February 29, 2024



For more information, please contact Greer Atkinson at: greer.atkinson@a-e-s.ca

This project is made possible by a multi-year funding agreement with Canadian Heritage

★ New Staff



**Multi-Year Action
Plan Manager**

My name is Paige Fortier and I am excited to begin a new journey as the Multi-Year Action Plan Manager with the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body. I worked as a secondary teacher for over ten years in a variety of roles. I have teaching experience in senior sciences, special education, alternative education and student success. I am passionate about outdoor education and land-based learning and have shared in many great experiences with students on the Land.

Outside of work you will find me camping with my husband and children, gardening or hiking to a mountain top lookout to enjoy the view.



**Regional Education
Council
Coordinator**

Boozhoo! Niin Sarah indizhinkaaz. Alderville First Nation indoo-nji-baa. Pimidashkodeyang ko gii-izhinkaade enji-baayaanh. Megwaa Lakefield nindidaa. Makwa indinawemaa ingashi nakeying. Hello, my name is Sarah. I am from Alderville. It used to be called Pimidashkodeyang where I am from. Currently I live in Lakefield. I am related to the Bear on my mother's side.

I am looking forward to working with KEB staff and the Participating First Nations in the role of coordinator for Regional Education Council 4. In the past, I have worked as an Indigenous Language Program Coordinator, First Nation Education Advisor, and elementary and secondary native language (Anishinaabemowin) teacher.



**Anishinabek
Education Services
Manager**

Aanii, Kristin Kewaquom n'diizhnikaaaz, Bkejwanong miinwaa Saugeen n'doonjibaa. Ma'ingan n'doodem, ekinomaagekwe n'daaw. Anishinabe miinwaa bodewatomi n'daaw.

To give you some insight, I am a certified Primary/Junior teacher, and a member of the Ontario College of Teachers, in good standing. I have ten years experience in the classroom, with my most recent title being 'Education Team Lead' with Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services. I was recently hired as the Manager of Anishinabek Education Services with the KEB and I am excited to have the opportunity to contribute to our children and youth's education and well-being.



**Strategic Initiatives
Coordinator**

Ahneen!

My name is Renee Jamieson, and I am connecting from my home in G'Chimnissing, or Beausoleil First Nation. I am excited to start my new position as the Strategic Initiatives Coordinator for the KEB. My background is primarily IT related and I have acquired many industry certifications throughout my 25-year career in the Information Technology field. I received my degree in Public Administration and Governance from Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) in 2016, and since then I have dedicated myself to providing support locally in First Nation governance, policy review, and development. I am looking forward to working with the KEB team! Meegwech!

Boozhoo!

I started at the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body in March of 2022 and was very fortunate to have started in the position as the Special Education Coordinator. This position introduced me to many wonderful, caring, and passionate people.

I am thrilled to continue working at the KEB and stepping into the new role as the Human Resources Officer. Much of my career has been spent working in payroll, benefits, and human resources. I am excited to jump into the work and bring my knowledge, experience, passion, and energy to this new role. Miigwech!



**Human Resources
Officer**



Finance Officer

Ahneen! My name is Wilma Tabobondung. I am from Wasauksing First Nation where I live with my husband and our four children.

Throughout my career, I have been dedicated and passionate about working for the community within the finance department. It has not only given me the opportunity to help my home community but has provided me chances to learn about Indigenous finance. My career has given me the experience and knowledge to successfully achieve the Certified Aboriginal Financial Manager (CAFM) and Certified Indigenous Human Resource Professional (CIHRP) designation. Having served as a member of the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association (AFOA) Ontario Chapter Board of Directors for many years, has been a definite benefit, both personally and professionally.

★ Confidence 101 with the AES Youth Council

Members of the AES Youth Council gathered on January 26-28, 2024, at the Holiday Inn in North Bay for a weekend of confidence-building exercises, dialogue, fun, and dance! Turtle Concepts facilitated the workshop, led by Dave and Daniel Jones. It was a great opportunity for the AES Youth Council to come together, catch up with one and another, and meet in-person.

Youth Council Ogimaa-Kwe Cailen Hanzlik attended the workshop with council members Daynara Cyr, Jade Goulais, James Forneri, and Carson Norton-Sutherland. Turtle Concepts kicked-off the youth's Friday evening in high energy with special guests, Emma Morrison (Miss World Canada), Tia Nootchtai (Miss Ontario) and Mekwad, who is a recent inductee into the Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame.

Throughout the gathering, Youth Council members learned about what confidence is and how to express confidence in a healthy way. The group worked through some difficult dialogue with questions like "When do we get to be proud?" and talking about how to handle comments and criticisms from others.

The Turtle Concepts team spoke about how important it is for everyone to contribute to "reinventing Indigenous stereotypes" by walking with our heads high and being confident!

The group acknowledged that it is not always easy to positively express confidence. Many Anishinabek are shy or might suppress confidence as a result of trauma or situations that never allowed their confidence to grow.

The AES Youth Council members in attendance displayed incredible commitment to the workshop, showing that they each have a strong voice, that they are respectful, knowledgeable, and proud of their culture, and that they are dedicated to expressing themselves in positive and healthy ways.

Miigwech to the entire Turtle Concepts team for delivering a fantastic workshop - and chi-miigwech to the AES Youth Council for making it even more fantastic!



★ Regional Education Council Highlights

Region 1

Both Migizi Miigwanan Secondary School and Migizi Wazisin Elementary School have been providing students with land-based learning throughout the school year, with coordinator Lanny Shebagabow. Here are some of the photos from their land-based learning in December!



Regional Education Council Coordinator, Joshua LeClair, and Director of Education, Nancy O'Donnell, visited Long Lake #58 First Nation on January 18 to share a five-year update on the AES. In photo (left to right): Joshua LeClair and Doug Bedwash, Cultural Education Coordinator for Long Lake #58 First Nation.

Region 2



On December 1, 2023, St. Joseph Anishinabek School in Sheshegwaning First Nation held a Community Social and Round Dance.

Families and community members enjoyed lunch and snacks with the students and staff and then participated in the Round Dance drumming and dancing.

Everyone was invited to wear their ribbon skirts, shirts, or vests and the students and staff got an opportunity to showcase their new school ribbon skirts and vests too!

Region 3



Nbisiing Secondary School welcomed Peter Beaucage to conduct their annual Winter Circle. The Nbisiing Red Hawk Drum Group did an amazing job opening and closing the circle. Afterward, the school gathered together and shared a feast. Nbisiing has a very proud community and they are grateful that they can come together and share moments like these.



On December 7, 2023, Oshkibewis Dave Rice spent the day with Mrs. Reed's Ojibwe language students at Parry Sound Public School. Dave shared his knowledge about the Grandfather Drum and spoke to students about our connection to Mother Nature.

Students in the class at Parry Sound Public School were very grateful for this opportunity, which was coordinated by Lisa Ross (Cultural Coordinator), through the Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund and Wasauksing First Nation.



Region 4



Mnjikaning Kendaaswin Elementary School (MKES) Christmas Concert was held on December 21, 2023 at Chippewas of Rama First Nation. The elementary school holds an annual Christmas concert every year, where students from all grades put on musical numbers for the school community. Attached are some of the pictures from this year's event.





Attention all AES Students & Parents!!



Have you filled out your consent forms yet?
Your consent forms are important to the AES, no matter where you reside!

Contact your Director of Education at your First Nation for help, or the Data Management Officer at the KEB: tracy.hanzlik@a-e-s.ca.

You can also access the forms online, here:

<https://aes-keb.com/consent-forms/>

School staff at secondary and elementary schools in the AES recently took part in training on the assignment of Ontario Education Numbers (OENs) for their students. The training is offered annually, and this year we welcomed 12 school staff in total.

Curious about what an OEN is?

The OEN is a unique numerical identifier assigned to students.

- It is a nine-digit number
- It is randomly-generated and assigned
- It is tied to each student's personal information and is retained for life

The OEN application, policies and procedures were designed to protect personal information. By law, the OEN is to be used only for educational purposes.

Why does the OEN matter to the AES?

When the KEB Student Consent Form is filled out, it is important to include the OEN on the form because it enables the sharing of data to the KEB, which helps inform the development of programs and resources for AES students.

★ Upcoming Events

INTERPROFESSIONAL CASE SERIES:
Supporting Students with In-Utero Substance Exposure in the School Setting.

PD SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL!
PLEASE JOIN US VIRTUALLY FROM 12:00-1:00PM FOR THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS

PRESENTATION 1 February 13 An interprofessional approach for students who have had In-Utero Substance Exposure * Combined presentation: Occupational Therapy and Behavioral Therapy presentation	PRESENTATION 3 February 27 Applying Behavioral Principles in the School Setting for Students who have had In-Utero Substance Exposure
PRESENTATION 2 February 20 Applying Psychological Recommendations in the School Setting for Students who have had In-Utero Substance Exposure	PRESENTATION 4 March 5 Applying Occupational Therapy Recommendations in the School Setting for Students who have had In-Utero Substance Exposure

REGISTER HERE <https://aescanada.com/interprofessional-case-series>

For more information please contact Colleen Sheriff at colleen.sheriff@e-s-c.ca

Interprofessional Case Series:

Supporting Students with In-Utero Substance Exposure in the School Setting

- Presentation 1 - February 13, 2024
- Presentation 2 - February 20, 2024
- Presentation 3 - February 27, 2024
- Presentation 4 - March 5, 2024

Kweji-kinoomaagzidaa! Let's Learn Sessions:

Friday, February 2, 2024 at 9:30 am
Stories and Bear Moon with Perry Shabogesic

Friday, February 21, 2024 at 9:30 am
Stories and Anishinaabe Traditions with Alan Corbiere

Kweji-kinoomaagzidaa! "Let's Learn"
STORIES AND BEAR MOON WITH PERRY SHABOGESIC

Bi-prindwadaa a Perry Shabogesic megwa ginoonwinang Ojajimnan minwa Naxwa Gicci dash.

Let's come and listen to Perry Shabogesic while he teaches us about Stories and the Bear Moon!

Friday, February 2, 2024
9:30a.m. to 11:00a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!
THIS IS A FREE AND VIRTUAL EVENT.

REGISTER by scanning the QR code or clicking on the following link:
<https://aescanada.com/interprofessional-case-series/interprofessional-case-series-2024>

For more information please contact Zachary Beaudette at zachary.beaudette@e-s-c.ca

Kweji-kinoomaagzidaa! "Let's Learn"
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For more information please contact Zachary Beaudette at zachary.beaudette@e-s-c.ca



WE'RE HIRING

REGIONAL EVENT COORDINATOR - REC 2
(Three month contract)

Working with the representatives of REC 2, and the REC Coordinator, the Regional Event Coordinator will be responsible for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of a two-day youth gathering in May 2024.

Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2024 or until the position is filled.

Please submit your resume, covering letter, and three references to:
Colleen Sheriff
Human Resources Officer
Kinomashinaabe Education Body
Suite 102, 125 Ojibwa Avenue
North Bay, ON P1B 1R3
kesh@e-s-c.ca
507-499-1367

To view the full posting please visit our the employment page on our website:
<https://aescanada.com/employment-opportunities/>

Now Hiring

Regional Event Coordinator- REC 2
Deadline to apply is February 2, 2024

Please visit the employment page on our website to view the full posting details:
<http://aescanada.com/employment-opportunities/>

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://aescanada.com/calendar/>