



DIBAAJMOWIN

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Supporting Communities Through Jordan's Principle: Information Sessions

On March 26th, two Jordan's Principle Information Sessions were held to provide vital updates and support to communities and partnering District School Boards (DSBs). The sessions focused on key changes outlined in the newly released Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) Jordan's Principle Implementation Bulletin.

The sessions welcomed 25 representatives from AES communities, including Education Directors, Jordan's Principle Navigators, and parents. In addition, 69 representatives from DSBs attended, highlighting the shared commitment to improving outcomes for First Nations children and youth with exceptional needs.

Participants engaged in meaningful discussions on policy changes, updated guidelines for application approval, and strategies for navigating the revised processes. These sessions served as a critical opportunity to strengthen collaboration and ensure all partners are well-informed and better prepared to support families and children in accessing essential services through Jordan's Principle.



To ensure continued access to the information shared, audio recordings of both sessions have been uploaded to the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) for those who were unable to attend or wish to revisit the discussions.

AES Youth Council



We're excited to introduce the newly elected AES Youth Council. Chosen through a traditional stand-up election process held on April 8 and 9, 2025, the council is made up of 8 youth from across the Anishinabek Education System. Each member brings unique experiences, strong leadership qualities, and a passion for uplifting youth voices in their communities.

Over the next two years, the Youth Council will focus on promoting cultural knowledge and identity, strengthening communication between youth and AES leadership, and creating meaningful opportunities for mentorship, skill-building, and empowerment. They are also committed to advocating for safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environments and will continue to host seasonal gatherings and forums that bring youth together to connect and grow.

The newly elected council is prepared to lead with heart, vision, and purpose throughout their two-year term. We look forward to supporting and celebrating their work as they represent youth voices across the AES.

2025 Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum



The 10th annual Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum took place on April 8th and 9th at the Delta Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie. Despite heavy snowfall through the North Bay–Sudbury corridor, the main plenary was filled with Anishinabek youth, members of Participating First Nations, partnering District School Boards, KEB staff, and representatives from the Ministry of Education. A YouTube live link allowed participants to join virtually.

The first day began with a keynote panel on “Building Future Leaders.” Aligned with the Forum’s theme, the panel highlighted the incredible work taking place across the AES to support youth in connecting with their language and culture, while also developing leadership skills and wellness strategies.

Over the two days, the main plenary provided opportunities for regional networking and discussions on important topics such as land-based learning, language and student well-being, as well as small-group sessions on de-streaming.

The main plenary featured presentations from Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund projects on the impact of their work, culturally relevant curriculum developed by Biigtigong Nishnaabeg, and language work taking place across the AES.

Participants also joined breakout sessions to learn more about ongoing work in AES data, Special Education Modules, and Language Learning Pathways.



LUNAAPEEW LANGUAGE SURVEY

*Munsee-Delaware Members:
We want to hear from you!*



LANGUAGE IS IDENTITY

Your input will help safeguard and grow the Lunaapeew language for generations to come.

The AES 10-Year Action-Based Language Strategy supports community-led work across seven pillars: language learning, curriculum creation, language camps, online tools, school-board partnerships, teacher training, and immersion programs.

Share your priorities—take our short survey and guide the next steps in Lunaapeew language revitalization for your community.

Submit your survey by June 30, 2025 for a chance to win a prize.

Scan QR Code to Access Survey!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Velma Noah-Nicholas,
REC4 Lunaapeew Language Coordinator
Kinoomaadziwin Education Body
Velma.Noah-Nicholas@a-e-s.ca



Around the AES



Seven Grandfathers First T-Shirt Campaign

The Seven Grandfathers First T-Shirt Campaign is a student-led initiative developed by the Seven Grandfathers First Youth Council. The students designed the campaign, found a local artist to create the artwork, outsourced the t-shirts, designed advertisements, and planned outings to sell their t-shirts.

Recently, students participated in the First Annual Indigenous Fashion Show during ArtsFest at Parry Sound High School, showcasing their latest designs with reflective logos on the back of each shirt.



On March 25th, education staff and knowledge keepers in REC 1 met in Thunder Bay to form the **Anishinaabemowin Niigaaniwag Committee**. The Committee has finalized a set of terms of reference that outlines their goal: to support language revitalization throughout the REC.

The Committee's first action item was an Anishinaabemowin PD for education staff and Elder's circle, held on May 15th and 16th, where they received guidance on the direction moving forward. The education staff participated in four different breakout sessions to learn about Anishinaabemowin resources and how they can incorporate them into their classrooms. Education staff also shared resources and learned about 'The Chunking Method' of teaching from Cynthia Wemigwans.

New Staff

Michelle Pigeon
Finance Manager



Charity Caluori
AES Education Data Analyst

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

YOUTH SPEAKER SERIES

Join us for the Youth Speaker Series, an Anishinabek Education System event celebrating the voices, talents, and life experiences of inspiring Indigenous youth from across the AES. Hear their stories of growth, achievement, and cultural identity as they uplift and empower their communities.

ABOUT BROOKLYN

Brooklyn Sawyer is an Anishnaabekwe from Nipissing First Nation who is deeply connected to her culture and traditions. In her free time, she can be found at powwows across Turtle Island, dancing in regalia she crafts herself or working on projects like moccasin making, beading, and preparing traditional medicines.

MAY 26TH, 2025

Join us and Brooklyn Sawyer on May 26th from 5:30 to 6:30 PM as she shares her journey of creating her own regalia and exploring different dance styles. Learn about the artistry and personal significance behind her work.

BROOKLYN SAWYER



REGISTRATION

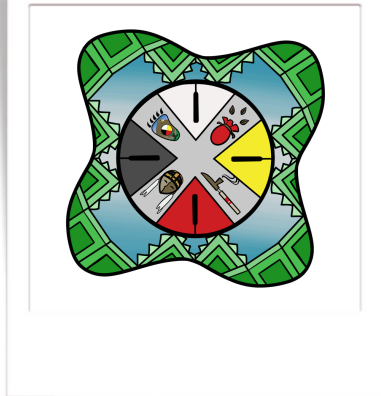
To register, and submit a question to Brooklyn, please scan the QR code and complete the form.



For more information please contact the Youth Initiatives Coordinator
Kaelyn.Pizzale@a-e-s.ca

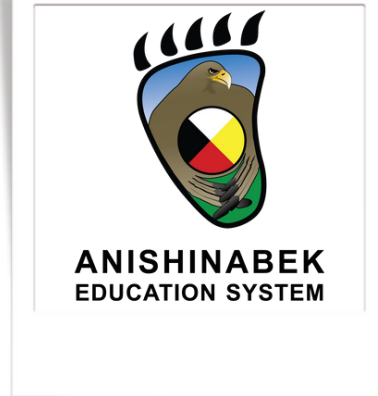
UPCOMING EVENTS

AES Youth Speaker Series



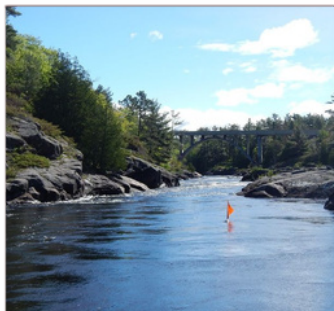
May 26, 2025
Online event
Contact:
Kaelyn.Pizzale@a-e-s.ca

Spring REC Meetings



REC 2: May 21, 2025
REC 1: May 28, 2025
Contact:
Kristin.Kewaquom@a-e-s.ca

AES Annual General Meeting



August 21, 2025
Magnetawan First Nation
Contact: Tracy.Paul@a-e-s.ca

KEB Board of Directors and Staff Meeting



September 17-18, 2025
Fort William First Nation
Contact: Tracy.Paul@a-e-s.ca

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