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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE HELD ON OCTOBER 19, 2016 AT  
Magnetawan First Nation**

Nicole King, Moose Deer Point First Nation  
Sharon Goulais, Dokis First Nation  
Nancy Allaire, Nipissing First Nation  
Vince Pawis Jr., Shawanaga First Nation  
Roslyn Bowness, Superintendent of Schools  
Dawn Buckland, Principal of Nobel and Britt Public Schools  
Doug Robidoux, Math Teacher Leader  
Carol Stevens, First Nations Trustee and Magnetawan First Nation  
Amanda Mathias Mizzi, Coordinator, Indigenous Education  
Alan Bottomley, Trustee  
Larry Paquette, Principal Northern Secondary  
Melanie Simmonds, Executive Assistant

**1.0 WELCOME**

**2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Approved by: Nancy Allaire  
Seconded by: Larry Paquette

**3.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 MEETING**

Approved by: Sharon Goulais  
Seconded by: Nancy Allaire

**5.0 Our Shared work:**

The Ministry is now funding a dedicated Indigenous Lead that is part of the Board's operating grants. This is a brand new position for some Boards. This position funds the role that Amanda currently supports within our Board as Coordinator of Indigenous Education.

**Treaty Education**

Our Board is working with Maurice Switzer on a year long project. Amanda shared pamphlets titled, We Are All Treaty People describing this project work. Maurice is leading presentations and workshops around Treaty relationships. Amanda presented examples of art work the students are working on collaboratively as a part of this experience. Dawn described her experience working with Maurice and how the students were very engaged in the learning. Amanda will extend an invite to committee members when he is presenting in their areas.

## Let us Listen

The Board as worked with George Couchie for the past 4 years with his Walking the Path program. The model has been adapted to a one-day workshop geared to education. Al discussed how well received the presentation was that he attended with Trustees. This work is ongoing.

## Native Language Revitalization

We continue to look for opportunities to explore native language revitalization across our Board as prioritized using a priority school approach using our Voluntary Self Identification as a starting point. It started in the Parry Sound area expanding into both White woods and Northern last year. This year we are introducing programming at Woodland Public School. There are three new Native language teachers within our Board. They are supported through a professional learning community made up of new and experienced native language teachers. We continue to explore other opportunities through potential reach ahead and blended learning models to create additional opportunities. We are currently working on a best practices guide to support our ongoing work in schools. Amanda will be reaching out to communities around protocols connected to acknowledgement of territory as a starting point.

## Student Well Being – Mentally Healthy Schools

Our Board continues to support the implementation of the MindUp program JK-8 across the Board. Our Mental Health Lead is supporting schools around implementation. We are also working on transition supports for our students coming from northern Cree communities this year.

## FNMI Collaboration – Mathematics

This is funded by the Ministry of Education through student success with a focus on grade 7-10 student engagement and achievement in mathematics. Doug Robidoux is our Board lead this year.

### **5.1 First Nation Updates**

Dokis First Nation museum opening has taken place and they have hired a tour guide. Trails are also open to the public with various lengths and vegetation.

Magnetawan First Nation has a new gas station being built that will house a drive thru Tim Horton's. Attendance rates for students from Magnetawan First Nation have increased due to an incentive program put in place.

Shawanaga First Nation is working on their big drum and each class has opportunities to work on it.

Nipissing First Nation is looking into partnerships and student opportunities through INAC. They have a homework assistance program and could offer secondary leadership students employment opportunities.

### **5.2 Education Service Agreement- relationships**

Four years ago a collaborative Education Services Agreement was created together. This has become the core agreement for many signed agreements with some having additional addendums. In-service for Principals around Education Service Agreements recently took place.

**NEXT MEETING: TBD**