Indigenous Advisory Circle

Minutes of the Meeting of January 29, 2018

Present at STP: Grafton Antone, Brenda Simpson, Lori Campbell, Eileen Antone, Emma Smith, Rick Myers

On the phone: Marisha Roman, Jaimie Lickers, Brock Higgins, Taunie Sheldon

Guests: Diana Parry, Kelly Davis, Joanne Adair

Regrets: Chris Read

1. Opening and Introductions

The meeting began at 10:00 with Marisha presiding. Grafton offered an opening prayer and those present introduced themselves. Taunie joined the meeting after it had begun. As it was her first meeting, she provided a brief summary of her background. The name “Taunie” means “Light in the Dark.” She has worked as a pilot for Air Inuit, and as an employee of Correctional Services Canada and Family and Child Services. Welcome, Taunie!

2. University of Waterloo Indigenization Strategy

Diana Perry is the Associate Vice-President for Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion and is overseeing the development of the University of Waterloo’s Indigenization Strategy. The work is being directed by a steering committee of five members, each of whom oversees one working group.

Mario Coniglio: Curriculum and Academic Programming
Bruce Muirhead: Research
Katherine Bergman: Student Experience
Lori Campbell: Community Outreach
Doug Peers: Policies and Procedures

Each working group includes representation from students, staff, faculty and the Colleges. Each working group includes Indigenous people.

The Steering Group’s mandate is to provide a set of recommendations to the President and Provost by July 1. Diana and other members of the Steering Group would like to meet with the IAC in March to get feedback on the first draft of the recommendations.
3. **Principal’s Report**

The Principal reported on four items.

a) **Secondment of the Director**  Rick noted that the Director has been seconded for 50% of her time to provide guidance in the UW Indigenization Strategy. He suggested that this arrangement is good for all parties. STP gets resources to replace Lori’s time in the Center, and we also ensure that our Center has a major role in the UW process.

b) **New Entrance**  Rick reported that the College has succeeded in an application for a grant to build a new entrance to the College next to the Centre. The grant is worth $38,000 and the College still needs to find another $20,000 to carry out the project. The new entrance should make the Center both more visible and more accessible.

c) **Indigenous Studies Minor**  It appears that the proposal for a Minor in Indigenous Studies will receive final approval from the Senate at its February meeting. This is a significant development for it marks the first time that UW will offer a credential that is specifically focused on Indigenous matters. UW is the only university in Ontario, apart from UOIT (which has a special mandate) that has no credentials in this area.

d) **Bachelor of Indigenous Entrepreneurship**  There is a working group that is developing a curriculum for the BIE. It includes STP staff and faculty, business experts from Engineering and Environment, and colleagues from the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business.

5. **Director’s Report**

A written report was circulated ahead of time. The Director focused on a few key issues.

a) **Launch for the New Name of the Center**  There will be a formal launch for the new name for the Center on February 28th from 2-4. Our Chancellor, JP Gladu, will be present.

b) **Acting Manager**  Jaydum Hunt, a UW alum, will be starting next week as the Manager of the Center, back-filling for the Director during her secondment to UW.

c) **Circle of Life-Long Learning**  The Hallman Foundation, which funded the three-year pilot of this camp, is open to receiving a proposal for an additional three years of funding. The new proposal will incorporate a segment on entrepreneurship.

d) **MSW Student**  Christine Hilton, an MSW student from WLU, will be assisting in the Centre as a placement for her degree. She has an interest in policy and will be assisting with a review of policies and procedures in the Centre.

e) **Pow-wow**  This year’s pow-wow will have a focus on Indigenous alumni, with a view to better connecting them to current students as mentors or advisors. It is hoped that this initiative will allow students to develop stronger networks for employment and other purposes.

6. **Membership**

Brock presented the membership matrix he circulated ahead of time (attached). He noted that this kind of matrix is commonly used for public organizations and makes it easier to be more planful (rather than reactive) in terms of membership.

It was agreed that each of us would fill in the matrix and email it to Brock by February 15.
7. **Next Meeting**

We have already scheduled a meeting for May 28 at 10:00 am. Alysha will work with Kelly Davis to circulate a doodle poll about a special meeting to offer comments on the recommendations emanating from the UW Indigenization process.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 with a prayer by Eileen.

Rick Myers  
Recording Secretary
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<th>CIRCLE MEMBER</th>
<th>Function / Occupation</th>
<th>Professional Background</th>
<th>One or More Directors Should Have Experience/Knowledge in:</th>
<th>The Committee Will Reflect A Balance Related To:</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<td>Brock Higgins</td>
<td>Managing Partner, Higgins Executive Search / Leaders International</td>
<td>Recruitment, Human Resources, Consultant</td>
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Please self-assess your level of competency for each of the identified Board needs:

1 = minimal - skills/knowledge/competency
2 = good - skills/knowledge/competency;
3 = expert - (e.g. C.A., lawyer, etc.)

*Ancestry – First Nation, Inuit, Métis, Non-Status (NS), Non-Aboriginal (NA)