

June 2017

Indigenous Advisory Circle Terms of Reference

Authority: St. Paul's University College Board of Governors with the general agreement of the President of the University of Waterloo

Background and Context:

St. Paul's University College ("STP" or "the College") and the University of Waterloo ("the University") value the diverse cultures, knowledges and perspectives of original Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Inuit, Metis) in Canada. They also acknowledge their responsibility for promoting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. The two institutions are committed to establishing and maintaining mutually respectful relations with Indigenous communities and to working to advance the interests and rights of Indigenous peoples.

Purpose:

The Indigenous Advisory Circle is a visionary and advisory body, working together to bring the issues, experiences, expertise and perspectives of Indigenous peoples in Canada to the College and the University. Its advice ensures Indigenous perspectives and interests are taken into account in the programs and services of the College and the University. Specifically, the Advisory Circle provides feedback and direction to the staff of the Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre, as per the requirements of the Postsecondary Education Fund for Aboriginal Learners (PEFAL) of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. Members will consult regularly with representatives of Indigenous organizations and institutions, and, in particular, those who are working at the community level on Indigenous issues, especially in relation to higher education.

Structure:

The Indigenous Advisory Circle will normally be composed of no fewer than eight (8) members, including faculty, staff, students and key members of local Indigenous organizations, institutions and communities.

Normally, the Advisory Circle's membership will be representative of urban, rural and northern Indigenous peoples in Canada. Members will have expertise and experience in a range of areas of concern to Indigenous peoples, but particularly education and social innovation. The

Advisory Circle should also include members with expertise in traditional knowledge and traditional governance. The Circle will itself develop and maintain a list of potential members.

Appointments are made by the Principal, in consultation with the President. The term of members of the Advisory circle will be for three years, with a potential for re-appointment for an additional three years.

Voting members shall select a Chair from among themselves at the final meeting of each academic year. The term of the Chair may be renewed.

Regular attendance and contribution is required. If a member misses three (3) consecutive meetings, the Chair may request that the member be replaced.

Meetings:

Meetings of the Advisory Circle will be held three (3) times per academic year; however additional meetings may be required. The presence of 50 per cent of the members will constitute quorum.

Faculty and staff members of St. Paul's University College, the University of Waterloo and the other affiliated university colleges and the federated university who are stakeholders in, or are responsible for, Indigenous education programs and services will regularly be invited to attend Circle meetings to report, receive advice and discuss new or improved initiatives.

Remuneration:

The members of the Advisory Circle will volunteer their time and serve without remuneration, and no members will directly or indirectly receive any monetary benefits from serving as a member. Members may claim out of pocket expenses such as travel to meetings in Waterloo in accordance with St. Paul's policies.

Originally adopted: April 2013

Revised: June 2017

Review date: June 2020