

APPENDIX D: THE ANISHINAABE PEOPLES' COUNCIL

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Anishinaabe Peoples' Council (APC) has a collective responsibility to represent the needs, interests and aspirations of the Anishinaabe (First Nations, Métis, Inuit) people and Anishinaabe students at all times. The mandate and responsibilities of the APC consist of the following objectives.

1) Objectives:

- (i) The APC will function as a Board Committee on Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) policy, on academic and support services, and therefore the council will report to the Board on such matters.
- (ii) The APC will consult and liaise with Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) communities on their educational needs, aspirations and proposed Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) initiatives to assist the University as needed.
- (iii) The APC shall provide advice on and participate in mechanisms related to the development of Algoma University's Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) academic, research and support services, long range and annual action plans.
- (iv) The APC shall participate in mechanisms related to the hiring of Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) personnel in Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) non- academic positions.
- (v) The APC shall participate in the development and recommendation of policies for the management of Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) student support services.
- (vi) The APC in co-operation with Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) faculty, staff and students will act as a resource and advisory body for the planning and conducting of cross-cultural learning experiences for faculty, students, support staff, management officers, and governing bodies of the University.
- (vii) The APC shall participate on committees of the University as appropriate.
- (viii) The APC has the responsibility to bring awareness and to initiate potential funding proposals to support Anishinaabe (*First Nations, Métis, Inuit*) academic, research, cultural and social programming and services needs. Regular updates on such will be provided through the APC meeting structures.

2) Membership:

The APC consists of representatives, duly appointed through a resolution, from First Nations, Métis, Inuit and urban Indigenous communities and organizations, as well as the student body as listed below.

Voting members of the APC will be comprised of the following:

Batchewana First Nation (Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians)
Garden River First Nation (Union of Ontario Indians)
North Shore Tribal Council
Indian Friendship Centre
Métis Nation of Ontario
Neech-Ke-When Homes
SASA Student Representative
Children of Shingwauk Alumni
AU Anishinaabe Alumni
Historic Sault Ste. Marie Metis Council

The ex-officio representatives (non-voting) consist of:

President of Algoma University
Vice President: Nyaagaaniid Anishinaabe Initiatives, Equity and Student Success
Anishinaabe Academic Director, Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig
Chair of the Board of Governors or designate
Algoma University Speaker of Senate or designate

Each representative must receive APC formal approval.

3) Term of Office:

- (i) The term of office for each appointed First Nations, Métis, Inuit communities and organizations representative shall be for a three-years, except for the SASA student representative who will be appointed annually.
- (ii) With the exception of an ex-officio member, a member who expects to be unable to fulfill their responsibilities, including no more than three missed meetings, will notify APC membership. If a member misses three meetings in an Board year, the Co-Chairs will issue a letter to the communities and/or organizations to re-affirm membership commitment. Meetings shall be normally scheduled in September, November, January, March and May.
- (iii) The APC shall declare the First Nations, Métis, Inuit communities' and organizations' seat vacant should a member fail to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings.
- (iv) Each organization with a voting member shall duly appoint a primary and an alternate member to APC; however, only one member shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the APC.
- (v) Ideally, questions will be decided by complete consensus, however, in the absence of consensus, all motions and resolutions shall be decided by a complete majority of those voting members present and voting at the said meetings.

4) Quorum:

Quorum shall consist of 50% voting members in good standing, with a minimum of four. Good standing shall mean that this seat is not vacant.

5) Meetings of the Anishinaabe Peoples' Council:

- (i) The APC shall meet five times a Board year (September, November, January, March and

May). Should a regularly scheduled meeting be cancelled due to lack of quorum an alternative date within two week's time will be selected.

- (ii) The business of a meeting shall be confined to the agenda and no new matter, other than a point of order or privilege shall be dealt with unless the introduction of such new matter shall be approved by a two thirds vote of voting members present. All matters of inclusion to the agenda of APC meetings must be in the hand of the Secretary at least seven working days prior to the day of the meeting at which time they are to be represented. Only matters placed in the hands of the Secretary shall be included in the agenda pre-circulated to members.
- (iii) Special meetings of APC shall be held at the call of the Chair or in the event of the Chair's absence or inability to act, at the call of the Vice-Chair and may also be called on the written request of not fewer than four members of APC.

6) Chair and Vice-Chair:

- (i) A Chair and Vice-Chair shall be selected from the First Nations, Métis, Inuit representatives of APC on an annual basis – at the first meeting held in the Board year. The Chair or Vice-Chair is responsible for creating agendas, residing over APC meetings and may have other duties as assigned by APC.
- (ii) The responsibilities of the APC members include participating in the committee and/or sub-committees, consulting and reporting to respective First Nations, Métis, Inuit communities and/or organizations, and students.
- (iii) The Terms of Reference of the Anishinaabe Peoples' Council can be amended from time to time at a duly convened meeting of the APC, with adequate notice for such a meeting and information on proposed amendments. Further, such amendments will be forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval.
- (iv) The APC shall see that minutes and records are regularly and properly kept.
- (v) The meetings of the APC will include the traditional Anishinaabe practice of an opening prayer.

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