

Our Children, Our Future, Our Vision



CHIEFS OF ONTARIO

EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2015: A GATHERING OF EDUCATION LEADERS

KING EDWARD HOTEL TORONTO, ONTARIO, MARCH 5-6, 2015

AGENDA

Thursday, March 5, 2015

8:00 – 8:45 a.m.	REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
8:45 – 9:00 a.m. Sovereign Ballroom	OPENING PRAYER Amy Desjarlais
9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Sovereign Ballroom	TRADITIONAL HOOP DANCE Lisa Odjig, World Hoop Dance Champion
9:15 – 9:30 a.m. Sovereign Ballroom	MASTER OF CEREMONIES Grand Chief Gord Peters, Education Portfolio Tristen Schneider and Michael Moore, Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council
9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Sovereign Ballroom	WELCOMING REMARKS Ontario Regional Chief Stan Beardy and Grand Chief Gord Peters, Education Portfolio
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Break and Visit of Exhibit Booths
10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Sovereign Ballroom	KEYNOTE ADDRESS- Sharon Venne, Lawyer and Treaty 6 Ambassador to UN Anchoring the event with a big picture on First Nations Education, the presenter will weave a coherent and actionable vision for the needed reforms. Laying out a foundation for the rest of the event, attendees will be motivated to translate ideas into mechanisms.
11:15 – 12:00 p.m. Sovereign Ballroom	EDUCATION UPDATE Julia Candlish, Education Coordinator Julia will provide updates on various priority areas including Early Learning, provincial and national activities, Special Education and the <i>Charting Our Own Path Forward</i> initiative. Education Web Portal Demo- Joe Quaresima, Systems Director, Sencia
<i>AANDC Reporting Clinic-Boardroom A, Mezzanine Floor- Indian Affairs staff will be on hand to provide one-on-one assistance with Data Collection Instruments (DCI's) and to review the completion of the Education Reporting or Proposal DCI's for the various Education Programs. Please bring laptops and/or information to complete the DCI's. Sessions will take place in 30 minute increments throughout the day. Space is limited please see sign-up sheet at the registration desk.</i>	
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Sovereign Ballroom

PANEL DISCUSSION – WHAT’S NEW IN RECENT REPORTS

Authors of recent reports on First Nations education will make a short presentation on the findings associated with their study. Presentations will be followed by a Q&A.

PANELLISTS

Annie Kidder, Executive Director, People for Education and co-author of *First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education: Overcoming gaps in provincially funded schools*

Paul Bennett, Founding Director, Schoolhouse Consulting and co-author of *Picking up the Pieces: A Community School-Based Approach to First Nations Education Renewal* by Northern Policy Institute

Michael Mendelson, Senior Scholar, Caledon Institute of Social Policy and author of *A Second Look at the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act*

Lindsay Morcom, Assistant Professor, Queens University and author of *Determining the Role of Language and Culture in First Nation Schools: A Comparison of the First Nation Education Act with the Policy of the Assembly of First Nations*

2:30 – 2:45 p.m. **Break and Visit of Exhibit Booths**

2:45 – 3:15 p.m. **FEATURED SPEAKER Mac Saulis, Associate Professor, Wilfred Laurier University**
Sovereign Ballroom Educating with Indigenous Worldview

3:15 – 4:45 p.m. **BREAK OUT INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CIRCLES**
These four sessions are designed to provide information, encourage feedback/input and share best practices wherever possible.

Sovereign Ballroom

In Depth Update and Discussion

From Julia Candlish, Education Coordinator, Participants will be provided detailed information on national, provincial and internal initiatives that COO is involved in (i.e. Bill C-33, Special Education etc.) and be given the opportunity to provide input.

Windsor A

Early Learning Network

From Yolanda Fobister, Education Policy Analyst, participants will receive an overview of the new Education Portal on the COO website and engage in strategy development for networking and capacity development for Early Learning professionals.

Windsor B

K-12 Network

From Gina McGahey, Education Policy Advisor, participants will receive an overview of the new Education Portal on the COO website and engage in strategy development for networking and capacity development for elementary/secondary technicians, teachers, etc.

Windsor C

PSET Network

From Murray Maracle, Education Director, Anishinabek Education Institute, participants will receive an overview of the new Education Portal on the COO website and engage in strategy development for networking and capacity development for postsecondary and training professionals.

4:45 p.m. **CLOSING PRAYER Amy Desjarlais**
Sovereign Ballroom

Friday, March 6, 2015

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:45 – 9:00 a.m. OPENING PRAYER Amy Desjarlais
Sovereign Ballroom

***AANDC Reporting Clinic- Boardroom A, Mezzanine Floor** -Indian Affairs staff will be on hand to provide one-on-one assistance with Data Collection Instruments (DCI's) and to review the completion of the Education Reporting or Proposal DCI's for the various Education Programs. Please bring laptops and/or information to complete the DCI's. Sessions will take place in 30 minute increments throughout the day. Space is limited please see sign-up sheet at the registration desk.*

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. FEATURED SPEAKER Andrea Landry, Participant, United Nations Global Indigenous Youth Caucus
Sovereign Ballroom

9:30 – 10:30 a.m. YOUTH PANEL DISCUSSION - SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PERSONAL UNDERSTANDINGS
Sovereign Ballroom
Post secondary students from various First Nation communities will share their experiences and insights related to how their special education needs were met throughout their school years. The panel presentations will be followed by an opportunity for Q&A.

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Break and Visit of Exhibit Booths

10:45 – 12:00 p.m. BREAK OUT INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CIRCLES
These four sessions are designed to provide information, encourage feedback/input and share best practices wherever possible.

Sovereign Ballroom

Provincial Mental Health Strategy

Special Education Policy and Programs Branch of the Ministry of Education will provide an overview of the provincial Mental Health Strategy focusing on connections with First Nation education.

Windsor A

Treaty in the Classroom

Kelly Crawford, Instructor at Kenjgewin Teg Educational Institute, former Transitions coordinator and a writer, will present the "We Are All Treaty People Kit/Resource Guide" created by the Union of Ontario Indians and facilitate a discussion on how to incorporate Ontario Treaty education into the classroom.

Windsor B

Provincial curriculum

Maureen Callan, Education Officer from the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch of the Ministry of Education will provide an overview of the process for incorporating First Nation content into the provincial curriculum.

Windsor C

Language and Culture, Standards for Lifelong Learning

Gina McGahey, Education Policy Advisor, will provide an overview of the process undertaken at the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians to develop language and culture standards for lifelong learning.

12:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Sovereign Ballroom

DISCUSSION Burning Issues, Brainstorming and Strategy Development

This is a plenary discussion devoted to strategy development on the top issues that were collected through direct input of participants over the previous day and a half of the conference. The issues are identified as those needing to be addressed as priorities through regional activities over the next year.

The ensuing strategy with timelines and anticipated outcomes will be circulated within two weeks of the conference and follow-up activities will begin as soon as possible in the new fiscal year.

2:30 – 3:15 p.m.
Sovereign Ballroom

PRESENTATION- SUCCESS STORIES

ROADMAP TO RECOGNITION

Rosie Mosquito, Chair, Aboriginal Institutes' Consortium (AIC)

The speaker will present the highlights from the AIC position paper that launched the campaign for a policy for Aboriginal Institutes in the face of funding pressures.

WORLD INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (WIPCE)

Rebecca Jamieson, President-CEO, SN Polytechnic

The speaker will present how this global event, held every 3 years, will be hosted in Toronto in 2017 and how it will be an unprecedented showcase of partnerships and successes in Indigenous education.

3:15 p.m.
Sovereign Ballroom

CLOSING REMARKS Grand Chief Gordon Peters, Education Portfolio

CLOSING PRAYER Amy Desjarlais