



IPEC minutes

April 12, 2024

Office of Indigenous Initiatives

**Present**

Candace BRUNETTE-DEBASSIGE

Christy BRESSETTE

Sara Mai CHITTY

Paula CORNELIUS-HEDGEPEETH

Lorraine DAVIES

Debbie DOLSON

Joan FINEGAN

Sean HOOGTERP

Ashley KEYWAYOSH-SAMUELS

Misko KICKNOSWAY

Myrna KICKNOSWAY

Rick MONTOUR

**Affiliation**

Faculty member, Faculty of Education

Associate Vice Provost/Vice President Indigenous Initiatives,  
Office of Indigenous Initiatives

Curriculum and Pedagogy Advisor, Office of Indigenous  
Initiatives

Community Relations/Space Coordinator Wampum Learning  
Lodge, Western University

Associate Vice Provost, School of Graduate and Post-Doctoral  
Studies (SGPS)

Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, Post-Secondary  
Education Councilor

Acting Director, Indigenous Studies, Academic Department

Affiliates indigenous Lead, Affiliated Colleges Brescia, Huron,  
Kings

Student Opportunities Coordinator, Indigenous Students  
Centre, Office of Indigenous Initiatives

Indigenous Students Association, Western University

Visiting Elder to provide Traditional opening

Grand River Post-Secondary Education Lead, Six Nations of  
Grand River

Jody NOAH IPEC Co-chair, Southern First Nation Secretariat  
Lissette OCHOA Brescia University College  
Jennifer SLAY Dean of Equity, Decolonization, Inclusivity and Diversity, Kings  
University College  
Laura SPERO Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Post-Secondary Education  
Councilor

GUESTS:

Katrina MOSER Department of Geography, Western University

**Regrets**

Deborah ARMSTRONG  
Kathleen ANDERSON  
Regna DARNELL

**Affiliation**

Nokee Kwe Employment Services, Director  
Metis Nation of Ontario  
Presidents Appointment, Faculty of Social Science, Western  
University  
Professor, Indigenous Studies Department, Western University  
Saugeen First Nation, Education Administrator  
Office Administrator, Office of Indigenous Initiatives  
Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE)  
Coordinator, Indigenous Students Centre  
Bkejwanong First Nation, Post Secondary Education Councilor  
Oneida Nation of the Thames First Nation, Director of  
Education  
Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation, Secondary School Lead  
Southwestern Ontario Aboriginal Health Care (SOAHAC),  
London Ontario  
Indigenous First Nations House, Manager, Fanshawe College

Rick FEHR  
Mindy GILL-JOHNSON  
Melinda MORADIPOUR  
Amanda MORIN

Jarvis NAHDEE  
Bette SUMMERS

Jenna SOUTHEN  
Vallie TRUDEAU

Guy WILLIAMS

1. Traditional opening - Myrna Kicknosway
2. Welcoming Address- IPEC Co-chairs Jody Noah and Christy Bressette
3. Special presentation – Sara Mai and Katrina Moser
  - A co-created course that brought together Indigenous Scientific knowledge as well as everyday knowledge needed to address climate change. Climate change has a large connection to colonization and industrialization.
  - Connecting 4 Climate Change Action  
[https://geoenvironment.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course\\_information/new\\_course\\_connecting\\_for\\_climate\\_change\\_action.html](https://geoenvironment.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course_information/new_course_connecting_for_climate_change_action.html)
  - This class gives hope to a rather bleak situation of climate change, activating our traditional ways of Hope and Joy
  - Next cohort launches in June
4. Policy for Affirming Declarations of Indigeneity at Western University- IPEC Co-chairs
  - Draft iteration number 2 is currently being reviewed by a legal team
  - Has been piloted six times (Check for confirmation)
  - All of IFAC members have agreed to pilot on themselves
  - Question- what are the modes of affirmation for Globally Indigenous individuals?
  - For consideration- genealogy tree, currently expressed as ‘four generations out’ Is this too much to represent a close tie to community?
  - Motion was made to continue behind-the-scenes work on this policy
5. IPEC workplan discussion- IPEC co-chair Jody Noah
  - A work plan should be better developed to guide the work of the IPEC team. As it stands in previous years, there was a specific focus on departments or units such as Schulich Medicine to best understand needs and assess where decolonial method can be applied.
  - Develop guiding principles or goals each year
6. [Terms of Reference review](#) - Paula Cornelius-Hedgepeth
  - Document has not been updated since 2019
  - Subcommittee will be gathered to review and bring back to IPEC for further discussion next meeting
7. Departmental updates, Christy Bressette
  - One pagers sent out via email and OWL
8. Traditional closing- Elder Myrna Kicknosway