



## **GFC Standing Committee Report**

**Committee: Iniskim Education Committee (IEC)**

**For the Period of July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019**

**Members:** Kathleen Massey, Roy Pogorzelski, Mike Mahon (Delegate Leroy Little Bear), Charlene Bruised Head-Mountain Horse, Calvin Williams (Elder Designate), Amanda Scout, Travis Plaited Hair, Mike Bruised Head, Chloe Crosschild, Jackson Leween, Sheila McManus, Monique Giroux (Gordon Bruyere October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019), Michelle Helstein, Jackie Rice

**Resource Persons (non-voting):**

Jodie Gallais, Director, Mike Whipple, Roy Weasel Fat (President, Red Crow College), Mark Slomp, Crystal Volk

**Meeting Overview:** The IEC met four times this year, on the following dates: October 4, 2018, December 14, 2018, January 22, 2019, and March 22, 2019.

The IEC focused on the following priorities in 2018-19:

- Supporting the completion of an asset map of Indigenous research, teaching, resources, and student services initiatives that currently exist at the University and highlighting opportunities for improvements; supporting the process to revise the University of Lethbridge Aboriginal Protocol Handbook
- Establishing Standard Operating Procedures for supporting smudging and pipe offerings and expanding the number of locations at the University where this can be done. As a result of this work, 24 indoor spaces (7 buildings) and 6 outdoor spaces across the Lethbridge campus have been approved for these activities.
- Initiating the strategic planning process and consultation with Blackfoot Elders and youth
- On December 14, 2019, recommending the approval of the wording of the University's first Traditional Territory Acknowledgement
- Supporting Indigenous Awareness Days
- Establishing a working group to conduct a needs analysis for the future location of iikaisskini Gathering Place
- Supporting a new initiative from Housing Services to help residents and the campus community properly pronounce the Blackfoot building names and to understand the cultural meaning of the names.

**Membership Changes:** As a result of the GFC standing committee review process in 2018-19, the IEC membership was adjusted by GFC to include an undergraduate student as appointed by the ULSU.

Elder Francis First Charger has been appointed as the Elder to the IEC. Red Crow College's President, currently Roy Weasel Fat, has been identified as an ongoing resource member to the IEC.

**Special Mentions:**

The IEC and the Director of Iikaiskini Gathering Place established the Indigenous Strategy Working Group to develop a University-wide strategy on Indigenous matters related to teaching, research, and services. Two consultations were held with Elders and youth in support of the development of the strategy. On January 22, 2019, members of the IEC who also sit on the Indigenous Strategy Working Group received a presentation from Vice-Chancellor and President Barney Glover, Western Sydney University regarding the development of Universities Australia's country-wide Indigenous Strategy. Additionally, a strategic planning retreat was prioritized, to be held July 23-25, 2019.

The Iniskim Education Committee welcomed special guest, Shawn Wilson PhD(MONASH), MA(UAF), BSc(UM), Director of Research at Gnibi College of Indigenous Australian Peoples at Southern Cross University. S. Wilson shared thoughts on Indigenous knowledge and reconciliation.

Co-chair of IEC, Roy Pogorzelski, submitted his resignation from his role as Director of Iikaiskini Gathering Place in order to continue his education in the PhD program at the University of Lethbridge. On behalf of the IEC membership, I would like to thank Roy for his dedication and leadership during his time as Director of the Gathering Place and co-chair of this committee. Roy has developed a strong team at the Gathering Place and has been an enthusiastic leader and contributor to many Indigenous initiatives mentioned in this report. We thank him for his service to the University and his support of our students and wish him much success as he pursues his doctorate.

I would like to thank the Iikaiskini Gathering Place team for all of their outstanding work to support Indigenous students throughout the year. Thanks, also, to all members of the IEC for sharing their wisdom and for supporting these accomplishments over the past year.

Submitted to General Faculties Council with respect,

Kathleen Massey  
Associate Vice President (Students)  
Co-Chair of the Iniskim Education Committee