

Unique Role of Indigenous Institutions in Ontario

Rebecca Jamieson, Chair IIC, and President of Six Nations Polytechnic

Marsha Josephs, Executive Director, IIC

Indigenous Education

History of Inequity

- Almost 50 years ago, the National Indian Brotherhood issued a call for Indigenous control of Indigenous education
 - This continues to resonate today following the establishment of Indigenous Institutes and the enactment of the Indigenous Institutes Act in Ontario.
- First Nations-controlled institutions have been delivering programs since the 1970's without proper supports from governments that are available to provincially and federally mandated post-secondary institutions.
- The formal education system is dominated by Eurocentric knowledge and hegemonic structures.
 - Colonialism contributes to the marginalization of Indigenous students.
 - Feelings of not belonging and diminished self-worth due to racism and discrimination at mainstream institutions.

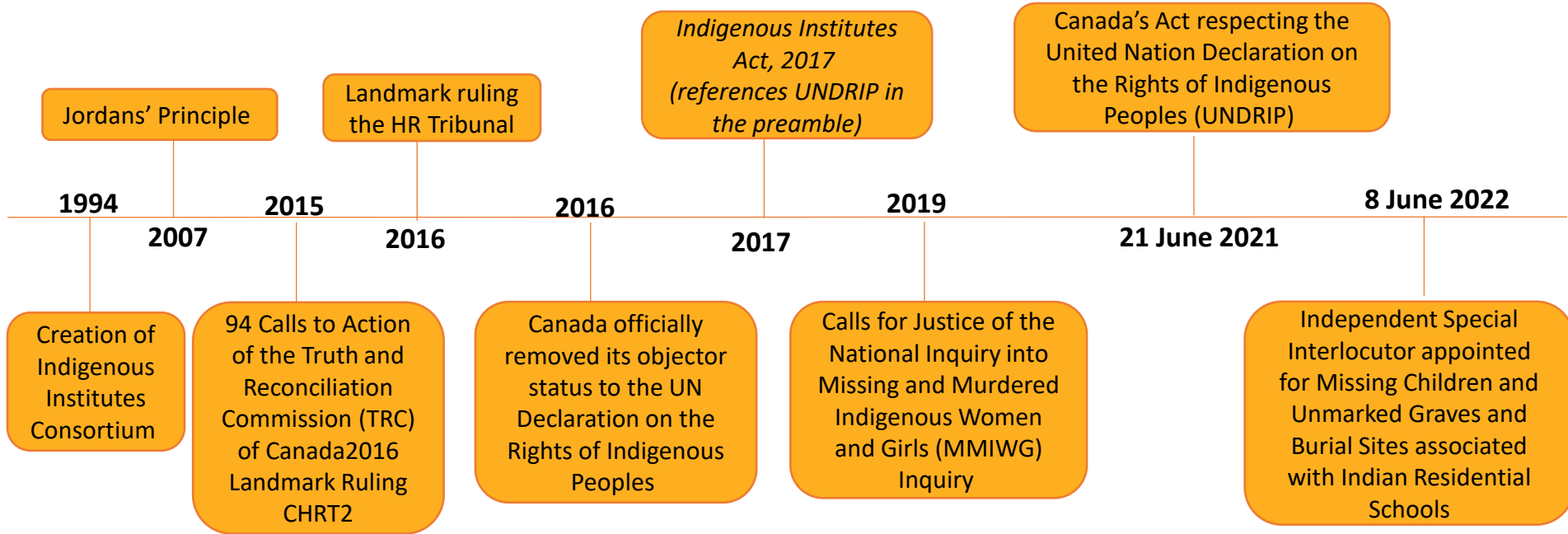
ONLY INDIGENOUS
EDUCATION THROUGH
INSTITUTIONS FOCUSED ON
INDIGENOUS RESILIENCE
AND SELF-DETERMINATION
CAN BE CONSIDERED
INDIGENOUS EDUCATION.

“EDUCATION HAS GOTTEN US
INTO THIS MESS, AND
EDUCATION WILL GET US OUT”

THE HON. SENATOR SINCLAIR



Oppression To Resilience



First Nations Control of First Nations Education

Indigenous Institutes are unique in delivering culturally relevant education

Governance

Grounded in
Indigenous
pedagogy

Student services
(wrap-around
supports)

Program
development
and delivery

Language and
culture
programming

Personnel and
community
capacity building



Map of IIs and Mandating First Nations



Anishinabek Educational Institute (1, 1A)
Anishinabek Nation (39 First Nations)

Iohahi:io Akwesasne Education & Training Institute (2)
Mohawk Council of Akwesasne

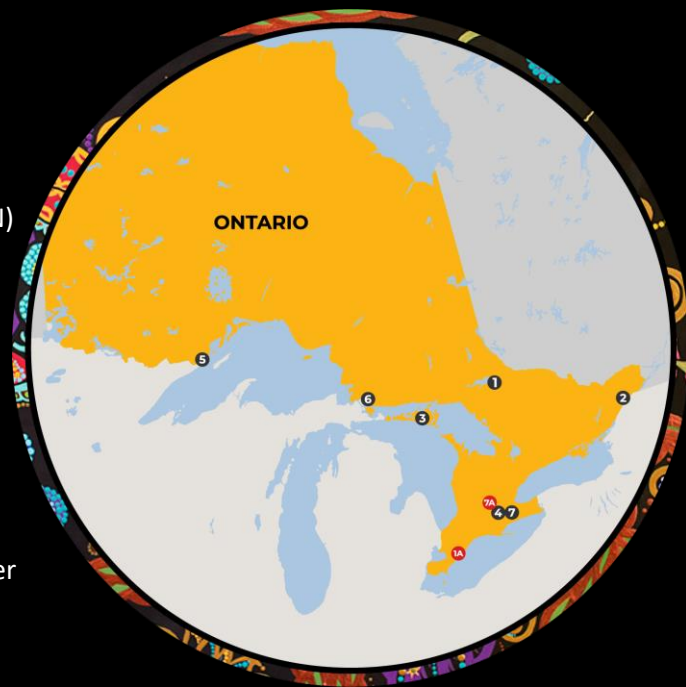
Kenjgewin Teg (3)
Sagamok Anishinawbek,
Sheguiandah First Nation,
Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation,
M'Chigeeng First Nation,
Zhiibaahaasing First Nation,
Sheshegwaning First Nation,
Whitefish River First Nation

Ogwehoweh Skills and Trades Training Centre (4)
Six Nations of the Grand River

Oshki Pimache-O-Win: The Wenjack Education Institute (5)
Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN)
(49 First Nations)

Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig (6)
Garden River First Nation,
Batchewana First Nation

Six Nations Polytechnic (7, 7a)
Six Nations of the Grand River



Leaders in lifelong learning

Closing the First Nations Education Gap

About the Indigenous Institutes Consortium (IIC)

- Incorporated non-profit organization established in 1994.
- Represents the collective and collaborative efforts of seven Indigenous-owned and operated post-secondary and training institutes across Ontario.
- Raises awareness and increases the profile of Ontario's Indigenous Institutes, learners and communities, and support the development of member Institutes.
- Instrumental in the establishment of Ontario's *Indigenous Institutes Act, 2017*.
 - Recognition of important role Indigenous Institutes play as a pillar of PSE
 - Credential recognition of certificates, diplomas, and degrees at Indigenous Institutes



Co-creation of Ontario Legislation

Indigenous Institutes Act, 2017



Ontario is the only province that recognizes Indigenous Institutes as a pillar of post-secondary education.



One of two pieces of Ontario legislation that references UNDRIP in the preamble.



Legislation creates an obligation for the province to provide “regular and ongoing” operating funding to the nine Indigenous Institutes.



Through the recognition of the Indigenous Advanced Education Skills Council, creates a pathway for Indigenous Institutes to develop and deliver independent programs.



Purpose of legislation is to enhance educational opportunities for Indigenous students, and to promote the revitalization of Indigenous knowledge, cultures and languages.



Indigenous Advanced Education and Skills Council

Indigenous controlled and governed entity

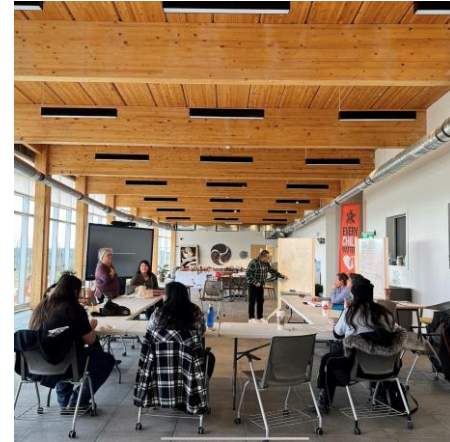
- Provide recommendations to the Minister regarding which II should receive funding
- Provide approval to Indigenous Institutes to grant diplomas, certificates and degrees
- Provide approval to Indigenous Institutes to use the term “university”
- Establish a quality assurance board and the standards and benchmarks the Council must apply in assessing Indigenous Institutes.
- Establishes standards regarding the interests of students at Indigenous Institutes.



About Indigenous Institutes

Delivering Social and Economic Benefits

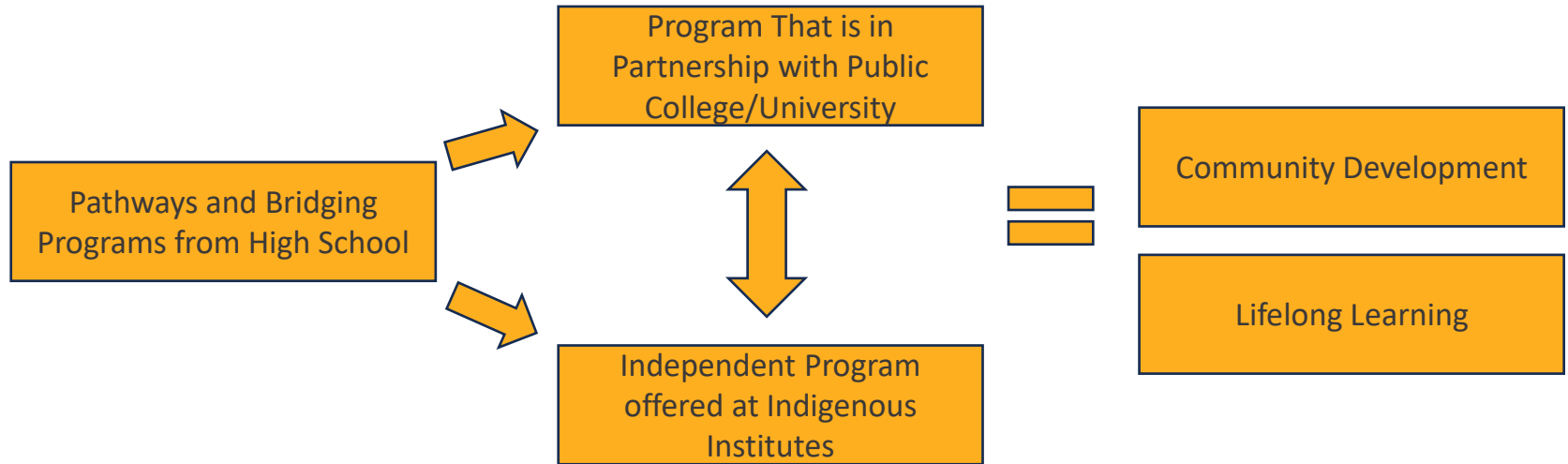
- Programs grounded in Indigenous culture, language, and knowledge
- Offer accredited certificates, diplomas, degrees, and life-long learner opportunities
- Serve First Nation learners in 99 communities across Ontario servicing 173,225 people
 - Serve remote, isolated, urban, northern, on-reserve, and off-reserve across Ontario
- Serve more learners who would not have transitioned to post-secondary education and training
 - Over 3300 learners, about 75% of whom are full-time
- Our campuses are community hubs that are utilized by the entire community
- 90 percent of graduates transition to good jobs



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Dual Educational Pathways

Community Capacity Development



Modes of Delivery

Flexible Delivery Options

Hybrid

In Person

Virtual

Delivered in
Remote
Communities



My Choice, My Path.



Advancing Reconciliation

Indigenous Institutes are actively involved in reconciliation

- Increasing numbers of non-Indigenous learners are enrolled in our culturally grounded programs
- Language revitalization
- Strengthening relationships

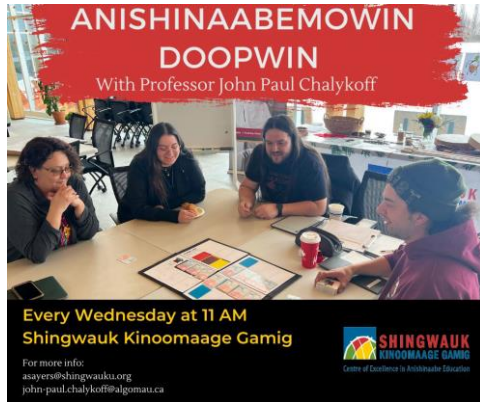


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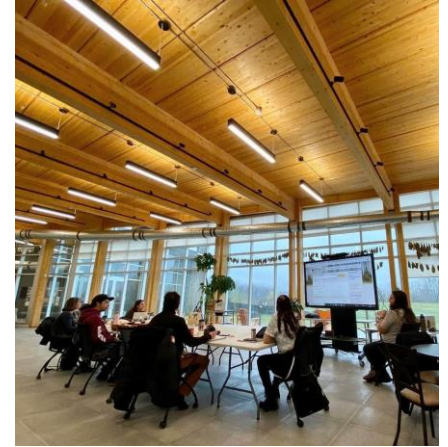
Language at Indigenous Institutes

Featuring: Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig

“Language provides a sense of identity that creates confidence for Indigenous learners; knowing who they are as an Anishinaabe person can help propel them into achieving professional and personal goals,”
- Lauren Doxtator, Director of Academics at Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig



Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig (in partnership with Algoma University) is one of the only places in Canada that offers a three-year undergraduate degree program in Anishinaabemowin, the Ojibwe language. Our program offers basic to advanced-level instruction in the Ojibwe language and culture. Within the program, students gain a functional level of fluency in the language and thoroughly investigate the challenges posed by the written word. Students individually and collectively examine social structures and values within Anishinaabe society, and also study the Anishinaabe worldview and philosophy.



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Social and Community Justice

Increasing opportunities for communities to learn from their own experts and grow our own
Indigenous Institutes are knowledge centres of history, culture, language, and well-being

NURSERY RHYMES & SONGS IN MOHAWK



Attention all parents, grandparents, caregivers, educators and more! Learn nursery rhymes and songs in Mohawk! Facilitated by Kristi Talbot, this six-week, online program features a few songs each week. Each session will be presented virtually and is one hour in length. Must be over 16 years of age to register.


**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS | 6PM TO 7PM
STARTING APRIL 5, 2023 | ENDS MAY 10, 2023**

 Lifelong Learning Unit

Register by contacting Nancy Gallo
nancy.gallo@snpolytechnic.com

SHINGWAUK KINOOMAAAGE GAMIG PRESENTS
AADIZOOKAAN
ANISHINÁABE WINTER STORYTELLING
SERIES with Michael Migizi Sullivan
Please join us for a virtual traditional Anishinaabe winter storytelling in Ojibwemowin live on TEAMS.
Thursday, March 9, 2023 @ 5:30 PM

MICHAEL MIGIZI SULLIVAN SR, PhD
FACULTY DIRECTOR OF NATIVE STUDIES
LAC COURTE OREILLES OJIBWE UNIVERSITY



Scan the QR code to Register and receive link to view



Thursday, March 9, 2023
5:30 PM

To view live in person
Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig
1491 Queen St. East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Amy Sayers at asayers@shingwauku.org
705-998-2490 Ext# 207

 www.shingwauku.org


TO SERVE AND PROTECT



**POLICE FOUNDATIONS DIPLOMA PROGRAM
STARTS IN SEPTEMBER 2022**

APPLY TODAY | oshki.ca

IOHAHI:IO
AKWESASNE EDUCATION & TRAINING INSTITUTE



Basket Making with Carrie Hill
Fancy Basket

This workshop is part of an educational series

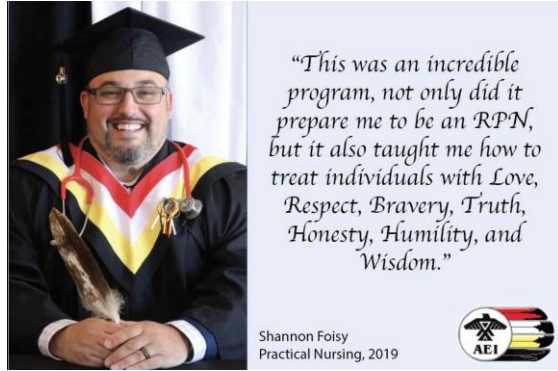
The Event Will Be Held On:
**Dec 7 & Dec 8
5pm-8pm
iohahio**

613 575 2754 | info.iohahio@ambe.ca | iohahio.ca



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Health Care, Child Care, and Long-term Care



Indigenous Institutes are training and transitioning learners into high demand jobs.

Hear from Dr. Amy Montour, SNP alum, about her experience at an Indigenous Institute

There is an urgent need for more nurses and PSWs who are training, working and staying in their communities. Indigenous Institutes have unique capacities to provide pathways to health care education that link our learners to community health care employees.

In early 2022, Indigenous Institutes were included in a \$34 million investment over four years to increase enrolment in Nursing and PSW programs at Indigenous Institutes. This will result in the training of approximately 340 new practical nurses, 60 registered nurses, and 400 PSWs over four years.



Skilled Trades Training

Indigenous Institutes offer welding, metal fabrication, carpentry, electrician, safety training, employment readiness, and more!



Ogwehoweh Skills Trades Training Centre
2d · 🌐

What a full circle moment when our Trades Instructors run into their program graduate, Maye Miller, on the same job! 🥰👏👏

Maye Miller is a graduate of our WRITE program! To learn more about Maye and her experience, read her success story here: <https://osttc.com/2022/03/09/meet-maye-miller/>

We're so happy to see Maye thriving in her career!



👍❤️ 73

4 comments 16 shares



- Students offered employment while still taking the programs and training
- Blended learning environments from theory, to safety, to hands-on training experience, direct to employment
- Mobile trades training classroom to remote communities in Northern Ontario
- Employer satisfaction



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Economic Growth & Recovery

Solution to economic and social challenges

- Lifelong learning
- How Indigenous Institutes pivoted during COVID
- Indigenous population is growing four-times faster than the rest of the population
- Indigenous population is younger overall
- Between 2016 and 2026, 350,000 Indigenous youth will turn 15 and can become potential members of the workforce
- Has the potential to boost Canada's economy by **\$27.7 billion annually**
- Indigenous Institutes in Ontario are recognized in legislation as a pillar of PSE, which is unique in Canada, and mechanism to establish quality assurance for the granting of credentials





Wherever you want
your path to take
you, whatever stage
of your journey,
you belong here.

This is your choice
and we will help
you get where you
need to go.

"When I'm in the classroom, they feel more relaxed because there is someone from the community who they feel really at home with. As a grandmother, I bring my experience and that atmosphere to classroom time."

*Doreen, Grandmother and Elder
Anishinabek Education Institute*



"Shingwauk focuses on Anishinabe studies instead of general Indigenous studies, and as a historian that was important. Our classes are different, we have outdoor activities, there is a lot of discussion, and we sit in a circle which is a traditional way of learning and teaching."

*Neodin, Anishinabe Studies
Shingwauk Knowledge Society*



"It's my first year in college and I wasn't sure where I wanted to go, but I knew I wanted to go into the healthcare field, and this is a good start for me. I was a stay-at-home mom, now I'm a student."

*Savannah, Personal Support Worker
Iwahia Alwasana Education & Training Institute*



"I've come to really enjoy welding as a passionate artform, and it's given me a lot of self-confidence. There are only a few students in the course and that gives you more time with the teacher."

*Samantha, We Are Welders Program
Six Nations Polytechnic*



"The way they blend tradition with teaching really caught my eye. I got out of our ways and traditions and this was a perfect opportunity to get back in touch with myself. They promote that and encourage you. There is no judgement here."

*Daan, Welding and Pipelining
Kenjegin Teg*



"I chose police foundations because I'm looking for a career that I felt that I would enjoy doing. Here we're able to leave our community and come back. We come in and out during the semesters. It's better than relocating my whole family."

*Nakalia, Police Foundations Student
Oak-Margate Education Institute*



"Before I started, the welding booths were so small that I couldn't fit in, so they made me my own little booth to work in. All my life I was in some sort of construction, I like hands-on work and the skilled trades are coming back to life."

*Galtan, Welding
Ogwehoweh Skills and Trades Training Centre*





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For more information:

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