



# News Release

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## **Education Services Agreement Signed**

On October 14, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. representatives from The Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation and the Lambton Kent District School Board met at the Rosemary Wolfe Centre at North Lambton Secondary School to officially sign the Education Services Agreement between to the two parties.

"The community of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation is pleased to join in partnership with our fellow educators of the Lambton Kent District School Board to ensure that our youth receive the very best possible education," stated Chief Elizabeth Cloud. "Their dreams and aspirations will be strengthened and nurtured in a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect."

"The Lambton Kent District School Board has always strived to build positive relationships with its First Nation Partners," commented Chair Carmen McGregor. "The finalizing of the Education Services Contract with The Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point helps bring awareness to the larger school community of this unique relationship built on respect."

"Respect, collaboration, reciprocity of information, and a quality, accurate, and balanced perspective within education are essential building blocks for healthy relationships. Premised upon that intent, members of the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation Education Committee are excited and expectant about a renewed relationship with the Lambton-Kent District School Board signified today through the signing of a new Tuition Agreement" says Dr. Christy R. Bressette, Chair of the Kettle and Stony Point Education Committee, and former alumina of North Lambton Secondary School (NLSS). She continued, "As members of the Education Committee, we recognize that purposeful investments in education today are strong investments for the future and we support a renewed relationship with the LKDSB toward that end."

Dr. Bressette referenced her own experiences at NLSS: "Back in the late 1980s and early 1990s, I studied at NLSS and the experience was enriched by the support of late Ms. Rosemary Wolfe, Native Counsellor at NLSS. Rosemary advocated for positive and healthy relationships between all school community members as a way to support Anishinabek (native) students and their families. She dedicated herself to student success and strove to maintain, express, and celebrate Anishinabek heritage and identity with all others at school and in society. In the spirit of truly a wonderful and inspirational person, I am pleased to see the Native student centre at NLSS dedicated in her memory."

"The Lambton Kent District School Board is proud of its partnership with the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation," advised Director Costello. "We are very fortunate to be able to team up with our First Nation Educators to provide enhanced educational opportunities for our First Nation Students." "

After years of negotiations with the Four First Nations, this is the second Education Services Agreement to be signed.

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