

# Indigenous Liaison Committee Meeting

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November 15, 2017

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# Isolation Amongst Educators

- Native Language Teachers are working in isolation
- School Based PD does not best support our Native Language teachers
- Lack of education about the Native Language program for other staff members.
- Lack of cohesion in programming

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# Plans to help support these challenges

- Continue to provide release time for Native Language teachers to meet for professional development specific to their discipline.
- Connect with other Native Language teachers from different education authorities.
- Provide education to all staff members about the Native Language program.
- Utilize technology to encourage collaboration amongst Native Language teachers

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# Confident Language Users

- Students are not confident speakers of the language
- Many teachers would like to improve their proficiency and confidence with the language.
- Limited opportunities to practice the language outside of the classroom in authentic situations.

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# Plans to help support these challenges

- Provide professional development for Native Language teachers around improving their own language proficiency
  - Possibly provide subsidy for teachers who choose to take additional courses to improve their own language proficiency.
- Invite fluent Native Language speakers into the classroom so that students are exposed to a variety of Native Language speakers.
- Connect with Native Language teachers from other boards.

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# Outdated Curriculum

- Most recent Ontario Native Language curriculum is from 2001.
- Out of touch with current practices and knowledge about language learning.

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# Plans to support this challenge

- Select a group of teachers who will work together to create a continuum of language learning based on the curriculum guidelines. This will in improved assessment practices and more unity across all the schools in our board.

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# Lack of available resources

## Possible Solutions:

- Continue to allow teachers time to collaboratively plan and share resources.
- Facilitate the sharing of resources through technology by providing teachers with professional development on the use of technology
- Create partnerships with other boards and education authorities to facilitate the sharing of resources.

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# Next Steps

- Develop a core team that will help with strategic planning.
- As a team, identify clearly attainable and measureable goals and assign realistic timelines to achieve these goals.