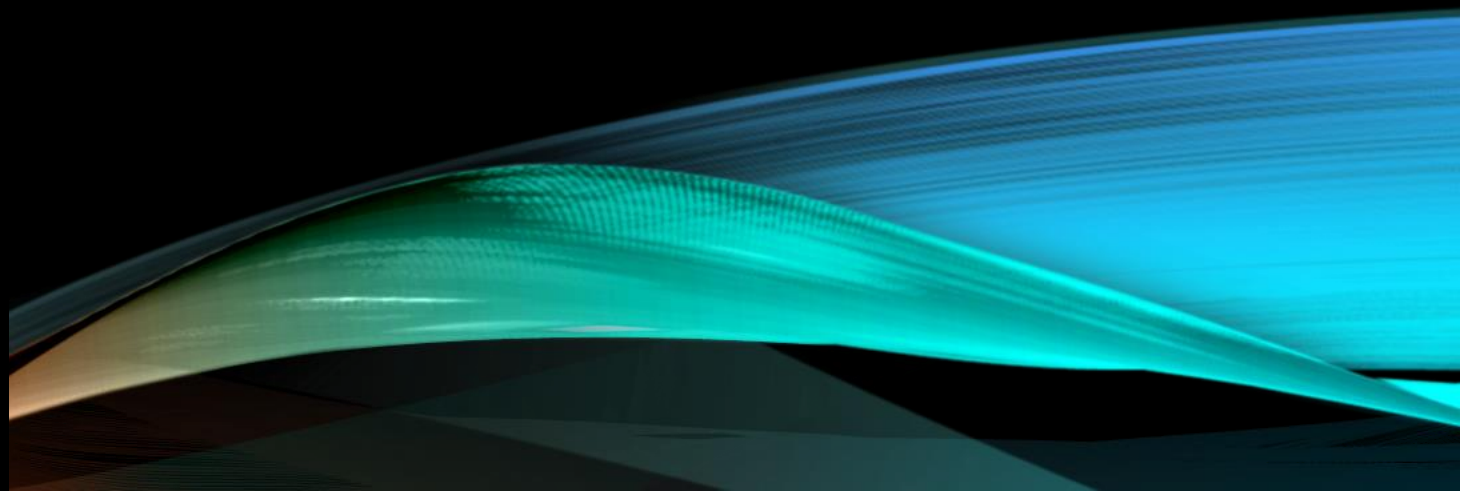


INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES  
EDUCATION  
CIRCLE



# HISTORY

In 2004 the Ontario government announced that it would be undertaking a comprehensive review of public post-secondary education within the province

Given the critical nature of the review and its potential impact on the future of Indigenous education within the College system, Indigenous education advocates began the process of working collaboratively to ensure that work done were recognized and acknowledged

Recognizing the need to build capacity within the current Ontario College system to effectively advance Indigenous education the initial six college representatives began organizing meetings and developing an outreach strategy amongst other Indigenous educators in Ontario to establish a platform for on-going dialogue and support related to Indigenous education.

A few years later, the Indigenous Peoples Education Circle was formally recognized through Colleges Ontario to serve as a constituency group

Today, the Indigenous Peoples Circle (IPEC) is a collective body representing the Indigenous Education Councils (IECs) of Ontario's Colleges. IPEC members balance the interests of the College institutions and the IEC that they represent

Our collective approach to improving life opportunities for Indigenous students and community is to embed accountabilities for Indigenous education across the College system

# MANDATE

To create opportunities for colleges and community councils engaged in Indigenous education and training initiatives, to articulate the needs and interest of Indigenous students within the Ontario college system.

# PHILOSOPHY AND VISION

To ensure that Indigenous students are supported in their aspirations in the Ontario college system

To build and support a continuum of education that enables Indigenous students' access and to succeed in their learning journey

As the direct link with Indigenous Education Councils, IPEC actively supports their decisions and priorities within the colleges

To share information, promote professional development, implement best practices and develop our expertise in Indigenous education.

To support one another as professional colleagues in seeking the recognition and affirmation of Indigenous learners and Indigenous education.

# MEMBERSHIP

IPEC is comprised of staff from Ontario colleges who work directly with Indigenous community-based Councils

Membership to this Circle originates with the Indigenous community-based councils

Each representative to this Circle must be appointed, in writing, by their Indigenous Education Council (IEC)

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Articulation of a vision for the ongoing development and enhancement of provincial funding mechanisms, to meet the needs and priorities of Indigenous students and communities in PSE

Creation and facilitation of an ongoing forum for Indigenous community councils and educators to work together in the leadership of strategic development of postsecondary education and training in Ontario

Representation and advocacy for the interests of Indigenous students, families and communities in the development and delivery of academic programs, counseling, supportive services and special projects in the colleges and through community partnerships



Ensuring that Indigenous education and support services provided within the Ontario college system are developed, maintained and enhanced appropriately through joint dialogue with and among Indigenous community councils and senior college administration

Providing a conduit for provincial and federal dialogue with respect to post-secondary education and training

Development of strategic collaborative models of discourse on the spectrum of Indigenous education and training strategies through the engagement of partners, Indigenous communities, institutions, colleges and other centres of expertise

# INITIATIVES

- Supporting Indigenous Learners During COVID-19
- IPEC Action Plan
- Truth and Reconciliation in Quality Assurance (OCQAS)
- Indigenous Data Pilot Project (OCAS)
- College Libraries Ontario Learning Portal (CLO)
- Annual TRC Provincial Gathering
- Lighting the Fire Collaborative
- OCASA Magazine – Our Journey
- Sector Relationship Building/Development
- Ongoing advocacy

# MOVING FORWARD

## IPEC ACTION PLAN

The IPEC Action Plan provides a data-driven framework for achieving identified objectives through the creation of reciprocal working relationships, embedding accountabilities for Indigenous education across the college system and supporting college system truth and reconciliation efforts

# IPEC ACTION PLAN

The IAP is structured to build on and extend core activities across eight key action areas:

- Governance & Leadership
- Community Partnerships
- Cultural Recognition & Awareness
- Engaging Indigenous Learners
- Enhancing Student Experiences
- Teaching, Learning & Curriculum Development
- Research
- Indigenous Employment

# NEW

- Curriculum Development Affinity Group
- Ontario College Application Service
- Centre for Initiative in Mental Health
- College Sector Committee for Adult Upgrading
- TRC Gathering
- Sector Priorities



**Miigweech**