

# ONECA Post-Secondary Zoom Meeting

June 16, 2020

**Purpose:** Check in, issues and updates

**Process:** There were twenty-seven (27) participants for this meeting. Participants from First Nations communities were invited to speak first, followed by participants from the institutions.

Issues and concerns were identified by community participants; some institutional representatives addressed the questions and concerns.

## **Participant Sharing:**

- Working from home - A number of participants indicated that they were still working from home; home responsibilities complicate working at home; some transitioning back in the office; some have had IT support while working at home; numerous technical difficulties; IT problems at the office which included no access to emails; servers were down for a month and a half, students handing in applications;
- Students attending post-secondary in the fall – students will start in September even with the change to online programming; some students have reported they will not return; some thinking may want to take courses online
- COVID - Discussing students who withdrew due to COVID-19, who is returning and the online learning issues; a few students have been affected by COVID; few COVID cases
- Remote learning; some students had difficulty with online learning; hoping students can succeed; students struggling with remote learning; only a few students with internet access when programming went online; concern for online programming for students living in the north if they choose not to live on campus; internet at the offices is bad, online will not work for our students, need residence, some students deciding not to start in the fall, one will start in the winter session; there are issues around programs with placements, some placements will be opening, some students like the online format, some connection issues
- Sponsorship letters are being sent out or have been sent out, waiting for a few students to receive acceptance letters, 2 or 3 students not attending, may want to take online courses at home
- OSAP delays are problematic due to COVID-19 grants, don't have all the information yet to get sponsorship letters out
- Supporting students finishing; some anxiety issues
- PSSSP - We are funding all students regardless, there is no affect on living allowances, counsellors need to keep in touch with students to make sure they're getting things done, giving

students the choice to go in residence or stay home, some students dropped out in the winter due to the change to online programming

- Student residence - some students need residence in the winter months
- The situation at post-secondary institutions is constantly changing (i.e. daily). Check in with the institutions main line of communication, check the websites for updates. If there are questions, just ask. Decisions are impacted by health and the Ministry directives. Students can expect online learning and remote learning (defined by the institution) in the fall. Online learning is different than remote learning. Expect social distancing. Expect minimal students and staff on campus. Contact the bookstore directly to order books. Institutes are working to ensure accommodations for students with exceptional needs.
- Summer pilot projects – some institutions will be granted Ministry approval to implement programming to assist students to complete programs, this is program specific and institution specific i.e. will assist students who were not able to go to placement
- Lighting the Fire Initiative (to keep everyone connected) – information forthcoming
- Fanshawe is delaying the fall start to September 28<sup>th</sup>
- Georgian College the fall semester will start September 14<sup>th</sup>

#### **Questions Raised:**

- What are the funding policies i.e. will students get a living allowance if staying at home with online learning?
- Will residences be open? Will all 7 courses be delivered online or only some of the course load?
- Will residence be available?
- How will institutions support special needs learners and students needing online learning?
- How will students' complete programs with coops being cancelled?
- How will funding be affected for students who will now be living at home doing on-line courses, instead of in-class? Or does this change affect our continuing students as well as our new (fresh out of high school) students? How can we better support them?
- Can we have an updated list of college/universities that are going online/remote learning?
- Has anyone received any information about the 75 million? Any info would be appreciated.

ONECA - Roxane Manitowabi thanked everyone for participating, we're trying to stay connected to everyone and trying to keep up to date, today ONECA emailed members the Ministry guidelines for reopening institutions, ONECA developed several post-secondary resources that will be mailed to communities shortly and will also be available on the ONECA website; ONECA is unable to respond to the request to develop a list of fall programming as the status of program offerings is changing daily.

**NEXT ZOOM MEETING – June 30, 11 am**