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Cree School Board
Commission scolaire crie

4th Regional General Assembly

Continuing Our Iiyiyiu Education Journey

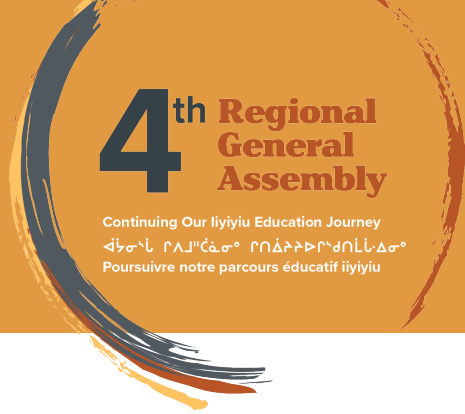
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Poursuivre notre parcours éducatif iiyiyiu

2022/2023

Event Report

The 4th Cree School Board Regional General Assembly - Community Tours began their journey in the coastal communities from Tuesday, October 4th to Friday, October 7th, 2022. Subsequently, the tour continued in the inland communities from Monday, October 17th to Thursday, October 20th, 2022. The event was centered around the theme of 'Continuing Our Iiyiyiu Education Journey.' This report provides an overview of the event, encompassing its goals, schedule, and summaries of the presentations.



EVENT REPORT

Theme: Continuing Our Iiyiyiu Education Journey

Dates/Location:

Tuesday, October 4, 2022 | Chisasibi

Wednesday, October 5, 2022 | Wemindji

Thursday, October 6, 2022 | Eastmain

Friday, October 7, 2022 | Waskaganish

Thursday, October 20, 2022 | Mistissini

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 | Whapmagoostui (rescheduled)

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 | Oujé-Bougoumou (rescheduled)

Friday, February, 17, 2023 | Waswanipi (rescheduled)

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

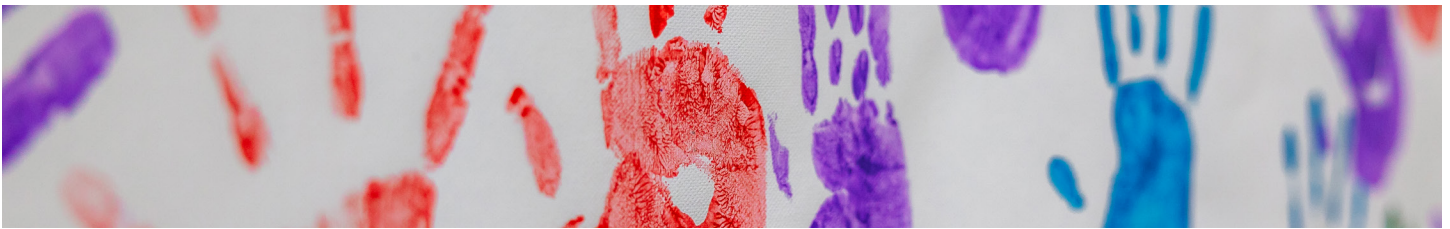
Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Regional General Assembly took place every two years, and the Community Tours occurred every three years. However, after two years of pandemic disruptions, the Cree School Board saw an opportunity to combine the RGA and Community Tours, providing a chance to visit all the communities and schools. Staff members from across the Cree School Board, primarily Coordinators, Managers, and Directors, gathered to share information regarding progress and strategic direction.

The 2022-2023 Regional General Assembly (RGA) – Community Tours marked the first of its kind, yet it was the 4th RGA overall. The event’s primary focus was on sharing projects and initiatives aimed at strengthening the Cree language and culture. Additionally, a dialogue for parents and caregivers of students with special needs met during the RGA to share their experiences, concerns, and suggestions for support and services. Cree School Board sectors (Youth, Adult, and Post-Secondary Student Services), Capital Projects, and schools had the opportunity to provide updates on current projects and future plans.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The committee of representatives from the Cree School Board and the host communities worked diligently to plan the events, following the same approach as previous Regional General Assemblies and Community Tours. The committee convened over a span of twelve weeks to finalize the necessary arrangements prior to the event. The following aspects were successfully addressed:

- Invitation to Chief and Council, and general public
- Pre-conference communication via CSB radio show, social media posts, posters, and local community radio with the CSB Communications Consultant and the Chairperson
- Designation and setup of the venue, including stage, booths, chairs, and tables
- Ordering and packaging of gifts and promotional items
- Coordination of catering services for breakfast, lunch, and community supper
- Coordination of event branding/design elements, such as PowerPoint templates and the agenda
- Development of the agenda and coordination of presentations
- Arrangements for event videography and photography
- Livestreaming (Oujé-Bougoumou), media access, and technology setup



The committee’s meticulous efforts ensured that all necessary arrangements were in place to facilitate a successful and engaging event.

Schedule

High-level notes:

- Each event would commence with a prayer from a local Elder.
- The local School Commissioner served as the Master of Ceremony for their community.

Below is the agenda with some changes based on the event minutes. Timeframes may not be exact.

Program – Waskaganish	
9:30-10:50	Dialogue and Luncheon with Special Needs Parents and Caregivers
10:50-11:00	<p>Call to Order Master of Ceremonies School Commissioner</p> <p>Opening Prayer</p>
11:00-11:20	<p>Office of the Chairperson Dr. Sarah Pashagumskum, Chairperson</p>
11:20-11:35	<p>Office of Director General Caroline Mark, Director General</p>
11:35-11:45 11:45-12:00 12:00-12:15	<p>Offices of Deputy Director Generals</p> <p>Deborah House-Cox, Deputy Director General of Pedagogy Stella Lameboy, Deputy Director General of Adult and Higher Learning Andy Baribeau, Deputy Director General of Operations</p>
12:30-12:45	<p>Continuing Our Journey Towards Student Success CSB 2021-2026 Strategic Action Plan</p> <p>Jennifer Mianscum, Coordinator of Strategic Planning and Projects</p>
12:15-12:30	Angela Gates , Director of iiyiyuiyihtiwin Research and Development Department
12:45-2:00	Question Period

Due to the scheduled time of the chartered flight, the visit to Waskaganish was shorter than the other community visits. The Director General expressed her sincerest apologies for the shortened duration and assured the community of her commitment to return on a future occasion.



Program – All Communities	
9:00-11:00 AM	CSB Facility Tour hosted by Principal(s) and CEA
11:00 -1:00 PM	Dialogue and Luncheon with Special Needs Parents and Caregivers
1:00-1:10	Call to Order Master of Ceremonies School Commissioner Opening Prayer
1:10-1:30	Office of the Chairperson Dr. Sarah Pashagumskum, Chairperson
1:30-1:45	Office of Director General Caroline Mark, Director General
1:45-2:00 2:00-2:15 2:15-2:30	Offices of Deputy Director Generals Deborah House-Cox , Deputy Director General of Pedagogy Stella Lameboy , Deputy Director General of Adult and Higher Learning Andy Baribeau , Deputy Director General of Operations
2:30-3:00	Question Period
3:00-3:15	Break
3:15-3:30	Angela Gates , Director of iiyiyuiyihitiwin Research and Development Department
3:30-3:45	Continuing Our Journey Towards Student Success CSB 2021-2026 Strategic Action Plan Jennifer Mianscum , Coordinator of Strategic Planning and Projects
3:45-4:15	Question Period
6:00-7:00	Supper with Chief & Council, Teachers, Staff, School Committee, and public





SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS

Below is a summary of the presentations delivered during the Regional General Assembly - Community Tours.

For detailed Q&A notes and responses, please refer to the complete event minutes.

Dialogue Session with Special Needs Parents and Caregivers

Catherine Rutherford, Director of Complementary Services

The main goal of Complementary Services is to provide comprehensive support for all students' educational needs, regardless of their challenges or learning differences. Valuing each student's individuality and encouraging inclusive education, these presentations highlighted the services provided to schools by the Complementary Services team. This included the multi-tiered framework of support, Response to Intervention (RTI), which is designed to provide each student the assistance they need to address their specific learning needs and close their learning gaps. The targeted RTI Tier 2 literacy interventions – Lexia Core 5 Reading, Lexia Power Up, and Lalilo were highlighted, and the RTI Tier 3 Empower Reading Programs. An update was given on the Early Prevention Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten initiative. An overview of the Special Education pathways and their corresponding special educational programs was presented. The Special Education Services key initiatives, for the 2022-2023 school year, such as the Neuropsychological and Psycho-educational Assessment projects, the Speech and Language pathologist project and the Special Needs Symposium for parents and caregivers, were discussed.

School Presentations – Special Education Services and Literacy Intervention Initiatives

Each school had an opportunity to showcase their local Special Education services, and literacy interventions. This included information on student data, success stories, activities, and local initiatives. For specific presentation content, please see the individual slideshows.

Opening Remarks by Local School Commissioner

Local School Commissioner

A warm greeting was extended to the Director General, Deputy Director Generals, Directors, Coordinators, Communications Team and community members to commence the Regional General Assembly – Community Tours, demonstrating the community's enthusiasm and pleasure in hosting this important occasion. An elder was invited to the stage to begin the day with an opening prayer.

Office of the Chairperson

Dr. Sarah Pashagumskum, Chairperson

The Council of Commissioners prioritizes standards, accountability, and data-driven decision-making. They plan a pandemic recovery strategy for elementary and secondary schools, focusing on learning disruptions and mental health. They aim to involve the community by clarifying the school committee's relation to the council and engaging them in planning and consultation for a strategic action plan. Additionally, they commit to decolonization efforts through land-based education, a Cree History Program for secondary students, and the iiyiyuiyihitiwin Research and Development project.



Director General

Caroline Mark

The Director General expressed her happiness about participating in the Regional General Assembly and thanked everyone for their presence. She highlighted the crucial role of the Cree School Board and provided a detailed account of the organization's growth since 2011. This growth included the addition of more directors, coordinators, and the establishment of new departments.

Deputy Director General of Pedagogy

Deborah House-Cox

The department comprises the Director of School Operations, Director of Education Services, Director of Digital Learning, and Director of Complementary Services. Their roles are as follows: School Operations prioritizes effective school leadership, data management, student success, graduate support, engagement, and policy review. Digital Learning focuses on Digital Citizenship, literacy and skills, policy development, digital learning teams, and promoting e-libraries. Complementary Services emphasize response to intervention, special education, and land-based learning. The Department of Education Services addresses student services, instructional services, and professional development. Overall, the Pedagogical Recovery Plan for 2022-2023 guides their actions in supporting education, while each division pursues its respective priorities in line with its responsibilities.

Deputy Director General of Adult and Higher Learning

Stella Lameboy

CSB is committed to student success and continually seeks opportunities to prioritize its students' needs. This priority has led to the creation of a new Adult and Higher Learning Department under the leadership and direction of the Deputy Director General, Stella Lameboy.

This new department is dedicated solely to the needs of CSB's adult learner. It is made up of the three unique, but equally adult-centred departments (Sabtuan Adult Education Services, Post Secondary Student Services and Higher Learning). Each of these entities holds a unique and independent mission and vision but share one common goal. Together, we ensure that our adult learners are given every opportunity to succeed along their educational journey while upholding a connection to territory, community, and culture.

Our combined efforts focus on student success through secondary, post-secondary and higher education initiatives both on and off territory. We focus our efforts on capacity building through accredited and customized trainings, professional development, and educational opportunities for adults of all ages.

Deputy Director General of Operations

Andy Baribeau

The Office of the Deputy Director-General of Operations focuses on several key non-pedagogical areas. With a team which includes the Community Education Administrators, the Information and Technology Department (IT) and Material Resources Services Department (MRS), some of their planned initiatives include the Capital Plan negotiations, the construction, renovations and expansions of schools and adult education centres.

Other projects include succession planning, such as an in-house training and certification program for technical positions and a greater access for Cree businesses to opportunities with the Cree School Board. With the assistance of the Coordinator of Development & Partnerships, transparency and community engagement are emphasized by each service and department to ensure all partners are aware of our projects and we are aware of matters which concern them.

The members of the office of the Deputy Director General of Operations are taking to heart the 2021-2026 Strategic Action Plan and how they can contribute to the success of our students and those carrying out our mission.



Introduction of new department: *iiyiyuiyihtiwin* Research and Development Department

Angela Gates, Director of iiyiyuiyihtiwin Research and Development Department

The *iiyiyuiyihtiwin* represents the *iiyiyiu/iinuu* Ways of Knowing and Doing, which emphasize the integration of language, culture, values, and worldview into all aspects of their endeavors. In Spring 2022, a resolution was approved for the Cree Component of Cree Education, leading to the development of the “Framework for the Cree component of Cree Education.” This initiative resulted from the discussions held by the Cree Component Team during the creation of the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2021-2025, where the *Eeyou lihtuwin* was positioned as a core element. Aligned with the vision of *miyupimaatisiwin*, which seeks well-being, balance, and lifelong learning, the department’s mandate revolves around providing services that reflect these principles. By embracing this approach, they aim to foster continuity for visionary life-long learners.

Continuing Our Journey Towards Student Success, CSB Strategic Action Plan 2021-2026

Jennifer Mianscum, Coordinator of Strategic Planning and Projects

The Strategic Action Plan (S.A.P.) for 2021-2026 outlines key elements for success. It encompasses the CSB Vision and Mission, along with the organizational values. The objectives of the project are to create an effective plan, build capacity, and foster engagement. Development progress involves CSB Leadership and Sectors/Departments, information gathering and analysis, setting key goals, creating a high-level plan, reviewing challenges, developing detailed strategic and tactical plans, and gaining approval. The plan emphasizes building upon the foundation of the previous S.A.P. to communicate key goals and mobilize through strategic initiatives.

Food

Snacks/Dinner: Through the office of the local Community Education Administrator (C.E.A), local businesses or groups were contacted to prepare and provide traditional snacks and meals for the CSB delegation, community members, parents, teachers, and students.

