

Date: Friday, June 6, 2025

Audience: All elementary teachers and Early Childhood Educators

Location: All teachers and Early Childhood Educators will report to their home schools.

Focus: Reporting to Parents

Description: This Professional Activity Day is dedicated to the evaluation of student achievement in relation to students' mastery of the expectations in the Ontario Curriculum and the reporting of this to families through the provincial report card. The evaluation summarizes what students know and can do in respect to the overall expectations and will provide parents/guardians and educators with the opportunity to reflect on successes, challenges, and establish next steps.

Audience: Elementary Educational Assistants from Holy Trinity, St. Anne's, St. David's, St. Francis, and Pius XII will engage in in-depth ABLLS training.

Location: ABLLS Training at St. Francis

Description: Elementary Educational Assistants from schools listed above (K-6) will engage in ABLLS training to continue to build capacity and enhance support for students.

This full-day training provides an overview of the Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills (ABLLS), a tool used to evaluate and track a child's development in areas such as language, social skills, and self-care. Effective for children with Autism and other exceptionalities, ABLLS helps identify skill deficits and guides instructional planning to build skills.

Audience: Elementary Educational Assistants from Holy Cross, St. James (K-6), St. Paul, St. John, Immaculate Conception, St. Charles,

Location: EAs will report to home schools.

Description: Elementary Educational Assistants from schools listed (K-6) will engage in Autism (Sonderly) courses to continue to build capacity and enhance support for students.

Audience: All Secondary Educators including Principals and Vice Principals, Teachers, Grade 7-12 Educational Assistants, Behaviour Support Workers, Child and Youth Workers, Indigenous Support Workers, and all Learning Support Staff.

Location: Cambrian College

Focus: Indigenous Education

Presenters:

Dr. Anton Treuer, (Keynote) Professor of Ojibwe, Bemidji State University

Randi Ray: PhD, Anishinaabe Kwe from Flying Post First Nation and founder of Miikana Consulting and Noojimo Health

Joey-Lynn Wabie: Associate Professor, School of Kinesiology and Health Sciences, Ziigwankwe (early spring woman), Caribou Clan and an Algonquin Anishinaabe Ikwe from Mahingan Sagihiga

Joseph Pitawanakwat: Indigenous Plant Medicine Educator from Wikwemikong Unceded Territory and Founder & Director of Creators Garden.

Julia Pegahmagabow: anishinaabe aadiziwin bemwidod (one who carries Anishinaabe ways) Founding eniigaanizid of akinoomoshin wiigwam, in the community of adikamegshing.

Maheengun and Bernadette Shawanda: Founders of Great Lakes Cultural Camps.

Noodin Shawanda: (Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi) Storyteller and outdoor educator

Ashley Bell: Director of Services, Nogdawindamin Family and Community Services

Johnathan Boyer-Nolan: Communications Manager, Nogdawindamin Family and Community Services

Vince Pawis: Executive Director of White Buffalo Road Healing Lodge Inc

Chris Karn: Cultural Facilitator at Cambrian College.

Time	June 6 th , 2025
8:30-8:45 AM	Breakfast
8:45-9:00 AM	Opening: Land Acknowledgement, Prayer and Welcome
9:00–10:00 AM	Keynote: Dr. Anton Treuer
10:00-10:15 AM	Break
10:15–12:00 PM	Breakout Session #1
12:00–12:45 PM	Lunch
12:45 PM–2:45 PM	Breakout Session #2
2:45 PM	Departure

Description:

This day of professional learning is centered on deepening the understanding of Indigenous worldviews, pedagogy, and history. Guided by Anishinaabe presenters, these sessions will explore equity-informed and culturally responsive practices that support student well-being and achievement. Through land-based and community-connected learning, staff will gain valuable insights into approaches that honour Indigenous perspectives and ways of knowing. Participants will have an opportunity to reflect, learn, and build capacity in creating inclusive, respectful, safe, and supportive learning environments for all students. It also advances truth and reconciliation through education and promotes equitable outcomes for Indigenous students by fostering culturally responsive and respectful practices.

Keynote Presentation

Dr. Anton Treuer

Professor of Ojibwe, Bemidji State University

Session: Fostering Positive Identity Development of First Nation Students

Dr. Treuer explores why racial disparities persist in education and presents classroom-ready strategies to foster identity, inclusivity, and equity. His work provides tools to dismantle systemic barriers while honouring Indigenous knowledge systems.

Breakout Sessions

Participants select from the following interactive, culturally rich workshops:

1. Randi Ray – Unpacking and Addressing Racism in Schools

Participants will walk through history, learn about various forms of racism, how to identify racism and address it within the school system, and ways to be a safe support for Indigenous students & families.

2. Joey-Lynn Wabie – Indigenous Pedagogy in Education

Participants will have the opportunity to express their own pedagogical perspectives of working with youth and strengthening the natural gifts given to Anishinabek children from the Creator. The facilitator will share her own bundle of knowledge on working within a mainstream educational institution and provide wise practices to implement into practice.

3. Joseph Pitawanakwat – Indigenous Plant Wisdom

Participants will develop and understanding of sustainability, health and wellness, and cultural education through traditional plant knowledge and land stewardship.

4. Julia Pegahmagabow –Akinoomoshin Inc.

Participants will learn traditional Anishinaabe basket-making while connecting to language, science, sustainability, and land-based knowledge.

**5. Maheengun and Bernadette Shawanda – Great Lakes Cultural Camps
Cooking with Foods of Our Ancestors**

Participants will discover the traditional food systems of the Anishinaabe through a STEM-focused exploration of cooking and sustainability. Participants will learn how traditional and modern technologies support sustainable harvesting initiatives.

6. Noodin Shawanda – Making a Connection to Our History Through Traditional Games

Participants will learn how traditional games are deeply rooted in history and teach us about working together. Games will include hands-on learning, math, geography, history, physical education and Indigenous knowledge.

7. Ashley Bell and Johnathan Boyer-Nolan – Supporting Indigenous Youth in Care

Participants will develop a deeper understanding of Nogdawindamin Family and Community Services from a prevention lens, emphasizing an empathetic approach to supporting Indigenous youth. Participant will explore 13 Rites of the Anishnawbek Child and other resources to support this collective vision.

8. Vince Pawis and Chris Karn – Honouring Fire and Sacred Spaces

Participants will explore the history, traditions, and cultural protocols associated with the lodge, fire, ceremony, while offering practical guidance for respectful engagement within these spaces.

9. Anton Treuer- Going Deeper into the Conversation

Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about dismantling barriers to help Indigenous students thrive in mainstream education through a smaller breakout session.