



Ontario Native Literacy Coalition AGM & Conference  
30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Resiliency-Embracing the Road Ahead

**FINAL REPORT**

**Prepared by**

**ONLC STAFF**

**June 22, 2018**



## Ontario Native Literacy Coalition AGM & Conference 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Resiliency-Embracing the Road Ahead

### **Background:**

ONLC hosted the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration annual AGM & Conference, “Resiliency-Embracing the Road Ahead,” from May 31-June 2, 2018 at Six Nations Polytechnic, Brantford Campus, Brantford, ON.

The annual gathering of the Board of Directors, staff and adult Literacy Program Practitioners is hosted annually at different locations within the province of Ontario. The gathering allows an opportunity for administrators and front-line workers to collectively focus on professional development, strengthening understanding as well as sharing best practices and networking with their colleagues.

ONLC is a not for profit, charitable organization that was incorporated in 1988 and is governed by an elected Board of Directors following a policy governance model. Primary funding of ONLC is provided by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. ONLC is the support Organization for the Native Stream and has the distinct honor to be the only provincial support organization in Canada focusing on Native Literacy.

“Resiliency-Embracing the Road Ahead,” the theme of this year’s gathering provided direction for planning and organizing the event. Focus was placed on ensuring program practitioners were well equipped to support and facilitate the learning of a very diverse client base. Professionals in various fields of the indigenous helping professions were invited to share their knowledge and provide new or additional resources for program use. Key note speakers were selected based on their ability to inspire and encourage with wisdom and experience.

ONLC is Resilient and will continue to provide culturally relevant training and resources for native and non-native practitioners and learners to assist in reaching their desired goals.

### **Purpose of this Report:**

This conference/AGM report was generated to provide an overview of the events and activities that took place during the three-day event. Evaluation pages were distributed and collected at all workshops. An overall conference evaluation page for all conference delegates to be completed at the end of the gathering was placed in their conference package. The result of those evaluations will be shared here and could possibly offer valuable information and direction to the planning committee for the next annual event. This report is simply an additional resource tool that may be used in the process of looking back and assessing successes and shortcomings of this event. The information contained in this document should be used as a source of reference only.



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### **Conference Overview:**

The planning committee for this conference comprised of three board members, admin staff in the ONLC office and later two students. One Board member took it upon herself to facilitate all the organization of this event, as an event planner would have. Future events of this size may require a coordinator or event planner, as office staff is quite busy with daily tasks.

This year ONLC chose to host this professional development conference/AGM independent of a partner as in years previous. ONLC has partnered with Laubach Literacy Ontario for the last three years but had requests for the focus to be more Indigenous relevant.

With the request to have more focus on Indigenous content, ONLC set out to have this 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration be just that. All Key-note presenters, workshops, entertainment, catering, venue would all be Indigenous.

### **Conference Highlights:**

1. On May 31, 2018 ONLC had their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. In celebration of the Resilience of the organization each program was gifted with, as Board Vice CGO, Sherry Babiwash explained “the beginnings of your site bundles, which your site can continue to add to it.” The bundles were also a beginning of an overall 2018-19 ONLC resource being created to assist ONLC member organizations to deliver cultural mediated presentations. The Bundles included a smudge kit, a drum (either hand or water), a shaker, a small blanket to conduct your smudge and wooden matches (explained that it is protocol to use matches not lighters when doing a smudge).
2. The conference keynote speakers were not only highly educated but experienced Indigenous educators and wisdom carriers for Indigenous education. Each speaker conveyed their personal experiences as well as their professional knowledge that they have acquired through their very extensive careers. All were very inspiring.
3. All aspects of the conference were relevant to the Indigenous Stream from workshops, to keynotes, facilities, entertainment, catering. ONLC paid close attention to the feedback from last year’s evaluations and tried (quite successfully) to make all aspects of the workshop reflect the needs of the Indigenous Stream.



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**CONFERENCE EVALUATION:**

**Keynote Speakers**



**Rebecca Jamieson, Tuscarora, Six Nations of the Grand River**

Rebecca Jamieson, Tuscarora, is the President-CEO Six Nations Polytechnic, mother, grandmother, sister and auntie. Six Nations Polytechnic (established 1993) is centre of excellence for Indigenous community-based learning at the post-secondary level. Rebecca has been involved at all levels of First Nations education in a wide range of roles including teaching; counselling; policy, curriculum and institutional research and development; teacher education; administration, governance and jurisdictional negotiations. In Ontario, Rebecca has also been actively involved in public postsecondary education, serving as the first Executive Director of the College Standards and Accreditation Council (CSAC), and on the Board of Governors for several Ontario Universities and Mohawk College.

Rebecca holds an undergraduate degree in psychology and philosophy from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Master of Education from the University of Toronto. Rebecca is a member of the College of Teachers and holds Supervisory Officers Qualifications. She is trained in mediation and alternative dispute resolution and is a Graduate of the Carver Institute, Policy Governance. In recognition of her contributions in Indigenous education Rebecca received the Order of Ontario (2008); was appointed Distinguished Fellow, Mohawk College (2015), received an Honorary Doctor of Laws, University of Western Ontario (2015) and an Honorary Doctor of Laws, Wilfrid Laurier University (2017).



**Lorna Wanosts'a7 Williams**

Ed.D University of Tennessee  
Order of British Columbia 1993  
Honorary Doctor of Laws, SFU, 2016  
Professor Emerita: University of Victoria  
Aboriginal Education Consultant

Lorna Wanosts'a7 Williams is a member of the Lil'watul. She retired in December 2014 as the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Knowledge and Learning, an Associate Professor in Indigenous Education and Linguistics, and Program Director of Aboriginal Education at the University of Victoria. At the university she developed a series of courses called Learning and Teaching in an Indigenous World, introducing a learning community to Indigenous ways of teaching and learning.



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She developed a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's degree in Indigenous Language Revitalization, and co-developed a Master's degree in Counselling for Aboriginal Communities. She introduced a required course in Indigenous Education in the faculty of Education. She co-chaired a task force for the BC Deans of Education making it possible to implement a required course in all Faculties of Education in BC and she co-chaired a National Deans of Education report to achieve the same. Before joining the University of Victoria, Lorna held several senior positions, she was the Director of the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Branch at the BC Ministry of Education for three years where she directed research, policy development and implementation in all areas of education for Aboriginal students. Prior to this appointment, she was the First Nations Education Specialist with the Vancouver School Board. Lorna is a strong advocate committed to working with Aboriginal communities to increase the achievement of Aboriginal learners and to teach First Nations languages, cultures, heritage, traditions, and history to all students.

Lorna received her doctorate in education at the University of Tennessee. Her research is in the area of teacher development, collaborative learning and Indigenous language revitalization. Lorna was Chair of First Peoples Culture Council; an organization devoted to Indigenous language revitalization and supports culture and arts development. She is a Council member of the Minister's Council on Aboriginal Women.

Lorna co-directed a series of videos called First Nations: The Circle Unbroken made available to all BC schools and she was co-producer and subject of the award-winning film, *The Mind of a Child*, one award was the Gemini - Canada Award. She has written children's books, teachers' guides and developed Lil'wat language curriculum to teach people to read and write the Lil'wat language, which was exclusively oral until 1973.



### Ontario Regional Chief, Isadore Day, Wiindawtegowinini

Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day is from Serpent River First Nation, Ontario, which is located in the North Channel of Lake Huron. Born in Elliot Lake and raised in the North, Regional Chief Isadore Day worked in construction, commercial fishing, and in the social services setting. Regional Chief Day's post-secondary education consists of Social Work, Business and Public Administration and Governance. He and his partner Angela raise their girls in the North and are committed to ensuring that the North remains a key grounding in their lives. He is strong in his commitments to his community and all treaty regions.

He had been Chief of Serpent River FN since being elected in 2005. Regional Chief Day has a combined total of 12 years in leadership. Public service ideas and dedication have seen him involved in various boards, committees, and volunteer positions over the past 15 yrs. With a list of diverse attributes and skills, Regional Chief Day has been welcomed at many tables to share in efforts to make constructive change for the Anishinaabe and First Nations at the Regional and National level in recent years. Known



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as hard hitter on the issues, he has a demeanor that seeks to find ways to highlight and uplift the dignity of others.

Today, Regional Chief Day is quite active on many files in all policy sectors at the local level and provincially. His main focus at all tables with government is First Nation rights, health, social, economies, infrastructure, Quality of Life – and overall, Nationhood, based on all facets of what a nation embodies. He sees political justice as being the main goal for First Nation leaders and is emphatic that the Indian Act is colonial oppression and at the root of what must change in all First Nations. He is practical with both high level policy and is a strong grassroots First Nation leader.

### Entertainment:



#### Darren Thomas

**Title of Presentation:** The Power of Your Mind Comedy Hypnosis Show

Darren Thomas is Seneca Nation Bear Clan and resides at the Grand River Territory of the Haudenosaunee. Darren is a PhD candidate and lecturer at in the community psychology program at Wilfrid Laurier University. His research focuses on Indigenous knowledge, Indigenous research methodologies, and Indigenous governance. Beyond his current academic pursuits, Darren works closely with Indigenous communities assisting to improve health and well-being.

**Abstract:** Come witness the amazing “power of the mind” in this high-energy, interactive, comedy hypnosis show. The audience will enjoy a clean, fast paced, family fun experience, as participants become the stars of this hilarious show. Everyone will have memories to be talked about for years.



#### Santee Smith Tekaronhiákhwa

Santee is from the Kahnyen'kehàka (Mohawk) Nation, Turtle Clan from Six Nations of the Grand River, Ontario. She is a mother, multi-disciplinary artist, and award-winning producer, choreographer. She holds performance in a sacred space, as all life is sacred. Santee maintains an Onkwehon:we understanding of performance, the body and role of artist: music and dance are celebrations of life; the body is a vessel to house our spirit during our earth walk and the artist as a storyteller, transformer and medicine person. From this perspective her work speaks about identity and humanity in relation to the creative universe.

Recovering from two broken legs, completing six years of training at Canada's National Ballet School, Physical Education and Psychology degrees from McMaster University and theatre training, Santee returned to dance in 1996 as a choreographer. Dedicating six years to create and produce her first dance work, Kaha:wi, a family creation story, she also completed a M.A. in Dance at York University





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in 2004. Following her passion she founded Kaha:wi Dance Theatre (KDT), a vehicle for her artistic voice in 2005.

Her body of works include productions with Kaha:wi Dance Theatre and independent commissions and she is the recipient of numerous awards.

See Santee's body of works and her numerous awards at [ONLC.ca](http://ONLC.ca)

Santee is a pottery designer at family owned business Talking Earth Pottery located on Six Nations, freelance actor, writer and producer. Her pottery pieces are in the collections of the Woodland Cultural Centre, Gardiner Museum, Royal Ontario Museum, Museum of Civilization, National Gallery of Canada and in private collections around the world.

### Terry Plain:



Terry is a long time LBS practitioner from Sarnia. He has been the coordinator at Aamjiwnaang Alternative & Continuing Education Program for many years. He began his career as an entertainer, prior to becoming the LBS Coordinator. ONLC was very happy he accepted to also be included as the in-house troubadour on this program. The audience enjoyed his songs and his inclusive interactive song.

### Honouring of Gifts to Practitioners:



ONLC stream practitioners were honoured with a gift of the start of a site bundle to which was explained to them to be for their program to add to.

The bundles included a drum (hand or water), smudge kit, a shaker, a small blanket, and wooden matches.

*Jake Martell from Nokeekwe is accepting his bundle from board vice CGO, Sherry Babiwash. (right picture)*





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**Workshops** (Complete workshop Descriptions with Workshop Evaluations Sections)

On Friday, June 1 2018, there were 13 workshops held at Six Nations Polytechnic in Brantford to show the significance of “Resiliency-Embracing the Road Ahead.” Along with these workshops, 12 presenters shared their experiences and knowledge to numerous conference attendees. The workshops were then evaluated by attendees on a scale from 1-5, with 1 being very poor and 5 being excellent. These are the results of the evaluations.

**Workshop One: Leave your criminal record behind and move forward~ Scott Mindel (Pardons Canada)**

When you have a criminal record, you simply want to get on with your life. At Pardon Canada, we can ensure that you do just that. Even the smallest of convictions require a pardon in order for the subject to be able to leave and enter Canada.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3 (1)	4 (2)	5 (5)
Was Sensitive To Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2 (1)	3	4 (3)	5 (5)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids Or Handouts	1	2 (1)	3 (2)	4 (2)	5 (1)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4	5 (8)
I Would Recommend For Future Presentations	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (7)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2 (1)	3 (1)	4 (1)	5 (5)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2 (1)	3	4 (2)	5 (5)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3 (1)	4 (1)	5 (6)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (7)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- I loved the facilitators attitude, he was great, easy to understand and communicate with.
- Maybe have a person who has gone through the process of a pardon come in to answer questions about their experience and full process with time frame.
- Scott was excellent, clear, very informative.
- Food for thought





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**Workshop Two: e-Channel Adobe Connect Web Conference Demo~ Sarah Stocker (Contact North)**

Contact North will be replacing Saba Meeting with Adobe Connect in **fall 2019**. Join Sarah for an introduction to the new platform for online courses and training.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (5)
Was Sensitive To Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (4)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids Or Handouts	1	2	3	4	5 (6)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4	5 (6)
I Would Recommend For Future Presentations	1	2	3	4 (2)	5 (4)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3	4 (2)	5 (4)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3	4 (2)	5 (4)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4	5 (6)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4	5 (6)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Warmer room or blankets to keep warm.
- Looking forward to Fall 2019
- No comments about this workshop, for new people I think it would be helpful to have introduction to the program! Thanks (my workshop ended early, so they may have discussed this. I only attended for 35 minutes.)

**Workshop Three: Indigenous Language Revitalization: Language & Literacy- Iehnotonkwas Bonnie Jane Maracle (University of Toronto)** As the public education taking steps towards more culturally relevant curriculum and resources, the opportunity to develop indigenous language learning programming provides for the more enhanced and effective curriculum for all students.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3(1)	4(4)	5(6)
Was Sensitive to Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4	5(11)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids or Handouts	1	2	3(1)	4(4)	5(6)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4	5(11)
I Would Recommend for Future Presentations	1	2	3	4(1)	5(10)



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Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3	4	5(11)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3	4(3)	5(8)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4	5(11)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4	5(11)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Miigwech. Great speaker. Most important topic. Copy ppt/Handouts/ Summary Would have been appreciated
- While there weren't handouts the notes I took from both the presentation and the ending discussion will be very important going forward.
- Thank you for your wonderful words + presentation. Very informative + helpful. Learning this presentation today, I feel I am more hopeful for our people. Chi- Miigwech

**Workshop Four: Blended Learning- Indigenous Knowledge & Skills as a Business-Linda Wright (Good Learning Anywhere)** Participate in an interactive workshop featuring blended learning approach with ONLC's new course Indigenous Knowledge & Skills as a Business to gain both the learner and practitioner perspectives.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4 (4)	5 (8)
Was Sensitive To Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3 (1)	4 (2)	5 (8)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids Or Handouts	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (11)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4 (2)	5 (10)
I Would Recommend For Future Presentations	1	2 (1)	3	4 (1)	5 (10)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3 (2)	4 (1)	5 (9)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3 (1)	4 (2)	5 (9)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3 (1)	4 (1)	5 (10)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3 (1)	4 (1)	5 (10)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Good resources especially for more remote locations
- Knowledgeable presenter and it was a good opportunity to share ideas
- Ideas around running a crafters project upbringing in the community to supplement or start their own crafting business.



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- Well done. Thank-you Linda
- Great info about working with the learner on their timeline
- Good resource + want to pilot
- Please come do a workshop for Literacy North East AGM in October!
- Email (+ promote course) our collaboratives / school board throughout community. Put on a community workshop showcasing the different types of Artisans learners.

Workshop Five: **Discovering your True Potential: A wholistic approach to career planning~ Marjorie Henhawk (G.R.E.A.T.)** An introduction to a wholistic frame work for career planning that is easy to understand/relatable for our clients including the high risk and multi-barrier ones.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3 (1)	4 (5)	5 (8)
Was Sensitive To Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3 (1)	4 (3)	5 (10)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids Or Handouts	1	2 (1)	3	4 (3)	5 (10)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2 (1)	3	4 (3)	5 (10)
I Would Recommend For Future Presentations	1	2 (1)	3	4 (4)	5 (9)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2 (1)	3 (1)	4 (4)	5 (8)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3 (1)	4 (4)	5 (9)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3 (1)	4 (1)	5 (12)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4 (2)	5 (12)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Thank you
- Being in my new position as an employment counsellor I learned so many new skills from Marj today. She is full of so much information/knowledge for our people. Excellent workshop
- I liked how Marj engaged in the audience by asking each to dance. This creates a positive and welcoming moral to the workshop.
- Thanks for the time + the great discussion this conference has been great! Thanks again.
- No powerpoint??? Completely old school. While info was good pp would have been great to have slide.
- Not as interactive as I'd like to see.

Workshop Six: **Blended Learning- Native Child Development Pre (pre) Apprenticeship-Linda Wright (Good Learning Anywhere)** Participate in an interactive workshop featuring blended learning approach



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with ONLC's new course Native Child Development to gain both the learner and practitioner perspectives.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (5)
Was Sensitive To Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4 (2)	5 (4)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids Or Handouts	1	2	3	4	5 (6)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4	5 (6)
I Would Recommend For Future Presentations	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (5)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3 (1)	4 (1)	5 (4)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3 (1)	4	5 (5)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4 (1)	5 (5)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4	5 (6)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- All good!
- Interesting insightful informative
- Really enjoyed hearing about the many different resources that can be used in combination with the programming
- Thank you! I will be in contact!
- This is excellent. We aren't running ECE this year, but we ARE running traditional knowledge in September, so we'll talk

Workshop Seven: **R.E.A.L. School Youth Leadership Workshop\*\*2 parts-session 2&3 ~ Diane Katsitsawaks Hill and Jordon Teshakotennyon Miller- (R.E.A.L. School)** Reality education and applied life skills program focused on leadership development for youth and the interested in working with youth. Interactive learning environment creates opportunities for self-discovery and personal development.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4	5(7)
Was Sensitive to Ethical Issues/ Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4	5(7)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids or Handouts	1	2	3	4	5(7)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4	5(7)
I Would Recommend for Future Presentations	1	2	3	4	5(7)



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Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3	4	5(7)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3	4	5(7)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4	5(7)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4	5(7)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- This workshop is excellent and is going to be a useful tool for present + audience
- Beautiful!!! Nya:weh
- I loved this workshop and would love to attend any future workshop by Diane and Jordan
- Truly awesome! Would recommend to people

Workshop Eight: **Delivering Equitable Social Kindness (DESK) ~ Jason Shawana** This workshop focuses on equity through “social kindness” delivery. Participants focus on relationship building while employing a process of role clarification to develop a *trauma informed* and *safe* approach to service delivery, making it conducive to resiliency by providing opportunities for agency and self-determination for individuals in educations and employment

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3(1)	4(2)	5(6)
Was Sensitive to Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4	5(9)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids or Handouts	1	2	3	4(1)	5(8)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4(1)	5(8)
I Would Recommend for Future Presentations	1	2	3(1)	4	5(8)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3(1)	4	5(8)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3(1)	4	5(8)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4	5(9)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4	5(9)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Thank you very informative + relevant
- Sorry missed last exercise- sounded like it would have been fun
- Well Done – Nia:weh
- Enjoyed + useful



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Workshop Nine: **How to Incorporate Native Craft into Education ~ Sherry Babiwash (Enjikendaasang Learning Centre)** Participants will learn what kind of crafts can be brought into the classroom, and how to use the OALCF to support Indigenous learners.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4(2)	5(5)
Was Sensitive to Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3(1)	4	5(6)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids or Handouts	1	2	3	4	5(7)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3(1)	4	5(6)
I Would Recommend for Future Presentations	1	2	3(1)	4	5(6)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3(1)	4	5(6)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3(1)	4(1)	5(5)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3(1)	4(1)	5(5)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3(1)	4	5(6)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Great discussion and sharing stories Also great discussion about weaknesses of OALCF.
- Love this Workshop, Relaxing. Thank you
- Thank you for the discussion, I really enjoyed making my medicine pouch, I appreciated the time you took with us, Thanks again

Workshop Ten: **Mental Health & Spirituality ~ Kevin Martin** To look at the similarities and/or difference between mental health and spirituality. To obtain a broader understanding when working with those who have a mental health or a spiritual issue(s).

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1(1)	2	3	4(2)	5(9)
Was Sensitive to Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4(2)	5(10)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids or Handouts	1	2(1)	3	4	5(11)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2(1)	3	4	5(11)
I Would Recommend for Future Presentations	1(1)	2	3	4(1)	5(10)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2(1)	3	4(3)	5(8)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3	4(2)	5(9)



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Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2(1)	3	4(2)	5(9)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3(1)	4	5(11)

Workshop Eleven: **Resilience in the Workplace ~ Judith Knight (G.R.E.A.T)** This workshop will help clients to think about the big picture and long-term goals. Looking at respect and resilience in helping to overcome challenges in the workplace based on knowledge of Grandparents from Six Nations.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4(2)	5(2)
Was Sensitive to Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4(2)	5(2)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids or Handouts	1	2	3	4(2)	5(2)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4(2)	5(2)
I Would Recommend for Future Presentations	1	2	3	4(1)	5(3)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3	4(1)	5(3)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3	4(1)	5(3)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4(1)	5(3)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4(1)	5(3)

Workshop Twelve: **Facing Challenges- Working with Learning Disabilities ~ Judy Reuben** A learning disability is a lifelong challenge. However, with appropriate support and intervention, individuals with learning disabilities can achieve success in school, at work and in the community. This workshop will examine specific learning disabilities, appropriate accommodations and in-class interventions. Recognizing, and understanding learning disabilities are the first steps to student success.

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4(3)	5(2)
Was Sensitive to Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4(2)	5(3)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids or Handouts	1	2	3	4(1)	5(4)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4(1)	5(4)
I Would Recommend for Future Presentations	1	2	3	4(2)	5(3)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3	4(2)	5(3)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3	4(2)	5(3)





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Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4(1)	5(4)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4(1)	5(4)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Important material that is difficult to cover in 1 ½ Hr workshop, well done under the circumstances.
- I wish we had more time! Very interesting presentation, Nyaweh
- I really appreciated the multiple examples of (LD) + how to accommodate students + feed bac

**Workshop Thirteen: \*\* Part 2 of R.E.A.L. School Leadership Program**

Provided Relevant Resources for Future Learning	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
Was Sensitive To Ethical Issues/Cultural Issues	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
Effectively Used Audiovisual Aids Or Handouts	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
Was Attentive to Questions and Dialogue	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
I Would Recommend For Future Presentations	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
Effectively Facilitated My Personal Growth	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
Enhanced My Knowledge Provided Relevant Information	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
Was Well Organized Communicated Effectively	1	2	3	4	5 (1)
Demonstrated Knowledge, Skill, and Understanding	1	2	3	4	5 (1)

**Additional Comments you would like to make about this workshop:**

- Many things to say:
  - Emotional for me to see so many people working in an area (my first time)
  - My 3 daughters created a tool to help FN kids learn about themselves (e.g. my girls would guide kids (+ adults) to seek out different info from their own people to learn all the indigenous competencies/literacies and “reward them for it.)
  - Being here made me realize my girls are definitely on the right track and that they understand more than I thought.
  - I would like the names of organizations that were here so that we can “suggest” these programs to any kids who may register with my girls from those areas
  - Their program is called “Your Warriors of Turtle Island” online + on Facebook please contact me at [mchakasim71@gmail.com](mailto:mchakasim71@gmail.com)



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- Personally, for me – workshop gave me English words to verbalize what I believe in which I never really had before although I knew enough to get my kids a quantum physics book.
- Re ONLC specifically – our tribal council/college pilot feeds exactly into what we are all working towards
- Pilot (partial) met 33 of OALCF without effort
- Need to meet needs
- Learning acts accepted by Ministry

### **Summary of the Conference:**

At the end of the three days before a traditional closing was done, CEO, Michelle Davis did an overall summary of the events of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, “Resiliency, Embracing the Road Ahead” conference/AGM.

#### A recap of the conference:

We welcomed a new board member at our AGM. Please welcome James Michaud from Sudbury. He comes with much experience and his profile will be in the upcoming edition of the newsletter. We also heard of the accomplishments and challenges of ONLC for 2017-18. The membership also was pleased with a very clean audit.

Each of the Indigenous Stream designated member LBS programs were gifted with a beginning “bundle” for their programs consisting of a drum, a shaker, a smudge kit, wooden stick matches and all were wrapped in a blanket. This 30-year anniversary present is the beginning of a cultural education kit that ONLC is putting together for each program this year.

The conference was started with an early morning “rainbow meditation” conducted by Indigenous seer, Christina Porter. Following this the Kawenni:io/Gaweni:yo Private Indigenous Language Immersion school, grade 5-6 class opened with a traditional opening. This traditional opening set the tone for a very positive conference.

The conference was kicked off with a key not speaker, Rebecca Jamieson, CEO/President of Six Nations Polytechnic. Rebecca is both a highly honoured Indigenous educator who advocates through action and change within the Ontario Education system. She provided hope and encouragement of how our Indigenous Educational Institutions are attempting and aspire to change some dismal social statistics through education. Her inspirational address conveyed the strong message that we as Indigenous peoples have been resilient and will continue to be, through a strong system of education that combines a deep understanding of our history with western education.

Participants spent all day Friday in workshops learning about: Pardons for our people who have been involved with the criminal justice system; web conferencing; The Truth and Reconciliation in Indigenous Education; Blended Learning and new programming from Good Learning Anywhere; True Potential in



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the workplace; REAL School and utilizing our own innate energy (quantum physics); Social Kindness; Crafting in the classroom; Mental Health; Learning Disabilities; and Workplace Resilience.

Friday night we relaxed after a day of workshops to an excellent meal provided by Indigenous caterer, Clint Atkins and some very talented entertainment.

We learned and experienced poetry in motion through the wonderfully talented Santee Smith. She reminded us that literacy is not just about reading, writing and arithmetic but the stories we tell and how we tell them—hers through motion.

We relaxed and had fun being entertained with the soon to be “Dr.” Darren Thomas with his interactive comedy hypnotist show. We had 9 brave volunteers.

We were also lucky enough to be entertained by one of our very own Indigenous Stream LBS service provider/coordinators, Terry Plain. Terry is not just a great LBS coordinator but a talented troubadour in his own right.

Saturday morning, we were lucky enough to hear the wisdom acquired through her many years of Indigenous education and advocacy from Dr Lorna Williams. She has spent a life time of researching and exploring how to rectify the historical injustices imposed on Indigenous peoples through the residential schools. Dr. Williams’s inspirational message took us as practitioners around the world to researched examples of people that have endured traumatic hardships yet have overcome them to revitalize their cultural practice and place in society. Her message of resiliency which she has studied in many of these nations is embedded in the mores and indigenous languages of these people and all are connected to the land and knowing inside their being, that they have a sense of belonging and worth.

We learned about all the fabulous work of our Indigenous Stream Programs and their successful programming they are doing in Indigenous Language, Corrections, the on-line platform and our New expansion initiative piloting in Ottawa this year.

To wrap up the conference/agm, we heard from an inspiring Ontario political figure who works to assist our initiatives. His introduction stressed the importance of recognizing that this month is Indigenous people’s history month. Had he not brought this to our attention, how many of us would have known this. It is important that we need to support and work together to improve our people’s lives. Isadore Day provided some disheartening statistics yet reiterated and wrapped up our conference by reaffirming the importance of our wholistic approach within our programs inclusive of all generations. And while Isadore was not present for the entire conference he was reassuring the Indigenous Stream LBS practitioners that all they had been learning over the past few days of the conference, is essential for our Indigenous people’s improvement to their lives regardless of where they live in Ontario.

The conference attempted to bring together the Indigenous Steam LBS programs to an Indigenous territory, to assist in the celebration of 30 years of resiliency and to look to the road ahead as we all continue to improve the lives of our students we serve.



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## Conference Overall Comments:

### Overall Conference Evaluations:

Overall conference evaluations were distributed in the registration package and handed in at the end of the conference. Many participants left early for travel reasons (catch a train, plain etc.) but did send comments in the way of emails. These are also added at the end of this section.

When the conference came to a close on Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, we asked the conference attendees to fill out a final evaluation. Those who did not complete this part of the evaluation are exempt from this section, those who did complete it have their comments written below. This evaluation is based around the entirety of the conference.

- Keep up the great work
- Should be longer
- Very well organized by Board of Directors and all parties involved. You's all are my positive role models and glad to have had the pleasure of meeting you's + keynote speakers Miigwech
- Thank you for the tremendous work you put into this event!
- Could have easily been 3 days with more workshop!
- The ONLC is fabulous, and I could not do anything that I do without you!! Yaw ko, Miigwetch, and thank you so much!
- Would it be possible to get access to handouts or links to other workshops that we could not attend?
- Everything seemed to be running a bit late
- Niá:weh
- Hosts were very welcoming... making everyone special guests. Lots of food and good variety. Nice to have ONLC share their experience. Info sharing what works what don't
- Indigenous Education – Need conference MC to help keep program on track + timely
- See other comments on workshop evaluation sheet- was referencing whole conference. mchakas4m71@gmail.com Great job! Tons of fun + validating (+ hopeful too) for the work we leave already been doing at Northern College \*insert "Thumbs up" emoji here.
- Not long enough! Needs to be two days long, Next year we want more staff from each community to attend. This event was informative interesting, relevant and fun. We enjoyed our experience. Charity told me this was the first conference that was not done with a partner – first solo conference. Thank you for arranging it that way so that all the workshops were relevant!