**FASS DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**Frost Update: Tommy**

* increase to full time for 12 weeks between now and this time next year – to create more visibility during times of high need/high stress (start up, exams, year-end)
* Working on outdoor cultural space – aiming for structure build in spring. Meeting with physical resources to book
* Outdoor cultural programming to begin in Jan.
* Regular Elder presence at Frost (weekly) beginning Jan.

***Sutherland Coordinator***: Kylie

* Events and programming occurred during strike – still had quite a student presence during strike
* Interviews for new FASSC (Fleming Aboriginal Student Services Coordinator) at Sutherland Campus took place towards the end of November. We were successful and our new hire will join the team on Dec.19th.
* Space is a challenge as our team is growing (great problem to have!); current office space will be divided to create 2, confidential office space (for Kylie and new Coordinator). Construction to occur first week of January, so we should have these spaces up and running by mid-Jan.
* All Cultural programming has been booked for next semester – LOTS happening – keep an eye on the Neechee Community Calendar for event details : <https://teamup.com/ksc0f5afc8d83cb1be>
* **Highlight!!** We will have an Elder presence on campus, each campus weekly – for half a day. This is a big step forward and will meet the students’ needs in terms of providing regular, cultural advising and support.
* **Highlight-**I have been working with our Campus nurses and health services staff to partner on providing access to traditional Indigenous healthcare consulting. So, if all goes as planned, come January, Indigenous students will be able to go to Health Services and get health advice and consulting from plant-based medicine expert, Joseph Pitawanakwat! (believe we are the first in the province to office something like this!)
* **See list of other internal partnerships in the works!**

**Student Employee Work**

**Placement Student: Amanda Rogers**

* Presented all of the projects she has done to-date – very impressive!
  + Resource List of resources available to FNMI students in Peterborough and Lindsay (for Frost students)
  + Review and updated FNMI bursary and scholarship list for Fleming FNMI students with deadlines – will be added to website
  + Has worked to update, maintain and promote all FASS events through various mediums (fb, screens, posters, e-mails, etc.)
  + Created a (LONG) list of all of the FN post-secondary education managers with each FN Band in Ontario, as well as contact for Métis Education Offices and Inuit regional offices. This will assist campus FASSC’s in their advocacy work and networking/communication.
  + Currently working on an Aboriginal Student Calendar for 2018-19 that will include all academic deadlines for Fleming students, as well as cultural event dates and holidays (solstices and Full moon schedules, etc.)

**Tish, Abby, and Winona (Bishkaa Mentors) update:**

* provided extra support for student following strike
* Right now, focusing on promoting Bishkaa and recruiting more mentees
  + Mentors conducted a phone blitz to connect with their registered mentees – checked in with each of them to see how they were doing
  + Plans include: open house; info table in front foyer; slides added to lounge TV screens; posters on campus; drum social; lunch and learns; March in the Santa Claus Parade
* Planning and finalizing details for the Study Retreat next semester
* Events already taking place – study day and stress buster ‘Fun Day’ last week with movies, popcorn and photo booth
* Mentors planning for meetings monthly – staggered with our team meetings so that they see each other bi-weekly and stay connected – great team work

**Post-Strike Update:**

* students, generally were calm and supported one another
* Pulling data to find out how many FNMI students withdrew this semester due to strike (should have data to present verbally at AEC meeting)

**Indigenous Education Council (IEC) provincial meeting - (Nov. 25 and 26, 2017) at the Higher Education Summit in Toronto:***Mark Gray attended this provincial gathering on behalf of Fleming’s AEC and as our member of the Indigenous Peoples Education Circle and shares the following information.*

**Carolyn Hepburn, Sault College, Chair IPEC**, **gave opening remarks and a brief overviews of the TRC Joint Provincial Meeting report released in June 2017. Interactive breakout sessions followed with discussion on themes pulled from this report.**

**Question #1**: Building relationships and being accountable to Indigenous communities in support of self-determination (means, methods and tools).

**Question #2**: Developing culturally appropriate curriculum – means & methods?

**Question #3**: Best Practices and Innovations towards improving education attainment levels and success rates for Indigenous students.

**Question #4:** Approaches and best practices to educate teachers on how to integrate Indigenous Knowledge’s and teaching methods into classrooms.

**Question #5:** Identification of relevant and culturally appropriate programming and advances in Nursing, Journalism, Law and ECE fields.

**Question #6**: Post-secondary governance structures that demonstrate accountability and are inclusive and respectful of Indigenous peoples.

**Question #7:** Challenges and opportunities and best practices associated with professional development.

**Question #8**: The three areas of the TRC’s Calls to Action in education are: 1) Our Community; 2) Our Students; and 3) Our Institutions. Discuss how we can advance Indigenous Education in these areas.

**Group Discussion – Challenges and opportunities and best practices of Ontario IECs:** a robust discussion with those gathered that provided opportunity to better understand what is working well (with IECs) and where there still exist challenges within colleges and universities.

***Mark is recommending that Fleming’s AEC dedicate time at the February AEC Meeting to discuss the questions above and debrief the information Mark gathered from those attending the provincial meeting.***