

ABORIGINAL COUNCIL of QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, March 27th 6:30pm
Elspeth Baugh Fireside Room, Ban Righ Hall
Queen's University

The Council meeting began with the Thanksgiving Address led by Elder Marlene Brant Castellano.

Members introduced themselves and many expressed their appreciation of the invitation to participate in the Council and help the university move forward.

Four Directions Centre Director Janice Hill and representatives from the Faculty of Education, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science and School of Policy Studies provided updates and progress reports on their Aboriginal programs, highlighting changes over the past fiscal year that looked at ways to co-create a university environment that is responsive to the learning needs of all Aboriginal students.

Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) Alan Harrison expressed the university's commitment to enhancing the experience of Aboriginal students at Queen's, increasing their numbers and supporting curriculum development and additional programs and research to foster Aboriginal education at the university. He noted both the Academic Plan and the Strategic Research Plan reflect this commitment. He will bring possible policy objectives to help meet the needs of Aboriginal students to Council for input and would then provide regular updates and seek the Council's advice. He also announced that a special celebration for graduating Aboriginal students would be held during spring convocation and

that this would be an ongoing event.

University co-Chair and V-P (Finance and Administration) Caroline Davis asked Council members to review the current Terms of Reference and provide feedback at the next meeting to be scheduled within the next few months.

The Council will also review a draft annual report for Senate and the university's required funding report to the provincial Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

An Aboriginal community Co-Chair needs to be selected and Ms Davis asked members to consider volunteering for the role.

The meeting ended with a prayer also led by Ms Castellano.