



# Aboriginal Council of Queen's University

## 2016 Annual Report

February 2017

## Introduction

The Aboriginal Council of Queen's University (ACQU) provides advice to the university and is mandated to be involved in all decisions affecting Aboriginal programs and services at Queen's. It normally meets three times per year. The Council's [website](#) includes information about the Council's mandate, [membership](#) and activities, including [meeting summaries](#). There were three meetings of Council in 2016. What follows are highlights from these meetings.

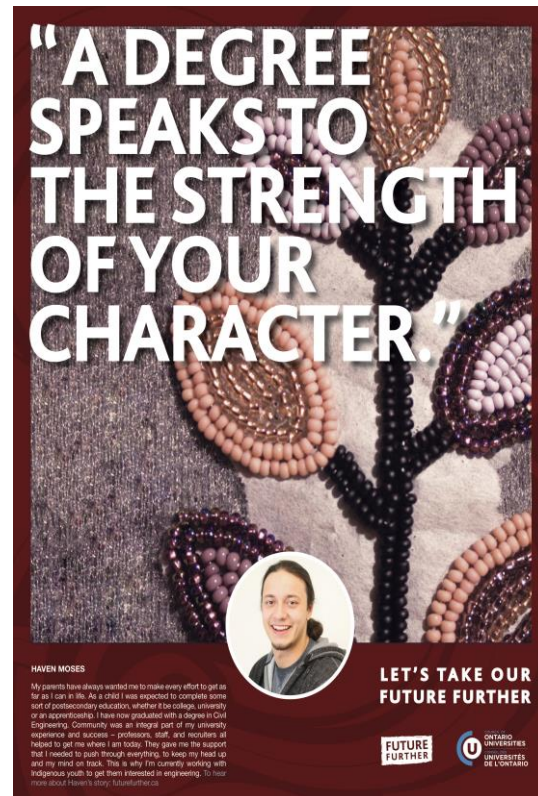
### January 27, 2016 Aboriginal Caucus and Council meeting, Queen's campus

- The Council's Aboriginal Caucus, led by Council Co-Chair Marlene Brant Castellano, met prior to the full Council meeting.
- At Council, Provost Alan Harrison announced that Queen's had recently received funding for 28 new on-line courses from the province, representing approximately one-third of the total funding allocated to universities. The new Queen's courses include "First Nations Playwrights", that is also being supported by a Principal's Fund, and "Mining and Society", which looks at community relations, including Indigenous groups.
- The Provost also informed Council that in response to the release of the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the university is establishing a [task force](#) to make recommendations to respond to the TRC calls to action pertinent to Queen's, and the broader implications of the TRC report. It will also make recommendations regarding the integration of Indigenous knowledge into existing courses and programs, as well as recommendations relating to the recruitment and support of Aboriginal students, staff and faculty, and ways to enhance the cultural climate at Queen's for Aboriginal learners.



*The Aboriginal Teacher Education Program in the Faculty of Education holds a campus community event to acknowledge the release of the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.*

- Co-Chair Brant Castellano reported that Queen’s and Council’s activities are being noted nationally, including her participation at a November 2015 meeting of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons that focused on planning for a Summit on Rethinking Collaboration in Indigenous Health.
- The working group chairs provided updates on their activities and progress made against their annual priorities. On behalf of Council’s Access and Support working group, Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs Ann Tierney and Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre Director Janice Hill advised Council of the provincial Future Further initiative, featuring two Queen’s alumni as role models. Queen’s celebrated the launch of this communications campaign at a [campus event](#) on February 3, 2016.



*Future Further posters featuring Queen’s alumni Donna Mae Kimmaliardjuk (ArtSci’11) & Haven Moses (Sc’15)*

- Further to their written reports, stakeholder representatives provided updates on their unit/program’s activities.
- Council received a presentation on Undergraduate Outreach and Recruitment from Stuart Pinchin, Executive Director, Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment (UAR), Lisa Doxtator, Admission, Recruitment, Outreach, Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre, and Don Ames, Admission Coordinator, UAR.

### **May 9, 2016 Aboriginal Council meeting**

Council members met on the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory and were joined by University Chancellor Jim Leech, Principal Daniel Woolf, incoming Provost Benoit-Antoine Bacon, and representatives of the Tyendinaga Mohawk Council.

Further to their written reports, stakeholder representatives provided updates on their unit/program's activities. The group then participated in the KAIROS Blanket Exercise, led by Laura Maracle and Vanessa McCourt of the Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre.



The KAIROS Blanket exercise is an interactive learning experience aimed at teaching Indigenous rights history. Developed in response to the 1996 Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, the blanket exercise covers over 500 years of history in a participatory workshop. Participants take on the roles of Indigenous peoples in Canada and while standing on blankets that represent the land, they interact and learn about pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance.

### **October 25, 2016 Aboriginal Caucus and Council meeting, Queen's Campus**

The Council's Aboriginal Caucus, led by Council Co-Chair Marlene Brant Castellano, met prior to the full Council meeting.

After program and information updates, the full Council meeting provided an opportunity for the university's TRC Task Force to consult council members as part of its work. Task Force Co-Chairs Dr. Jill Scott and Dr. Mark Green reviewed the task force's activities to date and noted the release of the task force's [preliminary report](#).

Council was then asked to provide input on the task force's consultation questions that pertain to:

- Engaging Indigenous students, faculty and staff in university governance and decision-making;
- Embedding the needs of Indigenous students, faculty and staff in strategic planning processes;
- Space needs;
- Interaction between Queen's and Aboriginal communities/organizations; and
- Communication and collaboration between Queen's and Aboriginal communities/organizations.

Council formed small groups to discuss these questions and the responses were gathered and provided to the task force.

**2017 Meetings:** The first two 2017 Council meeting dates are January 23, 2017 at Queen's and May 1, 2017 at Tyendinaga.

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Congratulations to Aboriginal Council member Carol Ann Budd, Sc'89, who was awarded an honorary doctorate of science at Queen's fall convocation in November, 2016.



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2016 stories about Queen's Aboriginal students, faculty, staff, initiatives, and events

[Bearing the brunt of change](#), Dec. 8, 2016

[Be leaders and changemakers, urges Aboriginal champion](#), Nov. 15, 2016

[Charting a path toward reconciliation](#), Nov. 13, 2016

['Heal the rift': Forum revisits Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples](#), Nov. 3, 2016

[TRC public consultation sessions continue](#), Nov, 2, 2016

[Revitalizing campus space with Indigenous language, art](#), Oct. 28, 2016. [View artwork](#)



[Queen's hosts conference focusing on the 18<sup>th</sup> century and how it relates to modern day](#), Oct. 25, 2016

[Truth-telling and TRC community consultations](#), Sept. 20, 2016

[Five Queen's University professors elected as fellows to the Royal Society of Canada](#), Sept. 7, 2016

[TRC task force releases preliminary report](#), Aug. 26, 2016

[Program brings Indigenous students together](#), Aug. 19, 2016

[Campus life 'allowed me to claim my history'](#), Aug. 18, 2016

[Building rockets, boats and futures](#), July 26, 2016

[A portrait of success](#), July 19, 2016

[Celebrating National Aboriginal Day](#), June 21, 2016

[An exercise in Aboriginal history](#), May 12, 2016

[Promoting science to young Canadians](#), May 6, 2016

[Out in the world in all directions](#), April 22, 2016

[Mapping the Empire](#), March 29, 2016

[Aboriginal Week balances reflection, celebration](#), March 11, 2016

[Identifying avenues for support](#), March 11, 2016

[Examining the 'multiplicity of history'](#), March 10, 2016

[Task Force to respond to TRC report](#), March 10, 2016

[Aboriginal Law Moot a unique experience](#), March 4, 2016

[Entry Award for Aboriginal students created thanks to gift](#), Feb. 19, 2016

[Queen's announces 2016 Canada Research Chairs](#), Feb. 9, 2016

[Aboriginal learners take their future further](#), Feb. 4, 2016

Queen's campus is situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory

[www.queensu.ca/aboriginalcouncil](http://www.queensu.ca/aboriginalcouncil)