

## **Special Education Chronology - Sioux Lookout District**

- 1985 WESDIAND Project (funded by INAC) was to establish a system of special education services in First Nations schools in Ontario
- 1986 Sioux Lookout District Chiefs reject INAC's regional special education policy and demand the opportunity for consultation and ownership of their own policy
- 1987 - 88 Tribal Councils develop policy manuals as part of 'devolution' from INAC. This includes the development of special education policy.
- 1988 Most federal schools in the district with a few exceptions become band operated schools as part of 'local control of education'.
- 1990 NAN report released - "Present Levels of Education Services and Key Deficiencies"  
- "Special services are high cost; ways of sharing these kinds of services must be found amongst NAN First Nations."
- 1991 INAC discontinues the itinerant Special Education Resource Teachers positions at District Office in Sioux Lookout
- 1991 ISNC (Integrated Services for Northern Children) stops provided assessments for children living on-reserve in fly-in communities (travel for assessments had been covered by Medical Services in the past)
- 1994 Sioux Lookout District Tutor Escort Training Program starts.  
Original needs assessment funded by SLAAMB. Funding for training program from NNEC's community based funding, with a Program Steering Committee. Funds administered by WEA (Windigo Education Authority) on behalf of the district.
- 1997 INAC reviews high cost special education. "Vision for Tomorrow" report released. A high cost special education funding formula is implemented to "re-allocate available resources for high cost special education on an equitable basis."
- 2000 - 2001 2 'Circle of Support' Workshops in Sioux Lookout on special education  
1 participant from each FN in the district facilitated by Learning Sources through the Sioux Lookout District Tutor Escort Training Program
- 2002 'Saving Our Children' district proposal for Special Education services & delivery developed under the direction of DEPC (District Education Planning Committee)

July 2002, proposal unanimously approved by Sioux Lookout District Chiefs in a special Chiefs' meeting held at the Friendship Centre in Sioux Lookout

INAC subsequently will not fund the proposal stating that all special ed. dollars go directly to communities.

April 2004 Phase 1 CTBS testing for Sioux Lookout District schools achieved through the pooling of funds from the 24 communities; Phase 2 completed (comprehensive testing in one pilot community). Generic special education policy for the district written by Dr. Mary-Beth Minthorn-Biggs.

DEPC Project Report on 'Saving Our Children' Phase 1 presented to INAC with funding being requested for district-wide service delivery. Proposal rejected by INAC.

June 2004 Sioux Lookout District Tutor Escort Training Program ends

November 2014

Kwayaciiwin Education Resource Centre proposes 2<sup>nd</sup> level Aggregated Special Education Services at the KERC AGM.

May 2015 Kwayaciiwin starts to deliver 2<sup>nd</sup> level High Cost Special Education Services for an aggregate of 10 communities

April 2016 Kwayaciiwin continues to deliver 2<sup>nd</sup> level High Cost Special Education Services for an aggregate of 11 communities (2016 – 2017)