



KWAYACIIWIN
Education Resource Centre
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KWAYACIIWIN TABAAHCHIMOWIN

Kwayaciiwin Education Resource Centre

Spring 2019

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@Kwayaciiwin

www.kwayaciiwin.com

New Executive Director Takes the Helm at KERC



Booshoo, Waciiyah, niin, Christina Meekis. Hello, my name is Christina Meekis and I am the new Executive Director for Kwayaciiwin Education Resource Centre, effective January 7, 2019.

I have family roots in the Sandy Lake and North Spirit Lake First Nations. My husband, Steve Bear is from Tobique First Nation, New Brunswick and we have 3 children and several grandchildren.

As an educator, with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education, my priority is to positively influence all educational endeavours in the best interest of the child. No child should ever be refused the opportunity of acquiring an education. I am eager to continue fulfilling this priority in my new role as Executive Director.

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UPCOMING ISSUES:

Fall 2019/20
September 2019

Winter 2019/20
December 2019

End of the Year
March 2020

**Submissions and ideas
are welcome!**

Submit to:
KERC Communications
info@kerc.ca

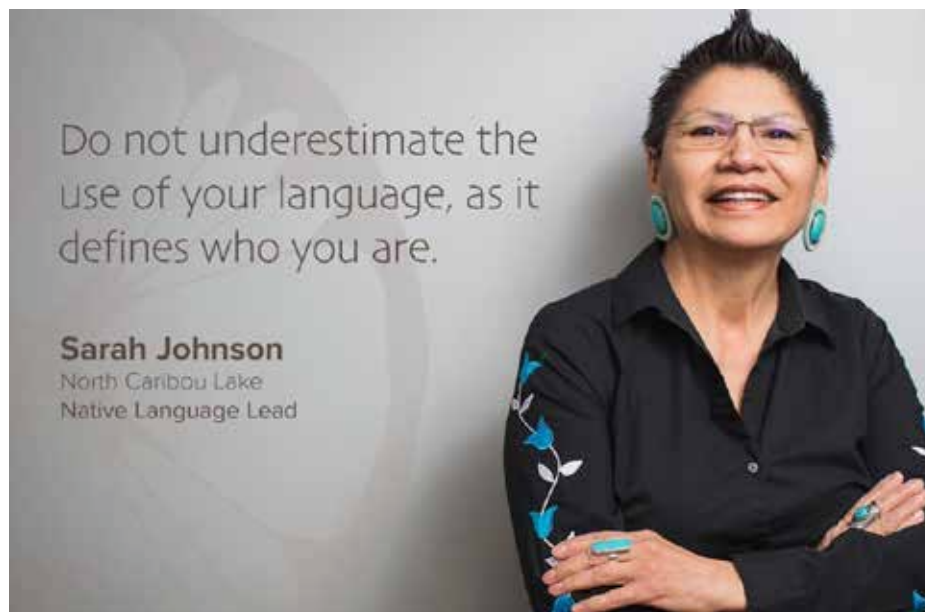
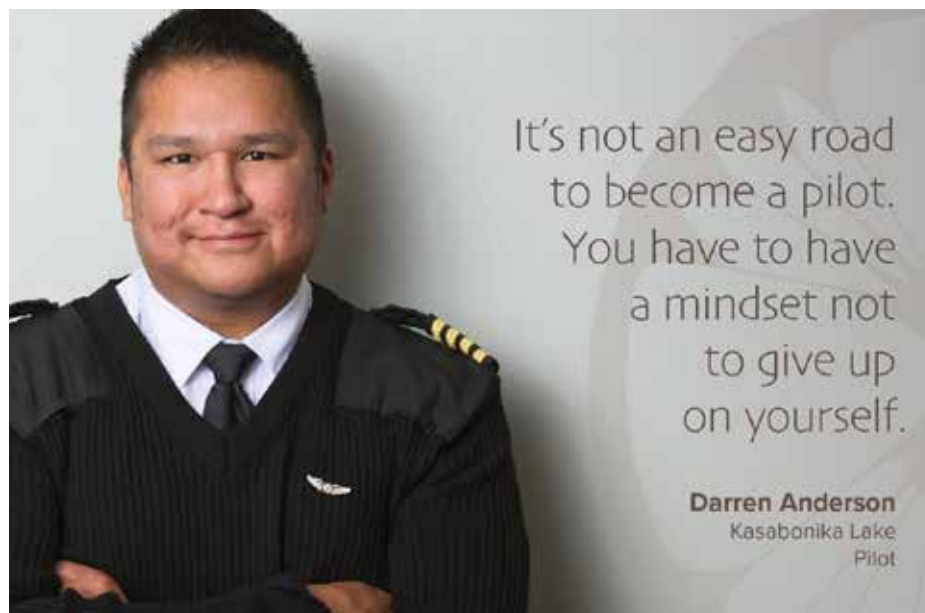
New Site Promotes Careers

Indigenous People. Building Careers. Shaping the Future.

Kwayaciiwin is proud to launch our latest project. Many Paths is an initiative to inspire First Nations youth and children to explore the many career and education opportunities that are available. The project features First Nations individuals from a variety of educational and career backgrounds.

Our vision is for teachers/educators to use Many Paths in the classroom to talk about career options by showing First Nations individuals from the region. Posters are also being distributed to our member community schools. The website features even more individuals, as well as Q&A's, videos, and photos.

Visit the Many Paths website at www.manypaths.info



Staff Updates

Departing Staff

Kwayaciiwin wishes to thank **Anna Phelan, Margaret Angecone, Eugene Southwind, Nelson Makoop, Jeannie Beardy, Robert Turtle, Donna Morris, Grant Stevens, Sandra Makoop** and **Charles Brown** for their contributions to the organization. We wish them all the best in their new endeavours.

New Staff

We are proud to welcome the following new staff to the Kwayaciiwin team:

Christina Meekis
Executive Director

Ashley Smith
Assessment Coach

Pete Wyspianski
Numeracy Coach

Shoshannah Fox
Artist/illustrator

Kate Brailsford
Literacy Coach

Michelane Gliddy
Student Retention Coach

Kathy Wesley
Native Language
Specialist (Ojibwe)

Laine Helbling
Graphic Designer/
Creative Lead

Deanna Kenny
Filing Clerk

WE'RE HIRING

**Structural Readiness Coordinator
Language and Culture Coordinator
Finance/Human Resource Coordinator
Mental Health Coordinator**

visit www.kwayaciiwin.com/employment
for more information



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KERC Partners with Adult Education and ONWA to Bring Community Language Circles

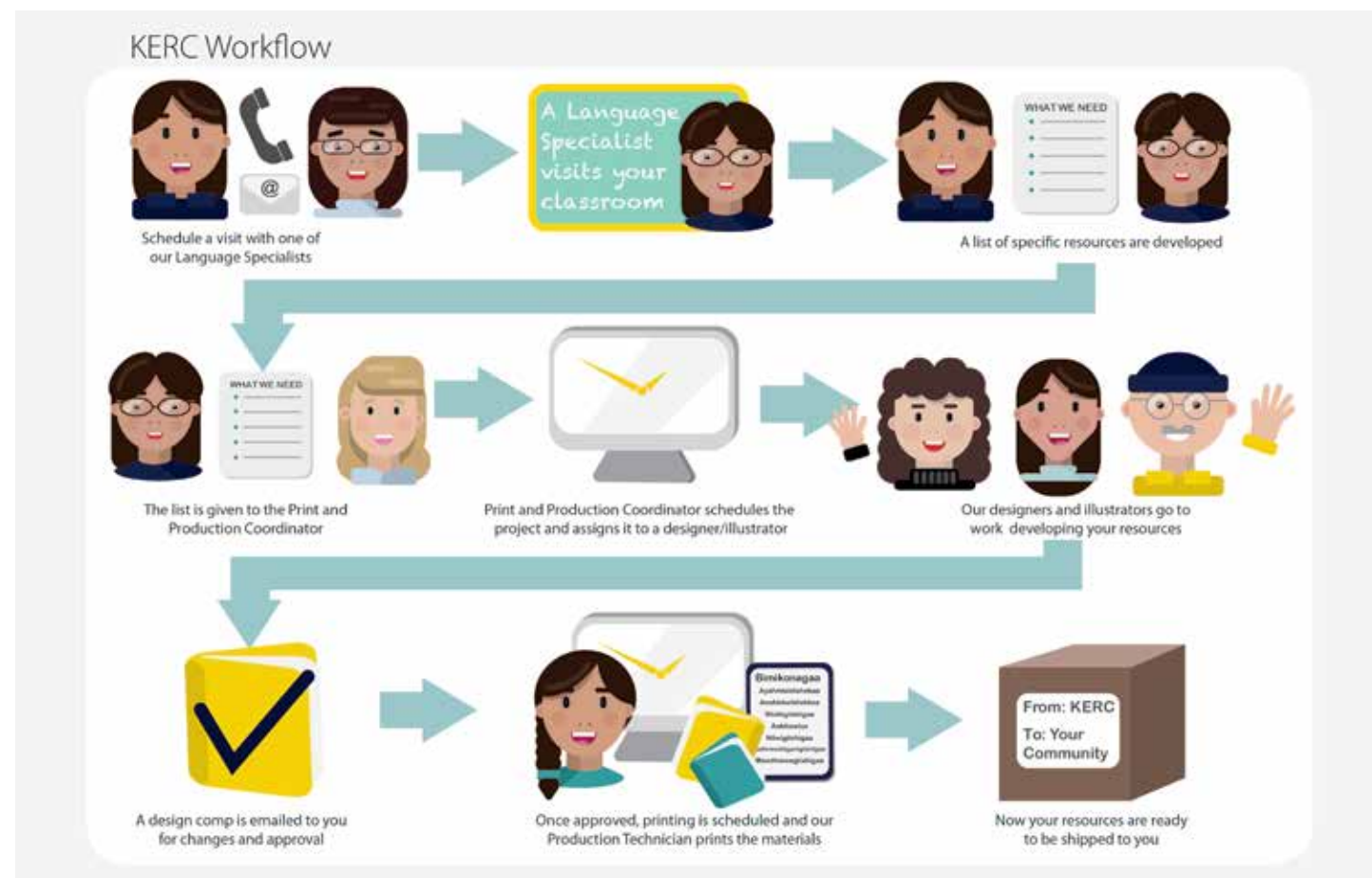
Starting in November of 2018 Kwayaciiwin and the Adult Education Partnership came together to bring monthly Language Circles to the community of Sioux Lookout. Everyone who came out to the Language Circle on each month enjoyed great food, great conversation, and great company. Special guests such as Ballena Anderson, Charles Brown, Kathy Wesley, Anna Phelan and many more came to lead the circle and share their knowledge. In December ONWA (Ontario Aboriginal Women's Association) joined the partnership and everyone involved worked very hard each month to make each language circle a great success.

In May the language circle was done as part of the Lac Seul Career Fair by KERC.

The next circle and last circle will be on held on June 6 at 5 p.m. at the Sioux Lookout Access Centre and will be lead by Sarah Johnson.

We hope to resume the language circles next school year beginning in September 2019.





KERC's Print Production and Publishing Department Updates

Greeting from the Language and Culture, Print Production and Publishing department of Kwayaciiwin.

We have undergone some changes in the last several months in order to better serve and fulfill the growing needs of Kwayaciiwin's corporate communities, as well as fee for service communities, organizations, business, companies and schools in the region regarding the printing, publishing, production and distribution of First Nations based books, resources and materials.

These changes include:

- a production (design) and printing schedule
- a more streamlined intake process for requested work and orders (including quoting and invoicing system)
- Re-prioritizing Kwayaciiwin's corporate communities before fee for service clients

These changes will help us more efficiently and effectively support communities and their language and cultural needs in terms of resources, books, curriculum, in-class learning tools and the many other printed and published materials from our extensive library that has been developed over the last 11 years of service to our communities.

First off, supporting Kwayaciiwin's corporate communities with much needed resources, books, in-class learning tools and many other printed and published materials will be our main priority. Community orders will be prioritized as much as possible so communities, schools and teachers will have access to much needed resources for their lesson plans and classrooms in a timely and more efficient fashion. To do this we have implemented a more solidified printing and production schedule to help prioritize and organize work and requests coming in. This will aid our production team's ability to fill orders as well as aid in effective communication with communities

««« Our Work flow Infographic displays the process of developing resources for teachers, from language specialist visits to design to shipping.

about the orders they send to Kwayaciiwin. Based on the schedules our production assistant and community staff liaison can accurately access what stage in the process the work requested or order is in, be it translation, design, printing or distribution (shipping) and when the estimated time of arrival for the work requested or the order of resources will be.

We have also implemented a more streamlined process for taking in requests from fee for service clients. The translation, design, printing and publishing services will be quoted upon the request of these services and deposit or PO will be necessary to be put into the pertaining schedule. Any resources and printed materials order from a fee for service client will require a PO for the order to be placed in the schedule. This is, of course, is only for outside organizations, businesses, companies or clients that are not one of Kwayaciiwin corporate communities. Corporate communities of Kwayaciiwin do not have to pay any fees associated with orders, resources or work requests.

Additionally, we are also working on stocking up on our in-house inventory and keeping track of our inventory moving forward. With an up-to-date accurate inventory we can process orders from our communities much faster and more efficiently.

As of right now the printing, production team is very busy with orders with the end of the school year fast approaching.

Let us know if you have any requests, orders, questions, comments or concerns at info@kercc.ca



"No child should ever be refused the opportunity of acquiring an education"

- New ED, Christina Meekis

Continued from page 1...

One of my goals, in working with the First Nations communities, is to instill the need to improve their present situations, making them stronger in their own distinct identity. This can be achieved through effective education services and upgrading their capacity in this ever changing and evolving world of ours. Kwayaciiwin should be at the forefront of this work and we will continue to support communities.

As we move forward, I look forward to working with our community partners to strengthen Kwayaciiwin so that we can meet your needs and support your education goals. There are challenges ahead, but I feel that Kwayaciiwin has already established a solid foundation in order to continue moving forward. As long as we work together, we can build a strong team to support our children and youth.

Student Success Program Update



The Student Success team at Kwayaciiwin is committed to seeing our students reach for the stars and see success that connects both mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Since September, the FNSSP team has completed over 80 community visits. This includes both day trips as well as longer trips with numerous team members to provide support throughout all grade levels. The School Success team has done Family Literacy/Numeracy Fun Nights, after school workshops, classroom visits and community career fairs. In addition to this, the success team has been available to support staff and students throughout the district in pushing their success goals to new heights. As we wrap up the 2018-2019 school year, this is a few of our highlights:

- Elders in the Classroom Project has shown great success and great interaction with students and elders within the school setting as well as out in the community. Elders are sharing their knowledge with the youth and as such the youth are engaged in learning about their history.
- Bright Ideas Projects that surround themselves with retention and technology initiatives of all subject areas- gardening, robots, 3D printers, school libraries, school kitchens, professional workshops for both students and staff, artist visits, musician visits.
- Professional Development for teachers- Chiefs of Ontario workshops, ONECA annual workshop for Social Counsellors, Numeracy and Literacy training, DRA training, TE/TA training, RAZ Plus, Jolly Phonics, Effective manipulative use
- The technology working group and the native

language teachers group combined for an integrated technology focus group around using technology for anishiniimowin language instruction.

- Locally developed proposals to meet school-specific goals
- Outdoor Education workshops provided as a started point to more land-based professional development opportunities
- NOW Play language development partnership with OISE through SSHRC.
- Community level student engage that includes after school programs, multi grade collaboration and development of student art and books.

Overall, the First Nation Student Success Program continues to see growth and success within the district schools in a variety of areas. We are putting student learning and best interest at the forefront in all aspects of programming and the students are engaging in stronger education. As with anything, there is continued support needed and the schools each have their own specific goals. We are working with them to reach these goals and provide strategies to move forward. As a staff, we are looking forward to seeing what the 2019-2020 school year will bring.



Anishinaabek Voices
OUR STORIES • OUR LAND • OUR PEOPLE • OUR FUTURE

Explore the rich history
and culture of our region.

Visit the website at:
www.anishinaabekvoices.com

KERC hosts Career Fairs in Wunnumin Lake and Weagamow

This year KERC hosted two career fairs one in February and one March in the communities of Wunnumin Lake and Weagamow.

KERC staff along with almost 22 presenters were flown into the communities. Pilots, artisans, visual artists, graphics artists, MNR fire fighters, forestry technicians, GPS specialists, photographers, mechanics, electricians, aesthetician, health workers and many more met with the students and community members to discuss in detail what they do for a living. The aim was to give students a better understanding of careers in the area so they can make informed choices for their future. The career fairs are part of the FNIYES initiative funded through KERC.



KERC's New Website is LIVE!!!

Kwayaciiwin is pleased to introduce our new Our new website design which is now LIVE!!! Check it out at www.kwayaciiwin.com

The design was created by our talented design staff and populated by all the wonderful staff at KERC.

If you are interested in a website redesign contact the Print Production and Publishing department at KERC it is one of the many services we offer -- info@kerc.ca or (807)737-7373 x.20. These resources are available to our corporate member communities at no cost.

For other communities and organizations, please contact us for a quote.

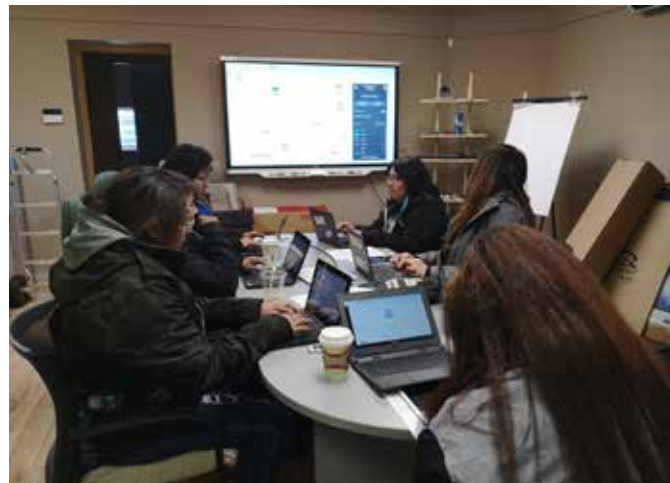
Email info@kerc.ca or call us at 807-737-7373 to place your order today.

Technology and Language Workshop

The Technology in the Classroom lead, Alex Short and Native Language Specialist, Kathy Wesley teamed up to guide several teachers from KERC's partnering communities during a Language and Technology Workshop in Sioux Lookout from March 25-29, 2019.

The group of teachers received hands-on training from Alex and Kathy in the use of the technology such as iPads and smart boards to create resources in Syllabics in their specific community dialect. They explored the varying differences between each communities dialect and how technology can be used to support students' development of syllabics writing and speaking the language.

Each teacher community also received a tour of KERC's library of resources and contributed to a discussion about creating new and better resources for teacher use in the classroom moving forward.



New catalogue available for immersion, language teachers

Kwayaciiwin is pleased to introduce our new catalogue specifically created for language and immersion teachers. It's designed to equip classrooms with in-class tools, posters, charts, as well as for teachers to use and develop resources, materials, workbooks and storybooks that are tailored to their community dialect and for their program.

These resources are available to our corporate member communities at no cost.

For other communities and organizations, please contact us for a quote.

Email info@kerc.ca or call us at 807-737-7373.



save the date



August 26th - 28th Sioux Lookout, ON



SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 26TH AND 27TH 2019



sioux lookout, on

*ISC - KERC in-person meeting regarding REA specific issues
related to the transformation of on-reserve education*

New Products and Books



A Baby's Routine

Written By Ballena Anderson
Illustrated by Shoshannah Fox



Warrior

Written By Randy Dunsford



Fill in the Syllabics Books

Various titles with more to come



Squirrels

Written By Ballena Anderson
Illustrated by Keiara Sawanas

Kwayaciiwin is always working on new materials for schools. Our First Nation languages are at the core of what we do and we have plenty of books and materials for teachers to use. And our staff are always available to help implement language curriculum.

These materials are available free to the communities we work with. However, if you're interested in ordering copies for your community or school or having resources developed specifically for your program, please contact us at info@kerc.ca or (807) 737-7373 x 20.

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting

May 16-17, 2019
Thunder Bay, Ontario

ISC and KERC Meeting

June 26, 2019
Sioux Lookout, Ontario

Elders Symposium

May 27-31, 2019
Sioux Lookout, Ontario

Kwayaciiwin Summer Institute

August 26-28, 2019
Sioux Lookout, Ontario

KERC At the Lac Seul Career Fair

The Lac Seul career fair was held on Wednesday, May 1st, 2019 in Lac Seul at the Lac Seul Community Centre.

KERC staff worked in partnership with Lac Seul and the Adult Education Partnership to bring students and community members a language circle with Ballena Anderson, a photo booth for students to try on the uniforms of their future career of choice, and booths featuring our Many Paths and Anishinaabek Voices projects.

The whole team, designers included, worked very hard to make the event a huge success.

Thanks to all the staff and all who came out to the event to participate.



KWAYACIIWIN EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE



2019/20 Materials Catalogue

KERC's New Spring Catalogue is Available

Kwayaciiwin is pleased to introduce our new spring catalogue featuring a new line of fill in the syllabics books and new titles such as Warrior by Randy Dunsford, A Baby's Routine, Squirrels and so much more.

These resources are available to our corporate member communities at no cost.

For other communities and organizations, please contact us for a quote.

Email info@kerc.ca or call us at 807-737-7373 to place your order today.

www.kwayaciiwin.com