Who We Are

The Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement (CISCE) is led by a three-part mandate:

1. To provide Indigenous Student Support
2. Develop Indigenous Policies and Programming
3. Support Carleton University Staff and Faculty through professional development, curricula consultation, and mediation
Staff Contacts

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Indigenous Student Support

Ojigkwanong Centre
The Ojigkwanong Indigenous Student Centre is a place where Indigenous students can study, socialize, and participate in academic and cultural programming. Located at 228 Paterson Hall, this space features a medicine lodge, kitchenette, lounge, study space, computer lab and telephone booth.

The Centre is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

To read more about Ojigkwanong, please visit:
Ojigkwanong Indigenous Student Centre

Weekly, Monthly and Annual Programming
Our Indigenous Academic and Cultural Programs Coordinator develops weekly, monthly, and annual programming to support Indigenous students. Programming includes but is not limited to: the Knowledge Keeper program, beading circle, Indigenous artistic traditions, writing support services, student orientations, monthly feasts, the Indigenous Winter Market, and annual round dance.

To stay up to date with programming, please visit:
Weekly and Monthly Programming
Individual Culturally-Relevant Counselling Services
The Centre has two in-house accredited counsellors to help support Indigenous students. Our students can simply reach out to The Centre, request to meet with a counsellor, and can work through their concerns. Students do not need to worry about payment or insurance, as this service is free of charge to all Indigenous students.

To learn more about counselling support, please visit: Individual Counselling

Annual Kinàmàgawin Symposium
According to Call #12 of the Kinàmàgawin Report, each year, one large university-wide Indigenous event will occur to facilitate relationship building, learning and appreciation of Indigenous cultures and ways of knowing. The Kinàmàgawin Symposium is a free and open event that addresses timely topics, chosen by Indigenous students. This event serves to empower students, staff, and faculty at Carleton (Indigenous or not) to further their knowledge on Indigenous topics and help pursue a journey of allyship. Past symposium themes have been: Surviving the Pandemic: Indigenous Approaches to Well-Being, The Inuit Relocations: Intergenerational Impacts and Inuit Resilience, and Indigenous Identity Politics and Sovereignty

To learn more about the Annual Kinàmàgawin Symposium, please visit: Kinàmàgawin Symposium
Medicine Lodge
Our Medicine Lodge is located in the Ojigkwanong Centre in Paterson Hall. Here, Indigenous community members have access to a space where they can smudge anytime they need to. The Centre provides Indigenous medicines (sage, sweetgrass, cedar, and tobacco), drums, and shakers to aid with personal self-reflection. This is also a place where Elders and Knowledge Keepers can teach and provide spiritual guidance to others.

To learn more about the Medicine Lodge, please visit: Medicine Lodge

Residence Smudge Space
In the Fall of 2022, the Smudge Space in Stormont House will be open to Indigenous students who live in Residence. Instead of having to cross campus to access a smudge-friendly space, Indigenous students can access the smudge space close to their place of residence.

For updates, please email The Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement’s General Email
Indigenous Peer Mentorship Program

The Indigenous Peer Mentor Program helps first-year students transition to university life by promoting student engagement and a sense of belonging on campus. The Indigenous Peer Mentor Program matches new self-identified Indigenous students at Carleton University with experienced Indigenous students who act as mentors, providing academic and social support and ongoing advice. This program provides members with social, academic and cultural development, peer-to-peer support, and activities to support community building and personal growth.

For more information about the program, please visit: Indigenous Peer Mentorship Program
Indigenous Enriched Support Program (IESP)
The Indigenous Enriched Support Program (IESP) is designed for First Nations (status & non-status), Métis and Inuit learners who wish to pursue post-secondary education. Students will take first-year credit courses while benefiting from a supportive environment of peer mentors, academic coaches, academic advising and personalized workshops. Upon completion of the program, students will qualify and be supported in the process of applying for a degree program. The Indigenous Enriched Support Program is ideal for students who are unsure of what program to pursue, who are returning to school after sometime away, looking for additional supports during the transition to post-secondary education or those who do not meet the full criteria for a degree program.
To learn more about this program, please visit: IESP

Staff Roles
The Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement is staffed by a team of Indigenous Peoples with varied lived experiences. The Centre’s staff work to minimize gaps on campus for Indigenous community members through academic and cultural means.
To learn more about the Centre’s Circle, please visit: Our Circle
Indigenous Policy and Program Development

**Kinàmàgawin (Learning Together) Committee**
The Kinàmàgawin (Learning Together) Committee was established to develop an university-wide Indigenous strategy for Carleton University. In May 2020, the Kinàmàgawin Report was released, identifying 41 Calls to Action regarding community engagement; Indigenous student support; student experience in recruitment, retention and graduation; ways of teaching and learning; culture, systems and structure; research and innovation; and qualitative and quantitative metrics.

The Carleton University community has committed to fulfilling these calls and released a progress report in April 2022.

You can view the May 2020 report [here](#). You can view the 2022 Progress report [here](#).

**Indigenous Education Council (IEC)**
The Indigenous Education Council (IEC) has a mandate to promote, guide and oversee the implementation of policies, programming and services that impact Indigenous students while attending Carleton University. The IEC also works closely with local Indigenous communities to properly represent and promote the success of all current and future Indigenous students.

The IEC meets once per term during the regular academic year (between September and April).
Council of Ontario Universities Indigenous Reference Group
This Reference Group works with universities across Ontario to provide support and resources to other institutions that are working towards minimizing the gap for Indigenous staff, faculty and students on and off-campus.

Algonquin Advisory Committee (AAC)
The Algonquin Advisory Committee is comprised of representatives from the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation and Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, as well as the Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement. The AAC works to include the Algonquin perspective to Carleton University.
For more information, please email the Algonquin Community Liaison Officer

Inuit Advisory Committee (IAC)
The Inuit Advisory Committee was established to help guide Carleton University in supporting Inuit students and to also promote Inuit cultural knowledge on campus.
For more information, please email the Indigenous Special Projects and Admin Coordinator
Providing services to the Carleton community through professional development, curricula consultation and mediation

The Centre offers facilitation opportunities through the Kinàmàgawin Indigenous Learning Certificate and the Student Support Certificate.

The Kinàmàgawin Indigenous Learning Certificate is a 4-part series that expands on the 1.5 hour Student Support Training, addressing topics such as anti-Indigenous racism in Canada, institutional anti-Indigenous racism and education systems, the experience of Indigenous students in post-secondary education, what the Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement does, and how people can pursue a journey of allyship. Each session is 3-hours that spans over the course of a four-month period.

As a precursor to the Kinàmàgawin Indigenous Learning Certificate, people are also able to take the Indigenous Cultural Awareness Training through the Student Support Certificate.

To register for either of these trainings, please visit Carleton Central and access the “Professional Development and Learning Opportunities” portal.

The Centre can also support facilitation opportunities that cater to specific departments, faculties and topics. This is subject to availability.

To learn more about these facilitation opportunities, please email the Centre’s General Email.

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Consultation and Mediation Supports
The Indigenous Curricula Learning Specialist offers support to Carleton staff, faculty and students within a consultation capacity to incorporate Indigenous ways of knowledge and practices in the classroom environment. This includes, but is not limited to, Indigenous resource suggestions, styles of teaching, and navigating classroom conversations.

Additionally, the Carleton community can use the Centre as a resource to help mediate difficult conversations in the classroom pertaining to Indigenous topics. Whether it is making people aware of proper terminology use or educating folx on Indigenous topics, mediation support is available in a 1:1 capacity or group meeting.

To explore this opportunity, please email the Indigenous Curricula Learning Specialist
Contact Us

The Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement is currently located at:

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