



COUNCIL TRAVEL REPORT



WHAT: AFN Education Forum

WHEN: February 19-20, 2025

WHERE: Toronto, ON

WHO: Chief Fallon David
Chief Teresa Oakes
Chief Lacey Pierce
Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo

WHY: The AFN Education Forum – “Reigniting the Flames of our Ancestors,” focused on unique practices in First Nations education, the continuum of lifelong learning and how to support learners at all stages, and First Nations control of First Nations education.

**NEXT
STEPS:**

- Through focused presentations and facilitated dialogue, Council had the opportunity to learn from First Nations educators and experts about unique practices in First Nations education and lifelong learning.
- Council engaged in discussion, exchanged ideas, formulated new relationships, and shared experiences with nations across turtle island.





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For Immediate Release:

Enniskó:wa/March 21, 2025

ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION FORUM

CHIEF LACEY PIERCE

Kawehno:ke District Chief Lacey Pierce recently attended the **Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Education Forum** in Toronto, Ontario from February 19-20, 2025. The forum, *“Reigniting the Flames of Our Ancestors,”* focused on unique practices in First Nations education, the continuum of lifelong learning, and strengthening First Nations control of First Nations education. Chiefs engaged in discussions, exchanged ideas, and built relationships with First Nations educators and leaders from across Turtle Island.

Chief Pierce was joined by Kana:takon District Chief Fallon David, Kana:takon District Chief Teresa Oakes, and Tsi Snaihne District Chief Sarah Sunday-Diabo.

HIGHLIGHTS:

First Nations Control of First Nations Education:

Explored strategies for self-determined education systems that reflect Indigenous values, language, and culture.

Lifelong Learning & Student Support:

Examined approaches to supporting learners at all stages, including adult education and post-secondary pathways.

KEY TAKEAWAYS & NEXT STEPS:

- Strengthen partnerships with First Nations educators to share knowledge and best practices.
- Explore opportunities to integrate innovative, culturally based education models into Akwesasne’s programs.