



MASKWACÎS EDUCATION
SCHOOLS COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Kakeskowehkewina

Foundational Values

Îyiniw Mâmitonehicikan

Maskwacîsak holds true that Kise Manito gifted Nehiyawak with Îyiniw Mâmitonehicikan, which is to have a compassionate mind.

Nehiyawewin

Maskwacîsak holds true that Nehiyawewin is a sacred and living language that is embodied through syllabics, identity, story, song, dance, and prayer

Nehiyaw Pimâtisiwin

Nehiyaw Pimâtisiwin is the Nehiyaw way of life, which is to honour, respect, and live in relation to the tenets of the natural laws of Kise Manito

Wâhkôhtowin

The teaching and learning of Wâhkôhtowin is lifelong and demonstrated through kinship, respect, and the honouring of Kehtehayak, Onikihkomawak, guardians, siblings, and all of creation



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Awîna Kiyânaw Who We Are

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC) is proud to provide an outstanding Maskwacis nehiyaw education system that ensures kiskinwahamawâkanak attend respectful and inspiring schools where kiskinwahamawâkanak graduate as competent, confident, and resilient Maskwacis Cree speaking kiskinwahamawâkanak.



Masinahikan ohci Kâwâsakâmepicik Kehtehayak

Tansi,

Niwahkomakanak, nitotemak, oskayak ekwa kakiyaw Awâsisak. Kahkiyaw ki-atomiskatinawaw

Tapwe nimîwehiten ewîhtapimakik ôki Kânistam Apicik ekwa oki Kehtehayak Kâwâsakâmepicik Mâmawi ehatoskewâyâhkik Maskwacîsak. Mastaw oki MESC kîsipwehtatâwak mistahi kîkway, mistahi kîhâhtakosikewak oma kâwi paskônahkik Nehiyawewin, Nehiyawatisiwin ekwa Nehiyawewin. Kîkway anima kecinâhk kânîkan oma kîyanaw tapamihtâyahk Kisikinwahamâkewin, ewako ohci kâkikehk tahîhtakohk kinehiyâwininaw.

Kîkway peyak oma etikwe ohi kâhosîtahk Nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewina. Ewakonihk ohi Kisikinwahamâkewina kesihosîtahk tawâpahtamihk tânisîsîhk ehisi kitâpahtamahk oma peci nâway Nehiyaw Tocikan ekwa kistehitamôwina, takehcinâhohk oki Oskâyak namoya tepiyâhk takisikinwahamâhcik Nehiyaw Kîkwayahk mâka mistahihk takisikehihtahkik onehiyawiniwâw. Ekwahk mîna oma Askîw Pimâtisiwin kanahipayin Kehtehayak tahâniskohtâcik ekwa tomoyeyihtahcik kahkiyaw Nehiyâwinihk ekwa kahkiyaw wayawîtimihk.

Kotak kikway emâcihtahk ota MESC oma kâ cakaste kisinwahamâkehk Nehiyawewin tipiskâkihk. Ekota ohci kaki wîcihiwewak Kehtehayak kiyâm âta ohpime kahayâcik, ekosi wehcasin tahâhkam Nehiyaweyahk.

Kîyanaw piko tasîhtoskâtamahk ohi kâpaskônamihk ekwa tawîcihtasoyahk oma kîkwâyahk kanohte kaskihtâcik Kehtehayak MESC ohci. Nisesikimâwak Maskwaciw lyiniwak wîstawâw tawîcihtâsocik kâkisikinwashamâcik Oskâyak. Takaskihtânawo kîspin tape wicihiwecik mayo kamamowopayihk ekotahk mâna kâmâmisikocikehk, âhpoh mîna tawîhtapimâcik Onîkihkomâwak tamâmiskotahkik takaskihtânawo tânisî takisikinwahamâcik Awâsisak.

Iskweyâc ekwa kawîhitweyân, oma ekwa takisikisiyahk oma kîyanaw ekî mâmawopahiyahk, ekwa nanâtohk kîkway kâhki kaskihtânaw. Oma kâwî paskonamihk Nehiyawewin ekwa takâkiwihtâyahk Kinehiyâwininaw piko tamâmawo atoskeyahk ekwa kîspin kimâmawo atoskanaw, mistahi kîkway takaskihtânaw. Ekwa oma kâhakwaskitinamahk Kisikinwahamâkewin, kakisikinânaw oma kiyânaw mistahi kîkway kâhki kaskitamowânawak ote nîkân kâpenôkosicik Maskwacîsak tahotinkecik ohci Onehiyawiniwâw.

Ekosi pitamahk

John Nepoose MESC Kehtehayak
Kâwâsakâmepicik Nipisihkopahk Tapapistamâkew



Letter from the MESC Circle of Kehtehayak

Tansi,

Niwahkomakanak, nitotemak, oskayak ekwa kakiyaw
Awâsisak. Kahkiyaw ki-atamiskatinawaw

It is truly an honor to have the opportunity to serve the community of Maskwacis as both a member of the MESC Board of Governors and as a valued member of the Circle of Kehtehayak. In recent years, Maskwacis Education has embarked on a remarkable journey, making significant strides towards the revitalization of Nehiyawin, our Cree culture and language. Central to this endeavor is the notion of taking control of our own education, a fundamental step towards preserving and nurturing our cultural heritage.

One notable aspect of this educational transformation is the development of a Cree Kisikinwahamakewina. This Kisikinwahamakewina is designed to reflect the unique perspectives, traditions, and values of the Cree people, ensuring that our Oskayak are not only educated in traditional subjects but also deeply rooted in their own cultural identity. Moreover, the emphasis on land-based learning provides Kehtehayak with the opportunity to connect with their environment, further strengthening their understanding of Cree traditions and the importance of our natural surroundings.

Another innovative initiative within Maskwacis education is the provision of online Cree classes. This invaluable resource allows Kehtehayak to engage with the Cree language regardless of their physical location, fostering greater accessibility and inclusivity in the preservation of our linguistic heritage.

As a community, it is vital that we rally behind these efforts and actively participate in the realization of MESC's goals for our Kehtehayak. I wholeheartedly encourage all members of Maskwacisak to become actively involved in the education of our Oskayak. This can be achieved by attending annual summits, where the collective wisdom and ideas of our community are shared, or by joining parental advisory groups, where your input can directly shape the educational experiences of our Awâsisak.

In conclusion, it is important to remember that when we come together as a community, our potential for positive change is boundless. The journey to revitalizing Nehiyawin and preserving our culture is a collective effort, and by working together, we can achieve greatness. As we embrace these educational initiatives, let us always keep in mind that together, we are indeed greater, and together, we can empower the next generation of Maskwacisak to thrive in their rich cultural heritage.

Ekosi pitama

John Nepoose
MESC Circle of Kehtehayak
Samson Cree Nation Representative





Masinahikan ohci Onikâniwak

Kahkiyaw kiyawâw MESC Peyakohewamak

Nimiwehiten tamîtakok oma 2022–2023 Peci Nâway Askihk Masinahikan. Oma Kânistam Apîyan ohci miyopayiwîn tamamitonehitamân oma kaskihtawin ota MESC peci nâway askihk.

Newo Mitanaw kekac mitâtahtosâp kîsikisikinwahamâkanak kîsihtâwak kisikinwahamâkosiwin. Kahkiyaw nomaya kaketihk nimamihcihkonânak ekwa metonihk mitehihk ohci nimosihtânân ekwa takaskihtamâsowak oma kânohte kaskihocik.

Oma peci nâway askihk nikî nawasonânak nîso ohci Kâwâsakâmepicik Kehtehayak ekw nîso ohc Onîhkomâwak Kâwâsakâmepicik tawîhtapimkoyâhkik om nistamapiwin. Kehtehayak John Nepoose ekwa Helen Bull ekwa Nîkihkomâwak Carmela Cutknife ekwa Azure Johnson tanistam apiwak.

Nitepehitenân tahâhkam atoskeyâhk oma kawîhosihhtayâhk Nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewina. Ewako ohi Nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewina âhtsihtânân ekosi tayâhakakîhcihtâhk. Mâka keyâpic ohi Nehiyaw Mâmitonehicikan, Nehiyawewin, Nehiyaw Pimâtisiwin ekwa Wâhkohtowin nikisininohtahikonân.

Ewakôma Wâhkohtowin kâsihkiskâkoyâhk ota oma MESC, Mamawayâwin ohci kaki kasikihtâyâhk ohi,

- Ohpaho Pîsim 2022 Nimiyawâtenân Kawi Kisikinwahamâkosihk
- Iyihkopiw Pîsim 2022 Onîkaniw Mâmawopiwin, Newohoskan Okimâwak ekwa Onikâniwak
- Mikiso Pîsim 2023 Nehiyawâtiwiwin Mâmawopiwin, Amiskwaci Waskahikanihk
- Ayîki Pîsim 2023 Ohpikinawasiwin Mâmawopiwin Kâhispâk Kisikinwahamâto Kamik
- Pinâwew Pîsim 2023 Oskâyak Mâmawopiwin Maskwacîsihk
- Pâskâweho Pîsim 2023 Ninîmitonihkânân Kâkîsi Kisikinwahamâkosihk
- Ohpaho Pîsim 2023 Nimiyawâtenân Kawi Kisikinwahamâkosihk
- Ohpaho Pîsim 2023 Kahkiyaw Otatoskewak Kîkisepâhk Mîtisowak

Nikîwihtapimânânak Kîhcokimâw ekwa Kâhapisîsit Okimâw ekwa ohi wâsakâm Kisikinwahamâto Apîwina.

Nikanawâpahtenân ekw nitepehitenân tahâhkam kisikinwahamawâyâhkik kahkiyaw Kisikinwahamâkanak ekwa wetina takanwehitâkosicik. Ninanâskomâwak kahkiyaw Okisikinwahamâkewak, Onîkihkomâwak Opikinâwasiwak ekwa kahkiyaw ohce MESC oma iyikohk esohki tepehitahkik ekosi takaskihocik okî kisiknwahamâkanak.

Nicîhkehitenân oma ote nîkân kîkwayahk taksihtayâhk ota MESC. Nânapohk tahatoskâtamah takecinahonaw kakîyaw kisikinwahamwâkan tapîhkohtâw ehisi kaskihocik. Ay–hay, kinanskomitinâwaw

Dr. Shauna Bruno, ICD.D
Kânistamapit, MESC Kânistamapicik



Letter from the MESC Board of Governors

Tansi to all our MESC families,

I am pleased to present to you the annual report for the 2022 – 2023 year on behalf of the Board of Governors. As Board Chair, it is my privilege to reflect on the many achievements realized within the Maskwacîs Education School Commission over the past year.

This year we celebrated and honoured 49 graduates. We take immense pride in every single one of our students and extend our heartfelt wishes for their tremendous success in reaching their goals and aspirations.

Over the past year, the Circle of Elders and the Circle of Parents each designated two representatives to serve on the board. We are pleased to welcome Elders Helen Bull and John Nepoose and our parent reps Carmella Cutknife and Azure Johnson as voting members to the Board of Governors.

We remain committed to the development of our Cree curriculum. The approach to our Cree programming as a system has undergone modifications to enhance the process. However, we still continue to be guided by our core Cree values: Îyiniw Mâmitonehickan, Nehiyawewin, Nehiyaw Pimâtisôwin, and Wâhkôhtowin.

As part of our Wâhkôhtowin inspired governance model, MESC thrives on community involvement and engagement, including the following:

- August 2022 Back to School Celebration
- November 2022 Leadership Summit – 4 Nations Chief and Council
- February 2023 Nehiyawatisiwin Conference in Edmonton
- April 2023 Ohpikinahawasiwin Conference at the High School
- May 2023 Oskayak Conference at Bear Park
- June 2023 Kehtehyak Forum at the Junior High School
- June 2023 Graduation
- June 2023 Year-end Powwow Celebration
- August 2023 Student Back to School Celebration
- August 2023 MESC All Staff Breakfast

Apart from the community engagements, we have annual meetings with both federal and provincial governments, as well as neighbouring school boards with whom we've established educational service agreements.

Our focus remains steadfast on providing an exceptional education to all students while prioritizing their safety and well-being. I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated educators, staff, parents, guardians, and the entire MESC community for their unwavering commitment to the success of our students.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the opportunities that the future holds for MESC. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence and ensure that every student has the chance to achieve their full potential.

Ay-hay Kinanaskomtinan,

Dr. Shauna Bruno, ICD.D
Chair, MESC Board of Governors





Letter from the Superintendent

Tânsi

Nimiwehiten tamítakok 2022–2023 MESC Pecinâway Askîhk Masinahikan aspin peyak askîhk kânistam apîyan ota MESC. Ninanâskomâwak Onîkihtomâwak ekwa Ohpikinâwasowak epakitinâcik Awasisak ekwa Oskâyak takisikinwahamâhcik ota MESC. Ôki mina Newoskân Tipahaskân ohci Kehtehayak, Okimahkânak oma mistahi kâsihtoskâkoyâhkik aspin ohci 2017 kâmâwopayihthak kisikinwahamâto kamikwahk.

Aspin ohci kâpîtos osîhtahk Maskwacis Kisikinwahamâkewina, niksikehitenân oma Kisikinwahamâkewin Asotamâkewin Tipahamâtonihk ohci nîpaskônênân ekwa ehisi kitâpahtamâhk ekosi Maskwacîsak tahâpacihtâwak. Ehisi masinahikâtek oma Maskwacis Kisikinwahamâto Wiyasowewin Kiyânaw Kayahte kehisi paminamahk kisikinwahamâto Kamikwa, ehitehihtamahk kîkwayahk Kisikinwahamâkewina takisikinwahamâkeyahk ekwa kîkwâyahk takaskihtamâsoyahk". Ekota yohtenikâtew mistahi kîkway takaskihtâwak Awasisak, Oskâyak ekwa Onîkihtomâwak ekwa Otatokewak. Maskwacîsak takisikehihtahkik Onehiyâwiniwâw ekwa tanisitotamwak oma peci naway tapwe kakîpehîspayik ewokohk mistahi kîkway kânohkotâhk ota MESC.

Niya Iskwew Maskwacîsîhk ohci ekwa Kisikinwahamâkew, nimamitonehiten iyikohk mistahi eki pekaskihtâhk ota MESC. Mistahi kîkway nikîpakamiskâkonan osâm pîcoses ehisi kisikinwahamâkeyahk, Kayahte kihitakowak otatoskewik tamamisîtotahcik, esîhtokawâcik Maskwacîsak ekwa sipihkisiwak Okisikinwahamâkewak kakisikinohtâcik kâkisikinwahamâkewik Maskwacis Kisikinwahamâkewin.

Kasikhtawina

Nehiyawewin ekwa Nehiyawâtsiwin: Nîkan astanân oma Nehiyawâtsiwin misiwîtehk MESC Kisinwahamâto Kamikwahk ekwa ekotahk wîstawâw Maskwacis Kehtehayak ekwa Maskwaciw Iyiniwak kehcinahk ewakonih kâsihtoskakecik. Âtiht ohi Nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewina âsay niksikinwahamâkenân ota MESC Kisikinwahamâto Kamikwahk ewanonihk ohi

- Paskwâw Mostos Minahowin–Nîpîsîhkopahk ekwa Neyaskweyâhk Kisikinhamâto Kamikwahk.
- Wîhkask ekwa Mosto Wîhkaskwa eki mâwaskonahkik Otatoskewak, Kehtehayak ekwa Kisikinwahamâkosiwak kahkiyaw Kisikinwahamâto Kamikwahk.
- Otâsikonikewin, Kîstepowin, Pîhçiwin ekwa Pwâti Nikamowin misiwîhitehk Kisikinwahamâto Kamikwahk.
- Kîsihîhpikiwin kisihtoskamwak Nehiyaw Wîhtamakewak ekwa Maskwacîs Kehtehayak. Kisikinwahamâto Kamikwahk.
- Kasikwâsowin ekwa Piminawasowin.

Maskwacis Kisikinwahamâkewina Kâwitehitamihk:

Âhkam osîhtânawo Maskwacis Nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewina Kîmîyâwak kahkiyaw MESC Kisinwahamâto Kamikwahk âhkam sîhtoskawâwak ewakonihk oki kâwîyehihtahkik Kisikinwahamâkewina ekwa MESC Otatoskewak tawîcihtâsocio Nehiyawewina ekwa Nehiyawewin, ekota mîna katipiskâk kakisinhwahamâkehk Nehiyawewin.



Kihci Kisinwahamâkewina: MESC wihahkam tepehihtamwak tahâhkam miyonâkohtâyâhk Kisinwahamâkewina ekosi tasihtoskawewak Kisinwahamâkewak. Nikehteyiminânak tepehihtamwak ewakonihk ohi Kisinwahamâkewina, esihstoskamihk oma Ohpikinâwasiwin, Onîkânîwak Kisinwahamâto Kamikohk ekwa MESC watihwanihk takehcinâhocik takaskihocik oki Kisinwahamâkewak.

Peyakwan Ihtasiwin ekwa Kakimewin: MESC wihâhkam kakimewak ekwa pîtos kisinwahamâkewina tahosîtahk peyakwan ihtâwin kisinwahamâkewin oki kahkîyaw kisinwahamâkanak ohci mastaw kisinwahamâkewina ekwa sîhtoskâkewin.

Apacihcikana Tahâpacihtâhk: Kisinwahamâkanak tahâpacihtawak apacihcikana ekosi tanohte kisinwahamâkosiwak. Nanâtohk ihatakona tahapacihtâcik Kisinwahamâto Kamikohk.

Miyo Mahcihiwin ekwa Miyonohk Ayâwin: Kahkiyaw Kisinwahamâkanak wetinahk miyonohk tahayâcik, takakimihcik, tasihtoskâhcik ekwapeyakwan tehisi pamihihcik. Kahkîyaw Kisinwahamâto Kamikwahk kehcinâhowak ekonih kikwayahk. Sihstoskâkewak ihtakowak ota MESC. OH&S Kâhintowacihtât wîtatoskemwew kotakak Otatoskewak ekwa Kisinwahamâkanak takehcinâhocik wetina tahayâcik ekwa tawihstamawâcik kikwâya tawîcihkocik kîspin sikoc mayahkamikahkik. Tasihtoskâcik Kisinwahamâwakanak Keskihkemowak ihtakowak ekwa mîna Kehtehayak. Kakisinohtahiwet tehkekisi Miyo Mahcihowin ekwa kotakak Otatoskewak kîmâwopayiâk tamâmiskotahkik ekosi kahki sîhtoskawewak kotakak Otatoskewak .

Mâmawintowin: Niki mamawo payihânak Maskwaciw Iyiniwak, Kehtehayak, Onîkânîwak, Ohpikinawasiwak ekwa Oskâyak. Ekosi tasôhkastâhk oma Wâhkohtowin ekwa tapehtâhcik Maskwaciw Iyiniwak ota MESC.

Kweyask Tapamihit Soniyaw: Kweyask isiihk nimestinikânân awa soniyaw ekosi tanîkân astâhk oma Kisinwahamâkewin ekosi tahotinikekewak oki Awasisak ekwa Oskâyak. Tanisî ehisi mestiniht ana sonaw ota ihtakon masinahikan.

Âta ota MESC nimîyawâtenân oma mistahi kâkaskihtayâhk, nikiskehitenân keyâpic kotak kîkwaya nikamoneskâkonân. Ekwa oma kânîkân tahkoskeyâhk ote nîkân askîhk, oma kehisi kitâpahtamâhk oma Maskwacis kisinwahamâkewin ninohte sîhtoskâtenân Nehiyawewin, Nehiyawâtsiwin, Peci Nâway Kâkîhispayik Nehiyânâhk oci ninîkân astânân. Ewako oma Kiskiniwahamâkew Asoamâkewin ohci Tipahamâtowinihk, nitepehitenân takaskihocik oki Maskwacîsihk ohci Awâsisak ekwa Oskâyak. Kawâpahtenaw anima ohtisowin oki Newoskan Iskonikanahk kâmmawopayicik ohci Wâhkohtowin kîspin Tahâhkameyimoyahk.

Ay-Hay ekosi pitamahk,

Tracy Swampy-Sylvester, B.Ed, M.Ed.

Kâkihci Nistamapit ota Maskwacis Kisinwajamâtow



Letter from the Superintendent

Tansi kahkiyaw,

I am happy to share the 2023 MESC annual report after completing my first year as Superintendent for MESC. I would also like to thank Onikihkomawak and guardians for entrusting the education of awasisak ekwa oskayak to the Maskwacis Education Schools Commission. In addition, I acknowledge our 4 nations Kehteyahk ekwa Chiefs and council for their continued support in the amalgamation of the Four Nations school systems since 2017.

In creating the Maskwacis school system, the ability to exercise our treaty right to education is being realized as school programming and processes are continually reviewed and revised to suit Maskwacisak. As stated in the Maskwacis Education Law “We have the inherent right to operate our own schools, decide our own Kisikinwahamakewina and determine our own outcomes” This has opened the door for many great opportunities for Awâsisak , Oskayak ekwa Onikihkomawak and Otatoskewak. Maskwacisak learning about their Nehiyaw identity and understanding their true history has been one of the most beneficial outcomes of MESC.

As a Maskwacis iskewew and an educator, I reflect on the remarkable growth and accomplishments in MESC. Despite the challenges presented by becoming a new school system, there have been and continues to be dedicated Otatoskewak, supportive Maskwacisak and resilient Kisikinwahamakewak that demonstrate their dedication to a Maskwacis education. This report provides a brief overview of MESC key initiatives.

Key Highlights:

Nehiyawewin ekwa Nehiyawatisiwin:

Nehiyawatisiwin has been in the forefront of all MESC schools and the inclusion of Maskwacis keheyahk ekwa Maskwacisak were integral in supporting the implementation. Some of the Nehiyaw programming and teaching methods that have been incorporated regularly into MESC schools to this point are:

- The Paskwaw Mostos harvest: this was held at Nipisihkopahk Elementary School and Ermineskin Elementary schools
- Sweetgrass and sage picking by Otatoskewak, Kehtehayak, and Kisikinwahamakewak at all schools
- Pipe ceremonies, Cultural feasts, round dances and daily drumming were held at each school throughout the year
- Rites of passage teaching had been supported in the schools by ohpikinahawasiwin, school cultural advisors and Maskwacis Elders
- Traditional sewing / cooking projects

Maskwacis Kisikinwahamakewina Development:

Continued the development of Maskwacis Cree Kisikinwahamakewina resources which were distributed to MESC schools to support school programming. Ongoing support by the Kisikinwahamakewina team was provided to MESC Otatoskewak to assist with the integration of Nehiyaw concepts and language, this included the evening online Nehiyaw classes.



Academics: MESC continued to strive to improve in academics and incorporates learning supports and services to address Kisikinwahamakewak needs. Our Kehtehayak dedication and innovative teaching methods, supported by ohpikinahawasiwin, school leaders, and MESC branches contribute to the success of Kisikinwahamakewak.

Equity and Inclusion: MESC continues to provide inclusive and diverse learning environments that help create a more equitable educational experience for all Kisikinwahamakewak through updated programming, resources and support.

Technology Integration: Ongoing provision of equipment and recent updates in technology allowed Kisikinwahamakewak to have 1:1 devices that encouraged active engagement in their learning. Various web-based resources and software applications supported schools across MESC

Health and Safety: All Kisikinwahamakewak deserve learning environments that are safe, inclusive, supportive and fair. All schools have procedures that addressed the health and safety of Kisikinwahamakewak. This was supported by various teams within MESC. The OH&S coordinator worked with Otatoskewak and Kisikinwahamakewak to practice safety procedures and provide information that assisted them in being prepared for emergencies. To support individual needs of Kisikinwahamakewak, counseling support was also available in MESC schools when required as well as Kehteyak. The Director of Health and Wellness and various Otatoskewak also formed a wellness committee to support the needs of Otatoskewak.

Community Engagement: We actively engaged with Maskwacis Kehteyahk, Leadership, ohpikinahawasiwin, ekwa oskayak. These efforts were made to strengthen Wahkôhtowin to ensure Maskwacis voices were heard in the ongoing development of MESC.

Financial Responsibility: We continued to manage the financial resources prudently, with the prioritization of investment in providing an education system that meets the needs of Awâsisak ekwa oskayak. The financial report is included in this document.

While MESC celebrates our successes, we recognize that challenges remain. As we move forward in the next few years, the vision to create a Maskwacis schools system that supports the language, culture and history of Nehiyawak is a priority. As we continue to exercise our Treaty right to education, we are committed to the success of Maskwacis Awâsisak ekwa oskayak. We will see the benefits of Four Nations coming together in Wahkôhtowin kispin akamehmotahn.

Ay-hay, ekosi pitama,

Tracy Swampy-Sylvester, B.Ed., M.Ed.
Superintendent of Maskwacis Schools

Kâwâsakâmepicik Kehtehayak MESC Circle of Kehtehayak



The MESC Circle of Kehtehayak provided guidance and recommendations in the following areas throughout the year:

- Cree translations
- Guidance to the Wellness Committee throughout the development of the MESC wellness framework
- Support to the Maskwacis Junior High School; healing circle, morning prayer and guidance
- Naming of the Early Learning Centre; recommendations and translation
- Guidance and teachings as requested by the staff at schools and various departments
- Participation in school cultural activities
- Attending and supporting MESC engagements such as the Oskayak and Onikihkomawak and Kehtehayak Conferences
- Attending MESC pipe ceremonies
- COE were consulted honoring kiskinwahamawâkanak in graduation ceremonies who have passed within a year
- COE were asked to advise on the stray dog issue in LB
- Guidance on protocol practices
- Guidance on misuse of the Cree language
- Guidance and assistance with the fifth year Feast Ceremony

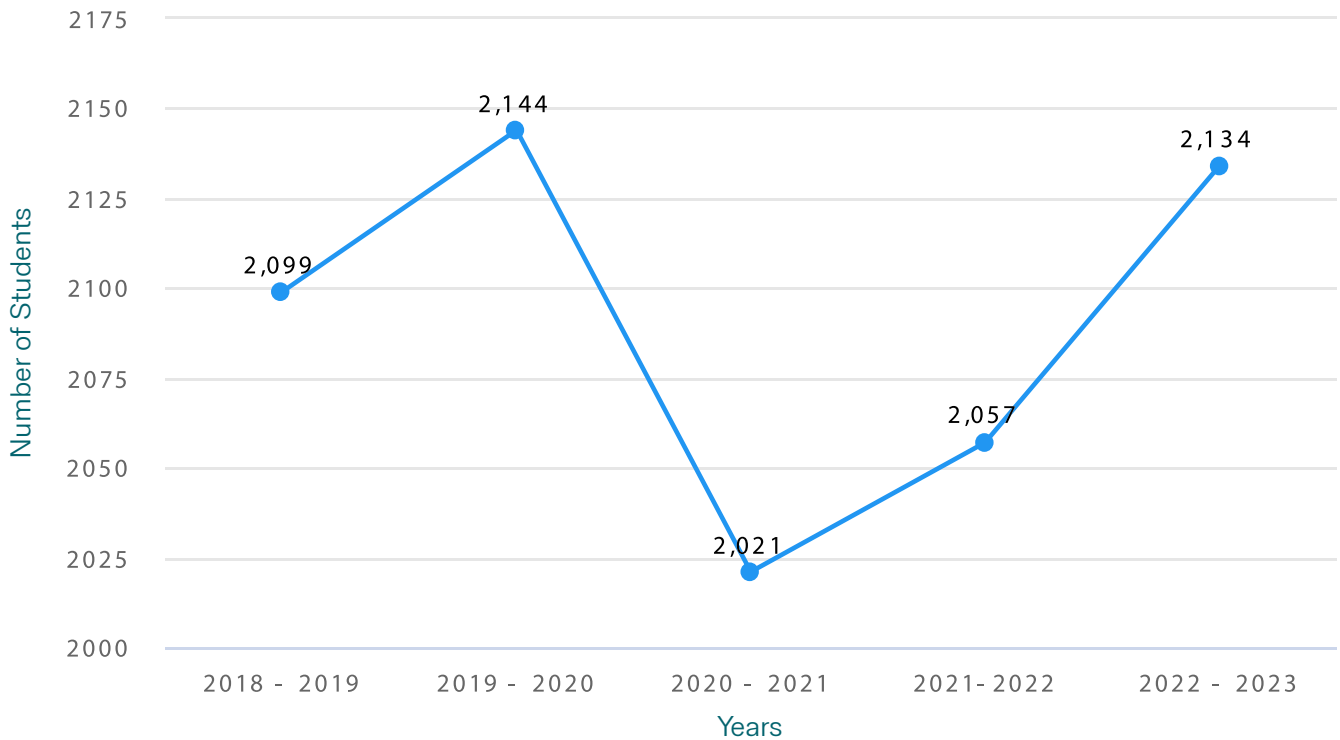
This annual report is organized according to the MESC Board priorities. The MESC Board of Governors has adopted the Policy Governance model to provide strategic leadership for schools in Maskwacis. The Board priorities are identified in the policy category called "Ends Policies". These Ends establish MESC's purpose and describe the benefits the organization should produce for our kiskinwahamawâkanak.

GLOBAL END

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission exists to Govern an outstanding Maskwacis education system that ensures kiskinwahamawâkanak attend respectful and inspiring schools and engages Onikihkomawak in the decision making process, that result in competent, confident and resilient Maskwacis Cree speaking kiskinwahamawâkanak for the optimization of resources used at a cost that can be justified by the results.

Annual Student Enrollment

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission



Enrollment for 2022-2023:

2134

kiskinwahamawâkanak

Retention rate:

79%

kiskinwahamawâkanak retention from 2021-2022 school year to the 2022-2023 school year

Maskwacis Posowinihk MESC Transportation



From the 2021–2022 school year to 2022–2023 school year, Onikihkomawak satisfaction dropped from 84% to 63.1%. In response, MESC transportation has taken steps to address Onikihkomawak concerns by installing cameras on the buses, providing training to drivers, and drivers have improved their relationship with school otatoskewak. These measures reflect MESC Transportation’s commitment to ensuring the safety and satisfaction of kiskinwahamawâkanak and onikihkomawak alike.

MESC Transportation continued its commitment to providing transportation services for Maskwacis kiskinwahamawâkanak for the second consecutive year. Several key initiatives were undertaken to enhance the efficiency, safety, and overall quality of transportation services:

Implementation of Transfer Sites:

One significant measure introduced was the implementation of transfer sites. This strategy aimed to reduce the number of buses and drivers required for daily school transportation, consequently cutting down ride times for kiskinwahamawâkanak. Additionally, an 82–passenger bus was purchased to support this effort.

Bus Evacuation Drills:

In the realm of safety, MESC Transportation prioritized the well-being of kiskinwahamawâkanak through bus evacuation drills. All drivers received training to conduct emergency evacuation drills on their buses, and written evaluations were conducted for each driver on this critical subject. Ongoing drills were scheduled to occur twice yearly, further enhancing preparedness.

Specialized Transportation:

The transportation department also addressed specific needs by providing specialized transportation services to the areas that required them. This involved deploying three buses to transport kiskinwahamawâkanak to school, ensuring that all kiskinwahamawâkanak had access to education.

Kiskinwahamawâkanak Bus Safety:

A vital aspect of safety was ensuring the well-being of kiskinwahamawâkanak during their bus journeys. Safely On Board provided safety training to all kiskinwahamawâkanak from kindergarten to grade 6. This organization also assisted with the evacuation training and evaluation of bus drivers.

GateKeeper Video Cameras on Buses:

To mitigate issues such as bullying and vandalism on buses, GateKeeper video cameras were installed. These cameras also served to deter drive-bys when kiskinwahamawâkanak were loading and unloading, while also monitoring driver behavior during transit.



Bus Shop and Yard Expansion:

Efforts to enhance operational efficiency included expanding the bus shop and yard, with expected completion by December 2023. This expansion aimed to increase in-house maintenance capabilities and reduce operational costs. Additionally, a truck was purchased to service buses and units that experienced breakdowns on the road.

Ongoing Driver Professional Development:

In order to continually improve driver skills and professionalism, four mandatory training sessions were implemented yearly for school bus drivers. These sessions covered topics such as driver professional development, managing kiskinwahamawâkanak behavior, ensuring kiskinwahamawâkanak safety, and providing first aid when necessary.

Cree Syllabics on Buses:

In collaboration with Nehiyawewin Advisors, transportation initiatives extended to promoting Cree values and words on the buses. This endeavor sought to foster the promotion of Nehiyawewin, enriching cultural awareness and connection among kiskinwahamawâkanak.

Bus Driver Appreciation Day

Bus driver appreciation day is every year in May. Our drivers are recognized for their dedication and commitment to our MESC kiskinwahamawâkanak in helping them succeed



Kâkîyaw Kîkwây Kânâkatêtamihk Capital Projects



Facility condition assessments for all schools and buildings under the jurisdiction of MESC are carried out by external consultants. These assessments occur on a five-year cycle, with specific components like roofing and fire safety inspections conducted more frequently, often annually. The findings from these inspections are compiled into a spreadsheet and categorized into two main groups: Health and Safety issues and other building condition repairs or renovations.

The prioritization process involves assessing the urgency and importance of each issue over a 5 and 10 year timeframe to ensure effective and efficient long-term facility operation. Energy conservation measures are also considered to improve operational efficiency. Additionally, school principals and Otatoskewak can submit renovation or change requests annually, which are included in the assessment and prioritization process.

Health and safety issues automatically receive the highest priority (Priority 1). Other issues are ranked from 1 to 3 and cost estimates are applied. High-cost issues are separated, while the remaining issues are categorized by type, such as Mechanical, Electrical, Grounds, and Finishes. Facility maintenance determines which work can be done in-house, and the remaining Priority 1 to 3 issues are evaluated against the budget to determine what can be addressed within the MESC Facility's annual budget.

Issues with higher costs and priority rankings of 1 to 3 are submitted to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) for potential funding. ISC then decides which issues to fund from their various funding streams. If approved but not funded, requests may be resubmitted annually, and some funding requests have been pending with ISC for several years. If not approved, the issue is reintegrated into the long-term capital plan for future consideration.

MESC Capital Asset / O&M Project Expenditures Between 2018-2023								
Facility Name	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Maintenance YTD	Total
Theresa C. Wildcat Early Learning Centre						\$10,318,384		
Ermineskin Kindergarten				\$371,956	\$47,134	\$52,500	\$201,820	\$673,410
Ermineskin Elementary School	\$202,643		\$427,656	\$1,183,395	\$673,043	\$552,662	\$700,371	\$3,739,772
Grace Marie Swampy Primary School	\$867,539	\$194,019	\$1,744,534	\$156,079	\$490,739	\$58,445	\$404,185	\$3,915,540
Kisipatinahk School	\$330,792	\$88,014	\$566,352	\$235,685	\$238,292	\$142,849	\$612,600	\$2,214,582
Mimiw Sakahikan School	\$250,826	\$55,551	\$63,687	\$30,940	\$37,826	\$148,240	\$219,756	\$806,825
Maskwacis Cree High School	\$1,008,439	\$192,179	\$305,207	\$406,071	\$490,439	\$1,010,173	\$756,533	\$4,169,041
Maskwacis Cree Junior High School	\$474,329	\$38,173	\$116,300	\$657,294	\$521,929	\$299,874	\$750,412	\$2,858,309
Maskwacis Outreach School	\$23,087	\$28,087	\$66,526	\$27,083	\$30,437	\$34,564	\$250,776	\$460,559
Meskanahk Ka-Nipa-Wit School	\$264,916	\$65,875	181910.2	57043.2	60416.2	115449	420256	\$1,165,866
Nipisihkopahk Elementary School	964429.152	59119.152	372685.152	38258.152	41629.152	108848	531605	\$2,116,574
Transportation Facility	92739.6	127739.6	10739.6	2739.6	432739.6		95458	\$762,156
Admin / Studies	473654.926	393544.926	445326.63	142743.926	267204.926	24878	756476	\$2,503,829
TOTAL	\$4,953,394	\$1,242,301	\$4,300,923	\$3,309,287	\$3,331,828	\$12,866,866	\$5,700,248	\$35,704,847

Otatoskêwak Kwecihkemowin Otatoskewak Survey



Employees participated in a survey surrounding their psychological Health and safety at work.

87%

of respondents reported satisfaction working for MESC.

71%

of respondents reported feeling included in discussions about how their work is done and having input into decisions that impact their job

87%

of respondents reported feeling that their management takes appropriate action to address physical hazards to protect the health and safety of workers

86%

of respondents reported feeling that the organization is supportive of employees' psychological health concerns and provides assistance as needed

Sihtoskatamowin Otatoskê Miyo Mahcihowin **Supporting Employee Wellness**

For the past year, People Services has been working on a Otatoskewak Health and Wellness plan. This will be finalized and initiated for all Otatoskewak in the 2023–2024 school year. MESC is committed to supporting employees by providing a variety of information and resources that Otatoskewak can access in order to support their own health and wellness. The MESC Otatoskewak Wellness Plan focuses on supporting employees in the four core areas of wellness including:

- spirituality (spiritual)
- body (physical)
- heart (emotional) and
- mind (mental)

An employee wellness plan is important for several reasons. It promotes the physical and mental well-being of employees reducing the risk of health-related issues. It encourages individuals to maintain their spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental health through proactive measures like regular exercise, balanced nutrition, and stress management. This can contribute to employees enjoying:

- A longer and healthier life with a reduced risk of chronic diseases.
- A reduced risk of physical and mental health illnesses
- Enhanced overall quality of life by promoting well-being, reducing stress, and improving mood and energy levels

The MESC Wellness plan not only encourages individuals to focus on their personal health but also strives to make MESC a positive working environment that makes employee health and wellness a priority.

The MESC Circle of Kehtehayak were involved in creating the Otatoskewak Health and Wellness plan from the beginning and continue to be engaged as the plan evolves.

A 15 person wellness committee was also started. This committee consists of employees from a variety of employee groups and locations within MESC in order to get input from as many different perspectives as possible. Everyone involved has been working hard to make this plan as comprehensive and user friendly as possible. These individuals have been instrumental in creating the plan and making it what it is today. This is a long term project that will continue to grow over the next few years.

By promoting sustainable health practices, the MESC wellness plan encourages long-term well-being. In essence, the wellness plan is a proactive and holistic approach to health that can have far-reaching positive effects on one's life.



Otatoskê Itamacihowin êkwa Kanawêtakosowin Occupational Health and Safety



Ensuring the health and safety of everyone within the MESC community, including otatoskewak, kiskinwahamawâkanak, sehke kâhatosket, wihtapimâkana, and masinahikehâkanak, is our top priority. To achieve this, MESC is actively developing a robust Health and Safety Program aimed at fostering a secure and healthy learning and working environment for all.

Key initiatives undertaken by MESC OH & S include:

Establishment of an Occupational Health and Safety Committee:

This committee empowers employees to actively participate in occupational health and safety matters, providing support within the workplace. Its primary functions include identifying health and safety issues, making recommendations for improvements, and promoting awareness and interest in workplace health and safety.

Enhancements to School Playgrounds:

Throughout the year, the committee addressed safety concerns in school playgrounds. This involved repairing broken swings and slides and implementing changes to the surface material to reduce the risk of injuries in case of falls.

Deployment of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs):

MESC has placed additional AEDs in all schools and gymnasiums, including those at the Maskwacis Cree High School and the Maskwacis Cree Junior High School. These life-saving devices are readily available in case of emergencies.

First Aid Training:

Across the district, MESC has made first aid courses accessible to Otatoskewak in all departments. This initiative equips employees with essential skills to respond effectively in case of injuries or medical emergencies.

MESC remains committed to creating a secure and healthy environment for learning, teaching, administration, facility maintenance, and kiskinwahamawâkanak transportation. Our ongoing efforts reflect our dedication to the well-being of the entire MESC community.

Kanitômícik Atoskahakanak Recruitment - People Services

MESC continues to build partnerships and relationships with universities and colleges. The goal is to support academic programming with post-secondary institutions that can facilitate the training, development, and employment of Maskwacisak, First Nations, and others across all MESC employee groups.

In collaboration with the following post-secondary institutions, MESC provided practicum placements for the following 26 kiskinwahamawâkanak:

Maskwacis Cultural College:

- 2 Early Childhood Level 2 kiskinwahamawâkanak placements
- 5 Introductory Field Experience (IFX) kiskinwahamawâkanak teacher placements (Indigenous Teaching Education program)

The University of Alberta:

- 3 Introductory Field Experience (IFX) kiskinwahamawâkanak teacher placements (2 ATEP kiskinwahamawâkanak from Maskwacis)
- 9 Advanced Field Experience (AFX) kiskinwahamawâkanak teacher placements (7 ATEP and 2 in the regular program were all kiskinwahamawâkanak from Maskwacis)

Red Deer Polytechnic Institute:

- 2 Introductory Field Experience (IFX) kiskinwahamawâkanak teacher placements
- 2 kiskinwahamawâkanak participated in classroom observation sessions as part of their BEd program

CDI College:

- 1 Education Assistant Diploma – Maskwacis member who is now employed at MESC

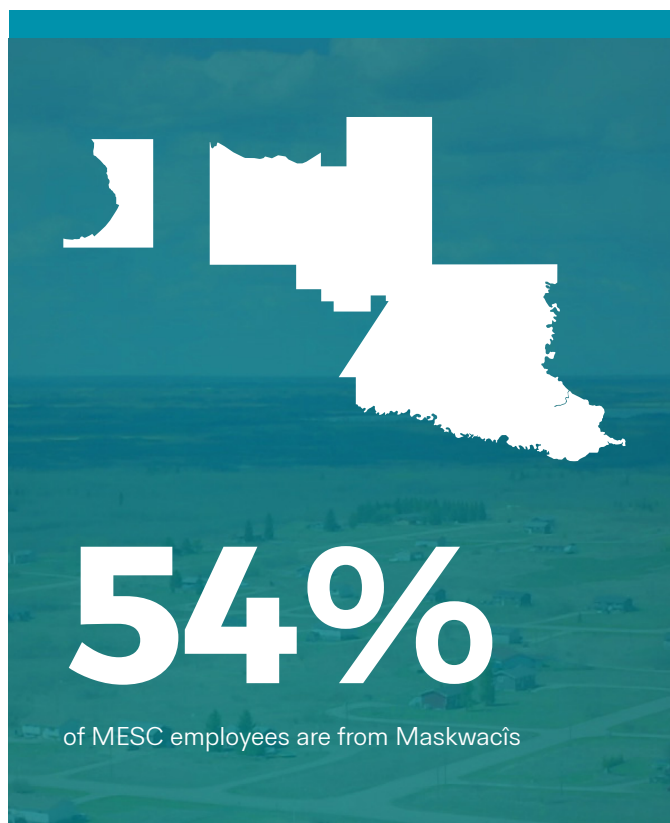
In collaboration with the post-secondary institutions, MESC hosted a series of "Meet and Greet" Sessions with kiskinwahamawâkanak, mentor kiskinwahamakewak, and representatives from the post-secondary institutions. We provided them with a gift and a warm welcome. When they finished their practicum, we also provided a session to help them with applications, teacher certification, and other documents required to secure employment with MESC.

"This support for new hires and all MESC employees is appreciated! I am grateful for the enthusiasm and generosity of the established employees who are ready to help settle our new hires in!"

– 1st year teaching Otatoskewak

As a result we hired 6 of our 9 AFX kiskinwahamawâkanak Kiskinwahamakewak, all from Maskwacis.

MESC hosted a new Otatoskewak orientation. The Otatoskewak orientation provided new employees with information about MESC and the history of education in Maskwacis; the presentations were followed by the Associate Superintendents introducing their branches and operations.

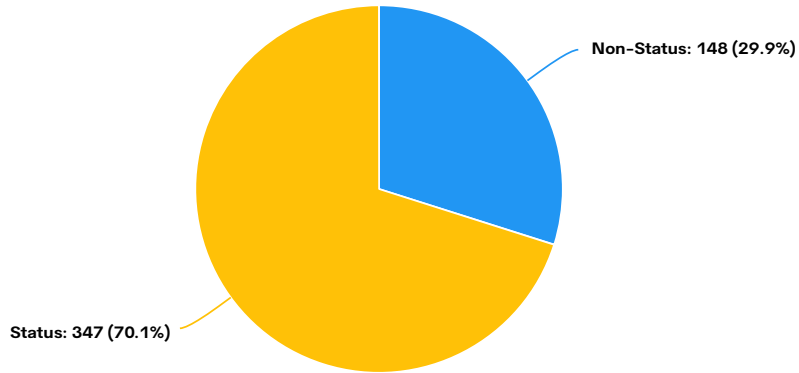


Otatoskewak Charts

AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

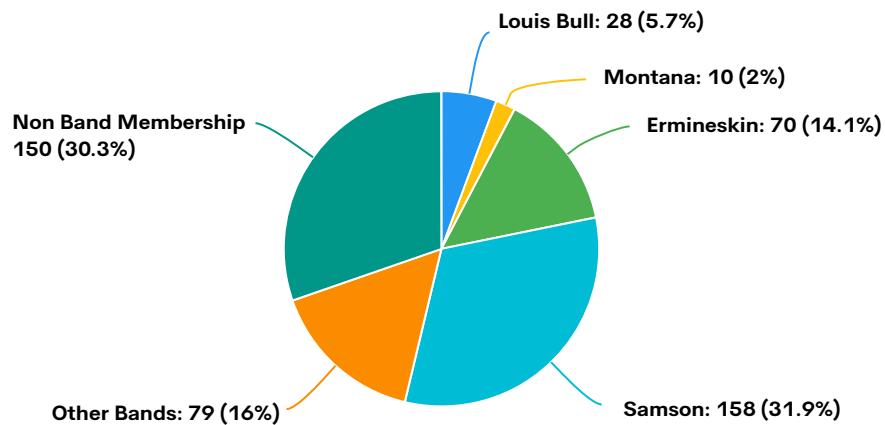
Staff Summary by Treaty Status

Total Staff as of September 30, 2023: **495**



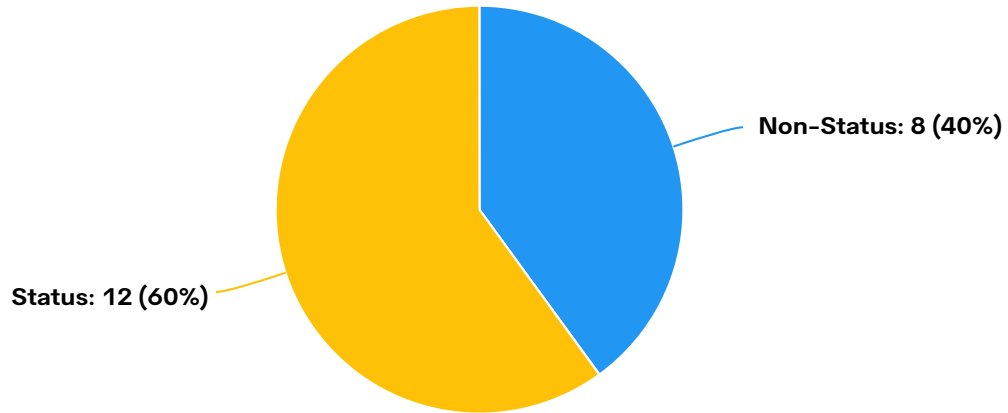
Staff Summary by Bands

Total Staff as of September 30, 2023: **495**



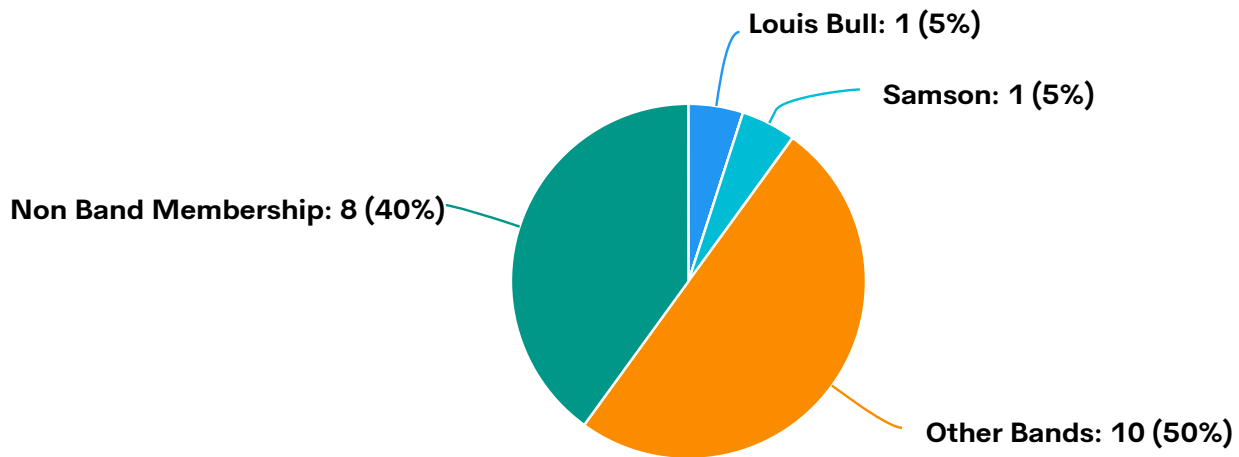
Principals / Assistant Principals by Treaty Status

Total as of September 30, 2023: 20



Principals / Assistant Principals by Bands

Total as of September 30, 2023: 20

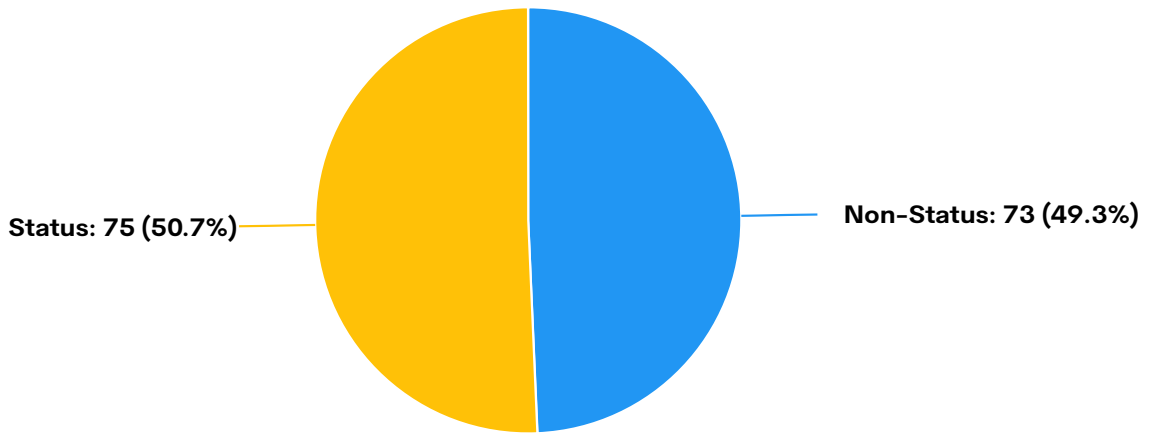


Otatoskewak Charts

AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

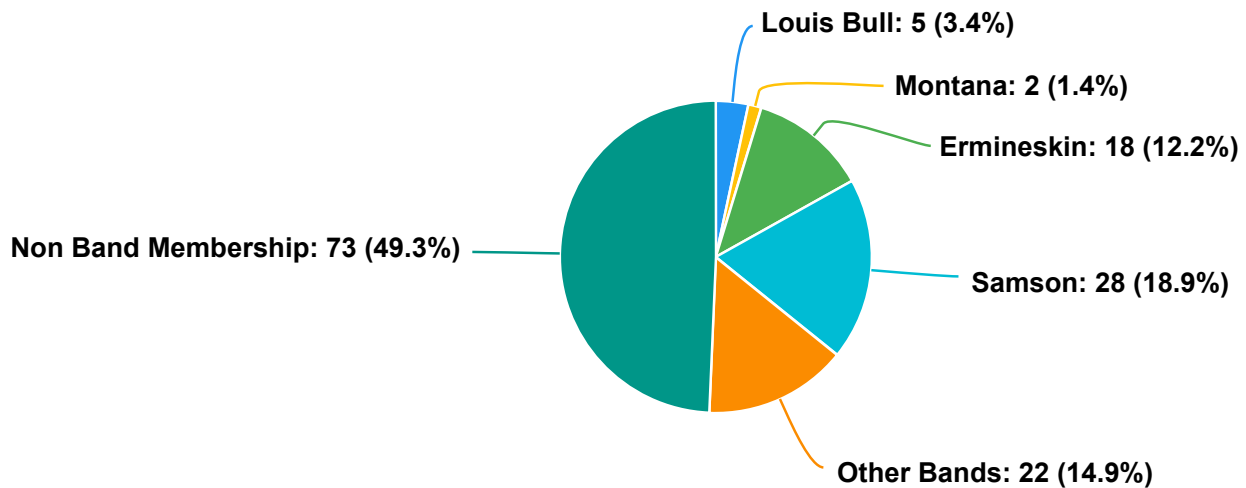
Kisikinwahamakewak / Kisikinwahamakewak by Treaty Status

Total Kisikinwahamakewak / Kisikinwahamakewak as of September 30, 2023: **148**

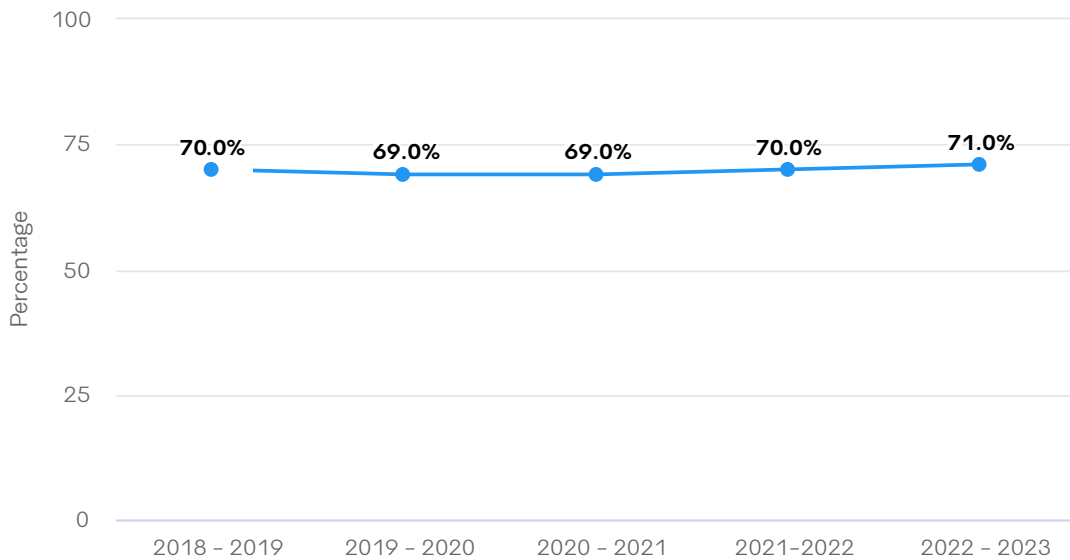


Kisikinwahamakewak / Kisikinwahamakewak by Bands

Total Kisikinwahamakewak / Kisikinwahamakewak as of September 30, 2023: **148**

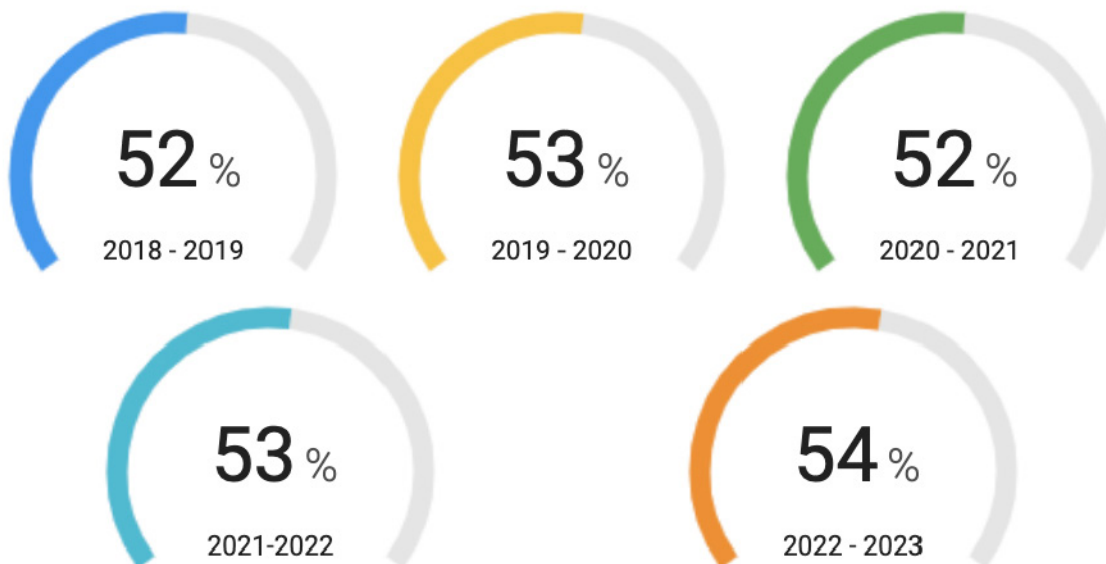


Performance trends chart for FN Otatoskewak and Maskwacis Otatoskewak Percentage of First Nations Staff



Percentage of MESC Employees from Maskwacis

From 2018 to 2023



Kiskinwahamâwâkanak Kawîtamacik Tansi Kîkwây êhispayi Kiskinwahamawâkanak Information Systems (SIS)



MESC uses a variety of systems to connect with families and kiskinwahamawâkanak to support kiskinwahamawâkanak learning and engagement. Below is a list and information about the software platforms we use to stay connected:

- **PowerSchool:** the data management system used by all schools to input kiskinwahamawâkanak attendance and school marks.
- **Onikihkomawak and Kiskinwahamawâkanak Portal:** this system is offered under PowerSchool where kiskinwahamawâkanak and onikihkomawak can access kiskinwahamawâkanak information such as attendance, course information, and kiskinwahamawâkanak marks. Proof of Registration can also be accessed here. onikihkomawak/guardians who have kiskinwahamawâkanak in the Maskwacis Cree High School and the Maskwacis Cree Junior High School are now able to access kiskinwahamawâkanak report cards here.

SchoolEngage: the software tool that is used to register new kiskinwahamawâkanak and update demographics of current kiskinwahamawâkanak. This software links directly to MESC's PowerSchool and bussing system.

SchoolMessenger: the phone and email system used to contact home for kiskinwahamawâkanak absences and other information shared by the schools.

For more information on any of the kiskinwahamawâkanak information systems offered by MESC, please contact the administrative assistant at the school.



Cree Life and Identity

Kisikinwahamawâkanak live the Cree way of life and take pride in their Cree identity. This includes but is not limited to:

1. Kisikinwahamawâkanak grow in their cultural practices.
 - 1.1 Kisikinwahamawâkanak engage in cultural dance, music, art, ceremonies, and traditions.
2. Kisikinwahamawâkanak know and understand the land in the Cree way of thinking.
3. Kisikinwahamawâkanak are fluent in Cree.
4. Kisikinwahamawâkanak know and understand Maskwacîs history in relation to Treaties.

Field-Testing Kisikinwahamakewina

Over the 2022–2023 school year, the K5 nehiyawewin Kisikinwahamakewina was field-tested in two classroom sites: Ermineskin Elementary and Grace Marie Swampy Primary School. This sample field-test was implemented to determine the usability of the K5 kisikinwahamakewina (age appropriateness, content load, easily understood by kisikinwahamakewak) and the effectiveness and engagement of kisikinwahamawâkanak using the developed teaching and learning resources. During field-testing numerous paper and hands-on kisikinwahamawâkanak resources were developed and shared with the field-testing kisikinwahamakewak. Kisikinwahamawâkanak worksheets included seasonal themes and holidays based on the syllabic vowels ◁, ▽, △, ▷, <, ∨, ∧, >, C, U, Ū, Ɔ. Hands-on resources included fishing for sight words, word and sound matching games, syllabic scrabble, syllabic flashcards, and syllabic blocks to name a few. Each field-testing teacher received sample lesson plans and sample year plans to help with day to day and month to month planning. Field-testing completed in June 2023. Findings from the field-test included confirmation that kisikinwahamawâkanak are excited to learn syllabics, can easily distinguish nehiyawewin sounds using syllabics, and can easily distinguish nehiyawewin sounds from English letter sounds. Lessons learned from field-testing include the identification of a flaw in the curriculum template that did not provide enough specificity on what was to be taught to students. As a means to address this flaw, the curriculum team is revising the curriculum template to include a “knowledge” column that will provide the teacher with direction for lesson and year planning. Moving forward, the nehiyawewin team for 2023–2024 school year will be making the needed revisions to the Kisikinwahamakewina curriculum template as well as completing the 10–12 learning outcomes.

The findings from the K5 nehiyawewin field-testing will be utilized to make revisions to the K–9 wahkohtowin and nehiyawatisiwin scope and sequences over the 2023–2024 school year.



Indigenous representation matters in education. Research has shown that when Indigenous kisikinwahamawâkanak are able to engage with learning materials that draw connections to their own experiences, culture, language, and people; they increase their motivation to learn while strengthening their sense of identity, pride and self-esteem as a nehiyaw.



Indigenous Teaching and Learning Resources

Thousands of Indigenous texts for K-12 use were purchased for in-class and library use. In addition to Indigenous literature, a subscription to MacIntyre Media's Can-Core Streaming platform was purchased for MESC wide use providing otatoskewak and kiskinwahamawâkanak to over 2,769 Indigenous film titles and segments. Over the next school year, sample activities and lessons will be released using a variety of texts and films that have been purchased for MESC kiskinwahamawâkanak.

Nehiyawewin

Nehiyawewin is seen in the form of syllabics and heard throughout school programming with the assistance of Maskwacis Kehteyah and Nehiyaw speakers. Many school Otatoskewak have participated in the online Nehiyaw classes offered by Learning and kiskinwahamawâkanak services. The Nehiyawewin program attracted participants from Maskwacis, and other First Nations communities across the country. Courses offered through MESC are Nistam (Introductory), Mâci (Beginner), Tapitaw (Intermediate), & Nestaw (Advanced).



Indigenous Teaching and Learning Resources tools were designed and created by MESC staff.

Misatim Program

MESC was pleased to offer the Misatim Program to grade 5 kiskinwahamawâkanak across MESC schools. A total of 112 grade 5 kiskinwahamawâkanak were able to attend the program over the course of the school year. The program continues to engage and empower kiskinwahamawâkanak to develop confidence through a safe educational experience with horses while reinforcing MESC's foundational values. Expansion of the program to Junior High kiskinwahamawâkanak will occur for the 2023-2024 school year.



“After I got off the horse I felt calmer. We had a great experience with the horses today.”

- Misatim kiskinwahamawâkanak K. Rowan

Cree Life and Identity

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3. Kiskinwahamawâkanak are fluent in Cree.
4. Kiskinwahamawâkanak know and understand Maskwacîs history in relation to Treaties.

Maskwacis Outreach School – Nehiyatawatiswin

Throughout the academic year, both kiskinwahamawâkanak and Otatoskewak remained actively engaged in a wide array of educational activities. One of the notable undertakings involved the skillful art of tipi pole skinning, where spruce trees were transformed into essential components for traditional Indigenous dwellings. As the seasons transitioned, another exciting adventure awaited as kiskinwahamawâkanak and Otatoskewak ventured into the world of ice fishing. Under the frozen surface, they learned the art of catching fish using nets, gaining valuable insights into this time-honored practice.

With the arrival of spring, the Kiskinwahamakewina shifted to teaching kiskinwahamawâkanak the intricate process of cutting and preparing moose meat, imparting essential knowledge about crafting dry meat. Additionally, kiskinwahamawâkanak had the unique opportunity to participate in the fleshing and scraping of an elk hide, delving into the traditional techniques involved in hide preparation. These hands-on experiences enriched their understanding of Indigenous traditions and provided them with valuable life skills.

Ice Fishing – Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School

The Grade 4–6 Awâsisak embarked on an exciting ice-fishing adventure at Battle Lake, Alberta. It was a day filled with joy as kiskinwahamawâkanak were thrilled by the experience of being out on the ice, connecting with nature, and learning the art of ice fishing. Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School extends its heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated Kiskinwahamakewak, Bill Lightning and Marilyn Lightning, who devoted their time and expertise to teach the Awâsisak the intricacies of ice fishing, ensuring they had a memorable and educational day on the frozen lake.





“I’d like to take a moment to express my gratitude for all the Kisikinwahamakewak & just everyone at MESC. You all do so much to help us learn & make sure our needs are heard!”

– Oskayak Survey

Nehiyawewin Week – Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School

Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School kicked off the week with a special visit from Montana First Nation council member Brad Rabbit, who opened the week with heartfelt songs and emphasized the significance of preserving our language and culture. It was a meaningful start that set the tone for the rest of the week’s activities.

Throughout the week, both kiskinwahamawâkanak and Oatoskewak had the opportunity to engage in various cultural activities. One notable event was the Pemican-making session in collaboration with ConnectedNorth, where kiskinwahamawâkanak and Oatoskewak came together to create this traditional Indigenous food. This activity not only taught valuable skills but also fostered a sense of community and tradition within the school.

The Circle of Kehtehayak Carl Rabbit played an essential role by sharing the rich history of Handgames with the kiskinwahamawâkanak. This allowed the younger generation to connect with their heritage and gain a deeper understanding of their cultural roots. Following this enlightening session, kiskinwahamawâkanak and otatoskewak engaged in friendly competitions, showcasing their skills and camaraderie. A mini round dance added a touch of joy and celebration to the day.

Kehtehayak Lucy Kammer brought the magic of storytelling to the awâsisak in the nehiyawewin class, enriching their linguistic and cultural knowledge. The day’s festivities also included a delightful treat of bannock and jam, which allowed everyone to savor the flavors of traditional Indigenous cuisine.

As the week progressed, the kiskinwahamawâkanak enjoyed memorable sleigh rides and relished bannock on a stick, creating lasting memories of their cultural celebration. Furthermore, the Awâsisak ekwa oskayak (Awâsisak and Oskayak) proudly completed a syllabic mural with the message “Kâkiyaw kîyanaw nehiyawak,” reinforcing the importance of their Cree language and heritage.

In conclusion, Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School’s nehiyawewin celebrations were a resounding success, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of both the kiskinwahamawâkanak and the dedicated Oatoskewak. The week was a beautiful blend of learning, cultural immersion, and community engagement, highlighting the significance of preserving and celebrating Indigenous language and culture. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the community members and Oatoskewak who contributed to making this week of learning both fun and enriching.

76%

of kiskinwahamawâkanak are satisfied with the Cree cultural program at their school



Cree Life and Identity

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3. Kiskinwahamawâkanak are fluent in Cree.
4. Kiskinwahamawâkanak know and understand Maskwacîs history in relation to Treaties.

Nehiyawatiswin Conference – Otatoskewak Professional Development

The MESC Otatoskewak recently engaged in an off-site conference held in Edmonton, Alberta, with the primary goal of enhancing comprehension of Nehiyawatiswin. The theme of the year conference, “Kiskisototâmwîn – Remembering,” was thoughtfully chosen by the Circle of Kehtehayak.

During the conference, otatoskewak had the privilege of listening to the wisdom of Maskwacîs knowledge keepers, and were further enriched by keynote presentations delivered by Simon Bird, Wilfred Buck, Grant Bruno, and Chief Cadmus Delorme.

Beyond the enriching educational experience, the conference also provided otatoskewak with a valuable opportunity to connect with colleagues from other MESC schools, fostering professional relationships and collaboration. Additionally, the event allowed otatoskewak to enjoy two days away from their usual work environment, making it a memorable and enlightening experience for all involved.





Rates of Graduating Kiskinwahamawâkanak

High rates of graduating kiskinwahamawâkanak

This includes but is not limited to:

1. Kiskinwahamawâkanak have employable knowledge, skills, and attitudes
2. Kiskinwahamawâkanak qualify for post-secondary education
3. Special needs kiskinwahamawâkanak reach their potential

Kiskinwahamawâkanak Leadership - Maskwacis Junior High School

Kiskinwahamawâkanak Leadership at Maskwacis Junior High School collaborated with the Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC) Superintendent's office to deliver a presentation during the annual Leadership Summit. During this engagement, kiskinwahamawâkanak actively interacted with the Maskwacis Leadership team, delving into a variety of topics, including pop culture trivia and Cree terminology. Notably, the Maskwacis Leadership had the opportunity to gain direct insights from kiskinwahamawâkanak regarding their perspectives on MESC programming and their aspirations for future program enhancements.

Kiskinwahamawâkanak Leadership runs year long and aims to enhance the school environment by participating and planning in Oskayak conferences, assemblies, morning announcements, Earth Day, Spirit Days, motivational videos for announcements, Remembrance Day, and the United Nations Declaration on Treaty Rights presentation.

Summer Literacy Camp Hosted by Nipisihkopahk Elementary School

During the summer of 2023, MESC had the pleasure of hosting a Summer Literacy camp for 52 campers split over 3 weeks, each with a different age group focus. While at camp, the kiskinwahamawâkanak were invited into a literacy-rich environment that included story reading, crafts, and physical activities. MESC Nanâtohk Mîciwin provided a healthy lunch and snacks each day for our campers, and they ate every last bit.

Each day, there was a theme, and kiskinwahamawâkanak read two stories to go along with it. The camps had different table centers set up with activities and crafts that the kiskinwahamawâkanak then got to take home with them. During camp, kiskinwahamawâkanak incorporated Cree language, crafts, and games! It was a wonderful 3 weeks at camp for the kids of Nipisihkopahk.

"It was amazing, helping out was the best. Leadership has made me feel great, because doing that, I learned that our school has taught us many things, and being a leader. I wanna show the next kids that come into the school that you can be a leader"

- Oskayak Leader



Rates of Graduating Kiskinwahamawâkanak

High rates of graduating kiskinwahamawâkanak
This includes but is not limited to:

1. Kiskinwahamawâkanak have employable knowledge, skills, and attitudes
2. Kiskinwahamawâkanak qualify for post-secondary education
3. Special needs kiskinwahamawâkanak reach their potential

2023 Graduation

The Maskwacis Cree High School and the Maskwacis Outreach had a combined graduation of 47 kiskinwahamawâkanak. This is MESC's fourth graduating high school class to have a combined graduation celebration. The traditional graduation ceremony was opened with a Prayer by Verna Littlepoplar & Alvina Flormann followed by a grand entry led by the Maskwacis Chiefs. Grad presentations included kiskinwahamawâkanak keynotes from Adrienne Morin & Quavis Crane-Burnstick. Each graduate walked across the stage and received a sweater, smudging kit, and Eagle feather.



47

Graduates in the class of 2023







Academic Success

kiskinwahamawâkanak are successful, creative and adaptive in their academic studies.

This includes but is not limited to:

1. Increasing numbers of kiskinwahamawâkanak can read and write at grade level
2. Increasing numbers of kiskinwahamawâkanak are math literate at grade level
3. kiskinwahamawâkanak are capable in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) competencies.

MESC Numeracy & Literacy Plan

Various teaching strategies which included incorporation of a timetable for kiskinwahamawâkanak to collaborate were included in the school calendars. This time was used for teachers and support staff discussions about how to support Awâsisak in their classrooms.

To support literacy, kiskinwahamawâkanak collaborated by reviewing student reading profiles and assessments in order to share best practices to differentiate and create personalized instruction. In addition, an instructional coach provided professional learning opportunities for kiskinwahamawâkanak, with numerous resources, and teaching support for individual kiskinwahamawâkanak and groups of kiskinwahamawâkanak.

To support numeracy, the development of a MESC math assessment begun so otatoskewak are able to learn more about their awâsisak and their growth in mathematics concepts. During Mamawo Atoskewin (MESC wide grade group planning), kiskinwahamawâkanak participated in sessions about best practice in mathematics, and where those best practices are found in the MESC core resource, Math Up. An instructional coach provided additional professional learning opportunities during PD days, and supported individual kiskinwahamawâkanak in their classroom as well as groups of kiskinwahamawâkanak during their collaborative time. Math materials were provided to schools to give kiskinwahamawâkanak many opportunities for hands-on learning.

STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) resources to support STEM competencies.

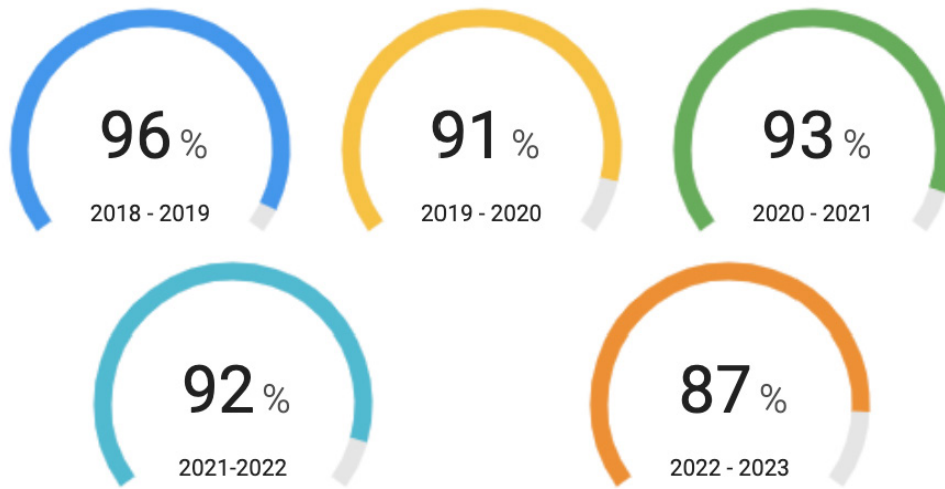
STEM Glow Lab

MESC continues to ensure all schools are equipped with resources that benefit all students. This takes time and various schools are equipped each year. Nipisihkopahk Elementary is one of the schools equipped with a STEM lab

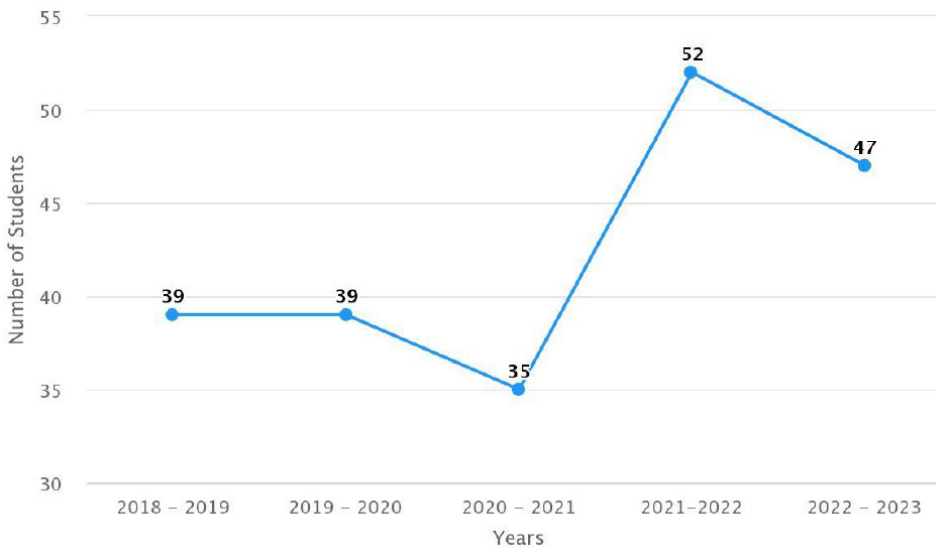
As a year-end wrap-up, the month of June was glow month for NES kiskinwahamawâkanak. Inspired by a Facebook STEM group, Ms. Kiefert with the help of kiskinwahamawâkanak, Ms. Telfer and Ms. E Kent turned the STEM lab into a Glow lab. The Awâsisak had a great time, building, creating and playing in the glow, even trying glow in the dark jello. The lab stayed glowing until Meet the Teacher Night in September, giving onikihkomawak an opportunity to experience it as well. onikihkomawak/guardians thought the lab was very cool and many remarked how they wished learning was as fun when they went to school. NES kiskinwahamawâkanak thoroughly enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to when the lab will glow again.



Percentage of Parents Who Are Satisfied with the Quality of Education Their Child is Receiving at School From 2018 to 2023



Increase in the Total Number of Graduates



Attendance Matters

*"When a kiskinwahamawâkanak misses 2 days a month, they will miss 20 days a year, they will miss 30 hours of math over the school year, they will miss 60 hours of reading & writing over the school year, They will miss **over 1 year** of school by graduation".*

Attending **every day** for kiskinwahamawâkanak is **essential** to academic success.



Healthy Lifestyles

kiskinwahamawâkanak make healthy lifestyle choices.

This includes but is not limited to:

1. kiskinwahamawâkanak have healthy relationships.
2. kiskinwahamawâkanak choose nutritious, healthy foods.
3. kiskinwahamawâkanak take up healthy, recreational pursuits.
 - 3.1 kiskinwahamawâkanak participate in a variety of sports, extracurricular activities, and clubs.
4. kiskinwahamawâkanak have improving rates of attendance.
5. kiskinwahamawâkanak can access mental health supports and know how to do so.
 - 5.1 Stigmas associated with mental illness decrease in the kiskinwahamawâkanak population.
6. kiskinwahamawâkanak are aware of the effects of drugs and alcohol.

Staying active and being involved in various programs that support student interest have been a focus at MESC schools.

Napisisahk Basketball – Senior High Basketball Team

In the 2022–2023 season, the Napisisahk Basketball program, under the leadership of coaches Otatoskewak Michael Swampy, Klevlin Cutknife, and Dakota Nepoose, achieved remarkable success. Throughout the season, the Senior High Grizzlies Basketball Team, comprising Kiskinwahamawâkanak from grades 10 to 12, excelled on multiple fronts. They triumphed as champions in the Treaty 6 high school division, proudly raising the championship banner. Additionally, the team demonstrated their competitive prowess by securing a second-place finish at the Battle of the Bands tournament.

Participating in the central-west Alberta Athletic School Association league further underlined our commitment to excellence. Notably, Cem Garcia Saddleback and Noah Lightning, two of our standout players, were selected to participate in the prestigious annual all-star game, showcasing their exceptional skills.

The Senior Boys Team embraced a rigorous schedule, competing in five tournaments across the province. The dedication and skill of our players were acknowledged with several 'All Stars' recognitions, further solidifying the basketball team's commitment to nurturing exceptional talent.

Moana Jr Musical Performance

Each year kiskinwahamawâkanak participate in a Disney inspired play. kiskinwahamawâkanak work through the year to practice their lines, and create their costumes for a community performance at the end of the school year.





Nanatohk Miciwin

Nanatohk Miciwin aims to provide nutritionally dense meals and snacks to meet the dietary needs of MESC kiskinwahamawâkanak from K-12. MESC supplies breakfast, lunch, and snacks throughout the week which equals 24 000 meals per week. Four tonnes of produce, 1 ton of meat products, 4 tons of dry/dairy products that are distributed by 25 otatoskewak in 8 locations per week are required.

In addition to providing meal service to kiskinwahamawâkanak, the Nanatohk Miciwin program provides career pathways to kiskinwahamawâkanak, and builds partnerships with local producers and celebrates traditional Cree ways through food. MESC has formed many relationships with local farmers / producers to source as much within proximity to Maskwacis most notably from Akamihk Green House to buy 100 pounds of ultra fresh greens weekly.

Onikihkomawak Advisory Committee-Grace Marie Swampy Memorial School

PAC committee involvement is essential in the support of school staff throughout the year. PAC committees meet monthly to share updates and upcoming school events. Onikihkomawak plan and give ideas for family nights. Onikihkomawak & guardian support is an integral part of the culture of Wahkôhtowin in MESC. Their knowledge and support towards the otatoskewak for the benefit of awasisak ekwa oskayak is greatly appreciated.

74%

of kiskinwahamawâkanak satisfied with the Nanâtohk Miciwin program

77%

of kiskinwahamawâkanak feel safe in MESC schools.



Healthy Lifestyles

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3. kiskinwahamawâkanak take up healthy, recreational pursuits.
 - 3.1 kiskinwahamawâkanak participate in a variety of sports, extracurricular activities, and clubs.
4. kiskinwahamawâkanak have improving rates of attendance.
5. kiskinwahamawâkanak can access mental health supports and know how to do so.
 - 5.1 Stigmas associated with mental illness decrease in the kiskinwahamawâkanak population.
6. kiskinwahamawâkanak are aware of the effects of drugs and alcohol.

Onikihkomawak Involvement

MESC schools celebrated their first inaugural year for the implementation of the Onikihkomawak Advisory Committee's for the 2022–2023 school year. Onikihkomawak Advisory Committees (PAC) are collective associations of Sehke kâhatoskecik composed of onikihkomawak, kiskinwahamakewak, principals, and Maskwacis representatives.

Onikihkomawak Advisory Committees (PAC) perform an important advisory role at schools. They help ensure the ohpikinhawasiwin and Maskwacis perspective is represented in school decision-making to ensure a positive, protected, enriched environment in which awâsisak & oskayak will be inspired to learn.

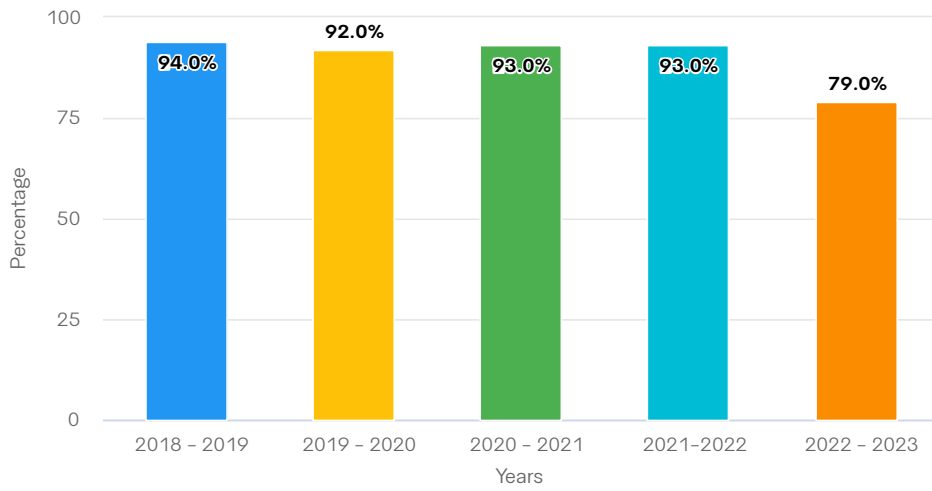
PAC's share approved information about the school with the Maskwacis community. If you are interested in joining, please contact the principal at your awâsisak school.

Inclusive Services

To meet the needs of kiskinwahamawâkanak, MESC Kiskinwahamawâkanak Pamihiwêwin provided Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Deaf and Hard of Hearing consultants, Blind and Visually Impaired consultants, and Educational Psychologist services onsite in all MESC schools. Inclusion Coordinators and Inclusion Coaches work alongside school principals in every school to support the needs of all diverse learners in accessing the best educational support to fit each kiskinwahamawâkanak's unique needs. MESC has developed partnerships with various organizations to assist kiskinwahamawâkanak with the transition to adulthood support and to access neurodevelopmental assessments within Maskwacis. Inclusive Services continues to be dedicated to fulfilling the promise outlined in the MESC Declaration on Education that "schools will have the ability to work with the needs and aspirations of all kiskinwahamawâkanak".



Percentage of Parents Who Are Satisfied with How Safe The School Is
From 2018 to 2023





Healthy Lifestyles

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- 6. kiskinwahamawâkanak are aware of the effects of drugs and alcohol.

Kiskinwahamawâkanak & Peyakohewamak Support

• **ᐅᓄᓂᓄᐅᓄᐅᓄᐅᓄ Wahkohtowin**

By practicing wahkohtowin, they establish meaningful connections with kiskinwahamawâkanak and peyakohewamak, enabling them to better understand and meet their needs. This is considered the most crucial aspect of their roles.

The team collaborates with local programs and agencies such as Maskwacis Mobile Mental Health, Community Wellness, and Recreation departments, and also advocates for peyakohewamak in need of housing and social services support, among other initiatives.

• **ᐅᓄᓂᓄᐅᓄᐅᓄᐅᓄ Iyiniw Mamitonehikan**

Kiskinwahamawâkanak and Peyakohewamak Support Team members are mindful to approach every interaction with the best of intentions to support our kiskinwahamawâkanak.

Additionally, Kiskinwahamawâkanak and Peyakohewamak Support Team members also focus on helping oskayak develop the necessary skills for a successful transition to adulthood. A successful transition into adulthood often involves obtaining important identification documents such as a Social Insurance Number, Alberta Health Care Number, and driver's permit. It also requires a range of skills, including financial literacy, effective communication, problem-solving abilities, time management, self-care practices, decision-making skills, and the ability to set and pursue goals. These skills help individuals navigate the challenges and responsibilities of adulthood as well as achieve personal success and independence.

• **ᐅᓄᓂᓄᐅᓄᐅᓄᐅᓄ Nehiyaw Pimatisiwin**

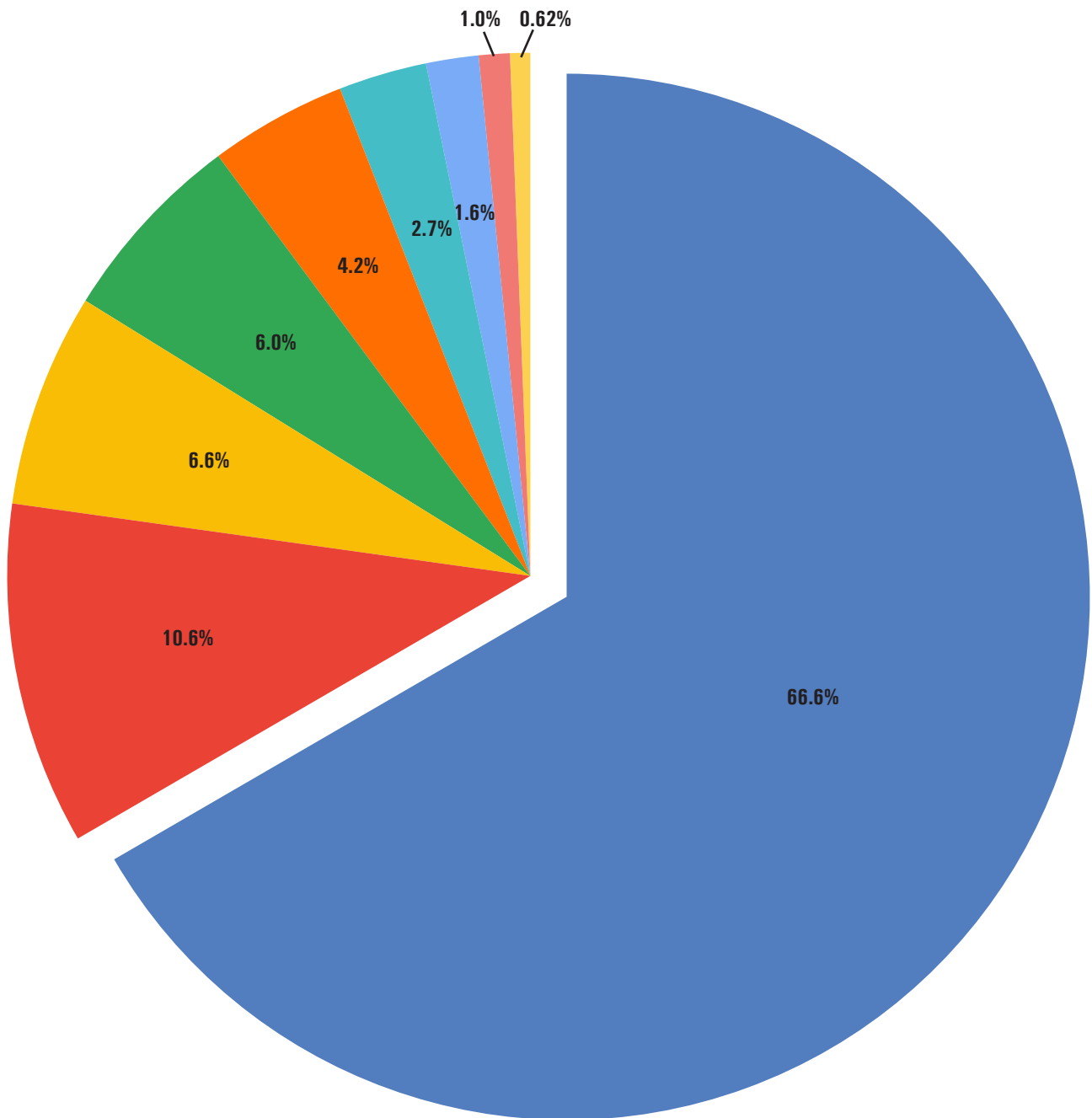
Kiskinwahamawâkanak and Peyakohewamak Support Team members are mindful of all kiskinwahamawâkanak and their onikihkomawak. They work to build trust and provide support and stability in partnering with onikihkomawak of kiskinwahamawâkanak on their caseload. The Kiskinwahamawâkanak and Peyakohewamak Support Team also actively participates in cultural ceremonies, wakes, and funerals to provide support to grieving peyakohewamak.

• ᓂᐱᓂᐱᓂᐱᓂ Nehiyawewin

Kiskinwahamawâkanak and Peyakohewamak Support Team members are careful with their words; they listen, learn, ask questions, and take time to reflect on how they can better serve their clients. They often play a crucial role in connecting with kiskinwahamawâkanak in crisis, providing education on emotional regulation techniques, and offering assistance with tutors to help them achieve their educational goals.



Summary of Expenditures



- 66.6% Salaries, Benefits and Hon.
- 10.6% Administration
- 6.6% Contractors & Prof. Fees
- 6.0% Repairs and Maintenance
- 4.2% Capital
- 2.7% Student Exp.
- 1.6% Program Exp.
- 1.0% PD
- 0.62% Parental & Community Cons.

**Maskwacis Education Schools
Commission (MESC)
Financial Statements**
March 31, 2023

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

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For the year ended March 31, 2023

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Management's Responsibility

To the Members of Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC):

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accompanying financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards and ensuring that all information in the annual report is consistent with the statements. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting principles and methods, and making decisions affecting the measurement of transactions in which objective judgment is required.

In discharging its responsibilities for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements, management designs and maintains the necessary accounting systems and related internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded and financial records are properly maintained to provide reliable information for the preparation of financial statements.

The Board of Directors is composed entirely of Directors who are neither management nor employees of the Organization. The Board is responsible for overseeing management in the performance of its financial reporting responsibilities, and for approving the financial information included in the annual report. The Board fulfils these responsibilities by reviewing the financial information prepared by management and discussing relevant matters with management and external auditors. The Board is also responsible for recommending the appointment of the Organization's external auditors.

MNP LLP is appointed by the Board of Directors to audit the financial statements and report directly to them; their report follows. The external auditors have full and free access to, and meet periodically and separately with, both the Board and management to discuss their audit findings.

July 19, 2023



Chief Executive Officer



Secretary Treasurer

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC):

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC) (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023, and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2023, and the results of its operations, changes in its net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Edmonton, Alberta

July 19, 2023

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC) Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	33,313,890	36,827,631
Accounts receivable	148,429	-
Goods and services tax receivable	1,581	1,581
Guaranteed investment certificate <i>(Note 3)</i>	209,478	208,444
Total of assets	33,673,378	37,037,656
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accruals	3,148,532	2,022,443
Deferred revenue <i>(Note 5)</i>	30,524,846	35,015,213
Total of financial liabilities	33,673,378	37,037,656
Net financial assets	-	-
Commitments <i>(Note 6)</i>		
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets <i>(Schedule 1)</i>	22,283,514	12,408,167
Total non-financial assets	22,283,514	12,408,167
Accumulated surplus	22,283,514	12,408,167

Approved on behalf of the Board



Chair of the Board



Vice Chair of the Board



Chief Executive Officer



Secretary Treasurer

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	<i>Schedules</i>	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue				
Indigenous Services Canada		63,013,774	68,152,619	68,321,000
Province of Alberta		4,345,846	4,345,845	4,758,221
Carried forward from prior year		10,854,161	35,015,214	26,688,932
Other revenue		1,381,376	1,462,811	1,539,213
Interest income		1,583,650	1,645,676	304,175
Transfer to Ermineskin Cree Nation		-	(733,386)	-
Carried forward to next year		(47,473)	(30,524,845)	(35,015,213)
		81,131,334	79,363,934	66,596,328
Program expenses				
Administrative and Schools	4	64,705,913	55,145,945	47,930,317
ISC - High Cost	5	3,045,050	3,050,852	3,585,624
Structural Readiness	6	3,232,424	2,421,133	2,465,274
ISC - Capital	7	13,826,582	-	44,900
Government of Alberta - Enhancement	8	4,215,481	4,126,566	5,125,741
Capital	9	-	3,010,417	2,433,629
Government of Alberta - Grant	10	600,846	579,562	1,097,462
Louis Bull HeadStart	11	361,708	512,782	270,731
Ermineskin HeadStart	12	998,016	117,686	269,468
Government of Alberta - Other	13	-	-	560,206
Pigeon Lake HeadStart	14	82,639	70,537	59,706
Jordan's Principle	15	453,107	453,107	323,564
Total expenditures		91,521,766	69,488,587	64,166,622
Surplus		(10,390,432)	9,875,347	2,429,706
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year		12,408,169	12,408,169	9,978,463
Accumulated surplus, end of year		2,017,737	22,283,516	12,408,169

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Annual surplus	(9,852,446)	9,875,347	2,429,706
Purchases of tangible capital assets	(4,480,335)	(12,885,764)	(4,863,335)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	1,228,614	3,010,417	2,433,629
Increase in net financial assets	(13,104,167)	-	-
Net financial assets, beginning of year	-	-	-
Net financial assets, end of year	(13,104,167)	-	-

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating activities		
Surplus	9,875,347	2,429,706
Non-cash items		
Amortization	3,010,417	2,433,629
	12,885,764	4,863,335
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accounts receivable	(148,429)	215,000
Accounts payable and accruals	1,126,089	(73,076)
Deferred revenue	(4,490,367)	8,326,282
	9,373,057	13,331,541
Capital activities		
Purchases of tangible capital assets	(12,885,764)	(4,863,335)
Investing activities		
Purchase of guaranteed investment certificate (Note 3)	(1,034)	(2,578)
Increase (decrease) in cash resources	(3,513,741)	8,465,628
Cash resources, beginning of year	36,827,631	28,362,003
Cash resources, end of year	33,313,890	36,827,631

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2023

1. Operations

The Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC) (the "Organization") is located in the province of Alberta, and has a mandate to research and implement the creation of a single education authority for the community of Maskwacis. Maskwacis is a Cree First Nation's community in central Alberta that is home to four distinct Cree Nations: Ermineskin, Samson, Louis Bull and Montana.

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements are the representations of management, prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards and including the following significant accounting policies:

Basis of presentation and revenue recognition

Sources of financing and expenditures are recorded on the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting recognizes revenues as they become available and measurable; expenditures are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of the receipt of goods or services and the creation of a legal obligation to pay.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalent include balances with banks.

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are initially recorded at cost which includes all amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset.

Amortization

Amortization for tangible capital assets is provided using the following methods at rates intended to amortize the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives:

	<i>Method</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Buildings	straight-line	20 years
Equipment	straight-line	2-5 years
Furniture & Fixtures	straight-line	2-10 years
Technology	straight-line	2-10 years
Vehicles	straight-line	10 years

Long-lived assets

Long-lived assets consist of tangible capital assets. Long-lived assets held for use are measured and amortized as described in the applicable accounting policies.

The Organization performs impairment testing on long-lived assets held for use whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset, or group of assets, may not be recoverable. The carrying amount of a long-lived asset is not recoverable if the carrying amount exceeds the sum of the undiscounted future cash flows from its use and disposal. Impairment is measured as the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its fair value. Fair value is measured using prices for similar items. Any impairment is included in surplus for the year.

Net financial assets (net debt)

The Organization's financial statements are presented so as to highlight net financial assets (net debt) as the measurement of financial position. The net financial assets (net debt) of the Organization is determined by its financial assets less its liabilities. Net financial assets (net debt) combined with non-financial assets comprise a second indicator of financial position, accumulated surplus.

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued from previous page)

Measurement uncertainty (Use of estimates)

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period.

Amortization is based on the estimated useful lives of tangible capital assets.

Financial instruments

The Organization recognizes its financial instruments when the Organization becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. All financial instruments are initially recorded at their fair value.

At initial recognition, the Organization may irrevocably elect to subsequently measure any financial instrument at fair value. The Organization has not made such an election during the year.

Transaction costs directly attributable to the origination, acquisition, issuance or assumption of financial instruments subsequently measured at fair value are immediately recognized in operating surplus. Conversely, transaction costs are added to the carrying amount for those financial instruments subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

All financial assets except derivatives are tested annually for impairment. Management considers whether the investee has experienced continued losses for a period of years in determining whether objective evidence of impairment exists. Any impairment, which is not considered temporary, is recorded in the statement of operations. Write-downs of financial assets measured at cost and/or amortized cost to reflect losses in value are not reversed for subsequent increases in value. Reversals of any net remeasurements of financial assets measured at fair value are reported in the statement of remeasurement gains and losses.

Asset classification

Assets are classified as either financial or non-financial. Financial assets are assets that could be used to discharge existing liabilities or finance future operations. Non-financial assets are acquired, constructed or developed assets that do not normally provide resources to discharge existing liabilities but are employed to deliver government services, may be consumed in normal operations and are not for resale in the normal course of operations. Non-financial assets include tangible capital assets and prepaid expenses.

Segments

The Organization conducts its business through 13 reportable segments: Administration and Schools, ISC - High Cost, Structural Readiness, ISC - Capital, Government of Alberta - Enhancement, Capital, Government of Alberta - Other, Government of Alberta - Grant, Louis Bull HeadStart, Ermineskin HeadStart, Pigeon Lake HeadStart, Jordan's Principle and Community Facility Enhancement Program. These operating segments are established by senior management to facilitate the achievement of the Organization's long-term objectives, to aid in resource allocation decisions, and to assess operational performance.

For each reported segment, revenue and expenses represent both amounts that are directly attributable to the segment and amounts that are allocated on a reasonable basis. Therefore, certain allocation methodologies are employed in the preparation of segmented financial information.

The accounting policies used in these segments are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the financial statements as disclosed above.

3. Guaranteed investment certificate

The guaranteed investment certificate bears interest at 1.15%, and matured on May 19, 2023.

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2023

4. Related party transactions

During the year, the Organization conducted the following transactions with related entities. All transactions were undertaken at normal market prices for similar goods and services.

	2023	2022
Payments from Maskwacis Health Services	-	76,226
Payments from Ermineskin Cree Nation	125,135	404,791
Payments from Louis Bull Tribe	-	264,391

5. Deferred revenue

	2023	2022
Indigenous Services Canada	30,174,439	32,771,412
Province of Alberta	113,184	473,466
Other	237,223	1,770,335
	30,524,846	35,015,213

6. Commitments

The Organization's lease agreement with a related party expired in March 2023. The Organization continues to lease the premises based on the prior agreement's terms, therefore the estimated minimum annual payments are as follows:

2024	35,000
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7. Financial Instruments

All significant financial assets, financial liabilities and equity instruments of the Organization are either recognized or disclosed in the financial statements together with other information relevant for making a reasonable assessment of future cash flows, interest rate risk and credit risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. Changes in market interest rates may have an effect on the cash flows associated with some financial assets and liabilities, known as cash flow risk, and on the fair value of other financial assets or liabilities, known as price risk.

The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to its guaranteed investment certificate.

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Schedule 1 - Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	<i>Buildings</i>	<i>Equipment</i>	<i>Furniture & Fixtures</i>	<i>Technology</i>	<i>Vehicles</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>
Cost							
Balance, beginning of year	9,637,435	1,204,854	1,593,540	5,958,523	1,915,140	20,309,492	15,446,159
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	10,931,777	148,249	144,113	1,313,765	347,860	12,885,764	4,863,333
Balance, end of year	20,569,212	1,353,103	1,737,653	7,272,288	2,263,000	33,195,256	20,309,492
Accumulated amortization							
Balance, beginning of year	1,255,913	600,165	1,480,097	3,633,864	931,286	7,901,325	5,467,696
Annual amortization	1,028,461	240,062	116,219	1,228,729	396,946	3,010,417	2,433,629
Balance, end of year	2,284,374	840,227	1,596,316	4,862,593	1,328,232	10,911,742	7,901,325
Net book value of tangible capital assets	18,284,838	512,876	141,337	2,409,695	934,768	22,283,514	12,408,167
2022 Net book value of tangible capital assets	8,381,522	604,689	113,443	2,324,659	983,854	12,408,167	

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Schedule 2 - Schedule of Consolidated Expenses by Object

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 <i>Budget</i>	2023	2022
Consolidated expenses by object			
Administration	699,047	761,866	1,431,592
Amortization	-	3,010,417	2,433,629
Advertising and promotional material	146,000	83,466	81,939
Bank charges and interest	8,500	8,208	9,523
Board costs	-	-	2,527
Parental and community engagement	322,000	481,537	206,941
Consultants	1,571,118	1,229,650	669,582
Contractors	2,250,000	2,569,589	2,360,613
Health and wellness	318,730	107,112	311,781
Board honorarium	255,000	254,422	237,542
Insurance	826,369	821,369	549,059
Staff appreciation	237,832	149,281	178,488
Meeting	159,700	93,214	42,232
Office equipment lease	277,000	224,176	11,164
Office rent	65,664	65,664	77,664
Office supplies	241,424	275,407	317,128
Professional development	873,362	615,107	549,303
Cultural Ceremony	285,294	162,443	44,220
Recruitment & Retention	4,800	1,616	2,099
Communications	120,000	117,066	68,390
Donation	135,000	53,310	28,113
Elders circle	46,000	25,817	73,950
Professional fees	70,840	122,188	73,767
Learning and education	-	-	479,371
Program expense	672,294	316,333	300,684
COVID supplies	1,945,120	1,945,120	1,452,006
Repairs and maintenance	7,161,705	3,298,454	1,982,103
Salaries and benefits	40,813,690	41,439,491	37,576,008
Student expenses	2,436,912	1,767,003	1,563,614
Supplies	12,000	265	6,706
Telephone	141,741	134,741	108,266
Training	-	361,708	-
Transportation	-	-	682,146
Travel and meals	187,700	110,087	81,342
Tuition	8,000,000	7,713,089	9,268,430
Memberships	-	16,156	6,327
Utilities	766,500	782,397	744,320
Subcontracts	212,500	363,512	-
Capital Items	20,259,924	-	-
Research and development	-	-	149,304
Equipment Rental	(2,000)	7,306	4,749
	91,521,766	69,488,587	64,166,622

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESCC)

Schedule 3 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	Schedule #	ISC Revenue	Other Revenue	Total Revenue	Total Expenses	Current Surplus (Deficit)
ISC funded programs						
Administrative and Schools	4	54,365,481	3,810,824	58,176,305	55,145,945	3,030,360
ISC - High Cost	5	2,340,461	710,391	3,050,852	3,050,852	-
Structural Readiness	6	2,698,932	182,799	2,881,731	2,421,133	460,598
ISC - Capital	7	8,596,670	798,135	9,394,805	-	9,394,805
ISC funded programs subtotal		68,001,544	5,502,149	73,503,693	60,617,930	12,885,763
Other programs						
Government of Alberta - Enhancement Capital	8	-	4,126,566	4,126,566	4,126,566	-
	9	-	-	-	3,010,417	(3,010,417)
Government of Alberta - Grant	10	-	579,562	579,562	579,562	-
Ermieskin HeadStart	12	-	117,686	117,686	117,686	-
Pigeon Lake HeadStart	14	-	70,537	70,537	70,537	-
Jordan's Principle	15	-	453,107	453,107	453,107	-
Other programs subtotal		-	5,347,458	5,347,458	8,357,875	(3,010,417)
Total		68,001,544	10,849,607	78,851,151	68,975,805	9,875,346

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Administrative and Schools
Schedule 4 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue			
Indigenous Services Canada			
Core funds	41,154,995	46,134,398	54,614,689
Transportation	8,231,083	8,231,083	682,146
COVID funds	-	-	2,521,158
Other revenue	1,178,064	1,259,499	793,805
Interest income	1,583,650	1,645,676	304,175
Carried forward to next year	-	(25,391,968)	(26,297,617)
Carried forward from prior year	26,297,617	26,297,617	19,218,465
	78,445,409	58,176,305	51,836,821
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	34,925,443	35,923,154	30,664,512
Tuition	8,000,000	7,713,089	9,268,430
Repairs and maintenance	7,212,721	3,263,428	1,969,399
COVID supplies	1,945,120	1,945,120	1,452,006
Student expenses	1,881,114	1,220,381	1,043,153
Contractors	450,000	769,589	881,613
Consultants	735,931	490,028	183,018
Parental and community engagement	283,500	462,758	123,112
Subcontracts	212,500	363,512	-
Utilities	341,000	359,897	6,234
Insurance	350,000	350,000	236,129
Professional development	532,235	297,286	113,672
Office supplies	235,924	267,758	310,452
Board honorarium	255,000	254,422	237,542
Program expense	594,500	238,468	-
Office equipment lease	275,000	224,176	11,164
Cultural Ceremony	281,294	161,347	34,324
Staff appreciation	213,700	132,893	161,592
Communications	120,000	117,066	60,027
Professional fees	64,840	116,188	-
Health and wellness	311,730	107,112	308,281
Travel and meals	183,200	106,134	50,287
Advertising and promotional material	146,000	83,466	69,764
Meeting	121,365	56,559	8,085
Donation	120,000	41,803	17,700
Administration	63,400	29,416	-
Elders circle	46,000	25,817	24,500
Memberships	-	16,156	6,327
Equipment Rental	(2,000)	7,306	4,749
Recruitment & Retention	4,800	1,616	2,099
Capital Items	4,801,596	-	-
Transportation	-	-	682,146
	64,705,913	55,145,945	47,930,317
Surplus (deficit)	13,739,496	3,030,360	3,906,504

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)
ISC - High Cost
Schedule 5 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue			
Indigenous Services Canada			
High cost funds	2,332,093	2,332,093	3,227,057
Core funds	-	8,368	-
Carried forward to next year	-	-	(710,391)
Carried forward from prior year	712,957	710,391	1,068,958
	3,045,050	3,050,852	3,585,624
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	2,325,118	2,351,732	3,052,611
Consultants	400,000	393,777	354,751
Student expenses	170,000	164,444	103,169
Professional development	100,000	86,855	48,831
Meeting	35,000	35,504	16,460
Staff appreciation	14,932	12,738	9,536
Travel and meals	-	3,653	-
Office supplies	-	2,149	266
	3,045,050	3,050,852	3,585,624
Surplus (deficit)	-	-	-

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Structural Readiness
Schedule 6 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue			
Indigenous Services Canada	2,698,932	2,698,932	1,900,950
Carried forward to next year	-	(350,693)	(533,492)
Carried forward from prior year	533,492	533,492	1,595,890
	3,232,424	2,881,731	2,963,348
Expenses			
Contractors	1,800,000	1,800,000	1,479,000
Consultants	343,462	264,140	131,813
Administration	493,055	221,746	375,178
Professional development	116,747	116,747	115,245
Parental and community engagement	18,500	18,500	-
Meeting	-	-	2,285
Advertising and promotional material	-	-	12,175
Cultural Ceremony	-	-	9,131
Elders circle	-	-	38,250
Professional fees	-	-	45,255
Learning and education	-	-	177,000
Student expenses	-	-	79,942
Capital Items	460,660	-	-
	3,232,424	2,421,133	2,465,274
Surplus (deficit)	-	460,598	498,074

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

ISC - Capital

Schedule 7 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 <i>Budget</i>	2023	2022
Revenue			
Indigenous Services Canada			
ISC - Major Projects	7,546,670	7,546,670	5,075,000
ISC	1,050,000	1,050,000	300,000
Carried forward to next year	-	(4,431,777)	(5,229,912)
Carried forward from prior year	5,229,912	5,229,912	347,277
	13,826,582	9,394,805	492,365
Expenses			
Major project	13,784,282	-	-
Feasibility study	42,300	-	44,900
	13,826,582	-	44,900
Surplus (deficit)	-	9,394,805	447,465

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Government of Alberta - Enhancement
Schedule 8 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue			
Province of Alberta	3,844,000	3,844,000	4,180,000
Carried forward from prior year	326,994	326,994	1,272,735
Carried forward to next year	-	(44,428)	(326,994)
	4,170,994	4,126,566	5,125,741
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	2,656,193	2,591,141	3,321,131
Insurance	468,869	468,869	308,930
Utilities	419,000	419,000	734,086
Student expenses	331,798	331,798	336,534
Telephone	132,741	132,741	105,583
Office rent	65,664	65,664	77,664
Professional development	59,555	49,395	36,134
Repairs and maintenance	35,026	35,026	-
Donation	15,000	11,507	10,413
Bank charges and interest	8,500	8,208	9,523
Professional fees	6,000	6,000	28,512
Office supplies	5,000	5,000	5,682
Meeting	1,135	1,135	15,026
Cultural Ceremony	4,000	1,082	-
Communications	-	-	8,364
Elders circle	-	-	11,200
Health and wellness	7,000	-	3,500
Staff appreciation	-	-	1,695
Travel and meals	-	-	28,060
Parental and community engagement	-	-	83,704
	4,215,481	4,126,566	5,125,741
Surplus (deficit)	(44,487)	-	-

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Capital

Schedule 9 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Expenses			
Amortization	-	3,010,417	2,433,629
Surplus (deficit)	-	(3,010,417)	(2,433,629)

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Government of Alberta - Grant
Schedule 10 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	<i>2023 Budget</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>
Revenue			
Province of Alberta	501,846	501,845	-
Carried forward from prior year	99,000	99,000	1,196,462
Carried forward to next year	-	(21,283)	(99,000)
	600,846	579,562	1,097,462
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	270,160	270,160	-
Consultants	91,725	81,705	-
Program expense	77,794	77,794	276,722
Professional development	64,675	64,675	227,158
Student expenses	50,000	50,000	-
Administration	46,492	35,228	141,907
Land based learning	-	-	302,371
Research and development	-	-	149,304
	600,846	579,562	1,097,462
Surplus (deficit)	-	-	-

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Louis Bull HeadStart

Schedule 11 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue			
Indigenous Services Canada	-	151,074	-
Other revenue	-	-	264,391
Carried forward to next year	-	-	(361,708)
Carried forward from prior year	361,708	361,708	368,048
	361,708	512,782	270,731
Expenses			
Transferred to Louis Bull First Nation	-	361,708	-
Salaries and benefits	263,071	147,706	233,869
Staff appreciation	7,500	3,003	3,250
Supplies	5,000	265	5,981
Student expenses	3,000	100	-
Professional development	-	-	5,232
Cultural Ceremony	-	-	350
Repairs and maintenance	500	-	5,598
Meeting	1,000	-	240
Insurance	2,500	-	2,000
Telephone	3,500	-	1,583
Administration	55,000	-	11,043
Travel and meals	2,000	-	1,585
Capital Items	18,637	-	-
	361,708	512,782	270,731
Surplus (deficit)	-	-	-

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Ermineskin HeadStart
Schedule 12 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue			
Other revenue	125,135	125,135	404,791
Transfer to Ermineskin Cree Nation	-	(733,386)	-
Carried forward to next year	-	(146,944)	(872,881)
Carried forward from prior year	872,881	872,881	737,558
	998,016	117,686	269,468
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	318,990	98,584	222,439
Administration	64,000	18,504	3,927
Staff appreciation	1,500	496	2,315
Program expense	-	72	23,961
Meeting	1,000	16	136
Cultural Ceremony	-	14	415
Professional development	-	-	3,030
Office equipment lease	2,000	-	-
Insurance	2,500	-	2,000
Repairs and maintenance	500	-	4,560
Parental and community engagement	20,000	-	-
Supplies	5,000	-	725
Telephone	3,500	-	700
Travel and meals	2,000	-	1,260
Utilities	3,000	-	4,000
Capital Items	574,026	-	-
	998,016	117,686	269,468
Surplus (deficit)	-	-	-

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Government of Alberta - Other
Schedule 13 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 <i>Budget</i>	2023	2022
Revenue			
Province of Alberta	-	-	578,221
Carried forward from prior year	47,473	47,473	29,458
Carried forward to next year	(47,473)	(47,473)	(47,473)
	-	-	560,206
Expenses			
Administration	-	-	528,221
Salaries and benefits	-	-	29,458
Provincial bridging program	-	-	2,527
	-	-	560,206
Surplus (deficit)	-	-	-

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Pigeon Lake HeadStart
Schedule 14 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
Revenue			
Carried forward from prior year	82,639	82,639	66,119
Other revenue	-	78,177	76,226
Carried forward to next year	-	(90,279)	(82,639)
	82,639	70,537	59,706
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	58,789	57,014	51,987
Administration	13,500	3,865	2,851
Utilities	3,500	3,500	-
Insurance	2,500	2,500	-
Telephone	2,000	2,000	400
Office supplies	500	500	728
Travel and meals	500	300	151
Parental and community engagement	-	280	125
Student expenses	1,000	278	818
Professional development	150	150	-
Staff appreciation	200	150	100
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	2,546
	82,639	70,537	59,706
Surplus	-	-	-

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Jordan's Principle

Schedule 15 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023 Budget	2023	2022
<hr/>			
Revenue			
Carried forward from prior year	453,107	453,107	776,671
Carried forward to next year	-	-	(453,107)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	453,107	453,107	323,564
<hr/>			
Expenses			
School resources	453,107	453,107	323,564
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus	-	-	-

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Community Facility Enhancement Program
Schedule 16 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2023

	<i>2023 Budget</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>
Revenue			
Carried forward from prior year	-	-	11,290
Surplus	-	-	11,290

Nistohtamohowewin

Glossary

Ahkameymowin	The act of persevering and remaining steadfast to overcome adversity
Awâsisak	Children
Cahkipehikewin	Syllabics
Îyiniw Mâmitonehickan	Think and understand our being and existence through a Cree perspective
Kahkiyaw Kîkwây	Nehiyaw traditions, Nehiyaw life and everything that encompasses Nehiyawewin
Kânehiyawemakahk	
Kehtehayak	Elders
Kiskinwahamawâkanak	Students/the ones who are taught
Kisikinwahamakewak	Teachers/Instructors
Masinahikehâkanak	Contractors
Kisikinwahamakewina	Curriculum
Maskwacîsak	People of Maskwacîs
Nanâtohk Mîciwin	Universal Foods Program
Nehiyaw Pimâtisôwin	Living our Cree way of life
Nehiyawatisiwin	Cree way of life and character
Nehiyawewin	Speak the Cree language
Okiskinwahamâwasowin	Teaching Awâsisak
Ohpikinahawasiwak	Caregivers
Onikihkomawak	Parents
Oskayak	Youth
Peyakohewamak	Family
Otatoskewak	Staff
Sehke kâhatoskecik	Volunteers
Wahkôhtowin	Believe all things are related and connected, that all of existence has spirit and that living in a good way, requires people to maintain relationships with each other and other aspects of existence
Wihtapimâkanak	Neighbours



**MASKWACIS EDUCATION
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PO Box 58
Maskwacis, Alberta, Canada
T0C 1N0
www.maskwacised.ca