



MESC
MASKWACÎS EDUCATION
SCHOOLS COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT
2024

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Masinahikan ohci Onikâniwak

Tansi Kahkiyaw

Ota Kânistam apiyân, mistahi ninanâskomom oma kânawâpahtamân ekwa epetâyan oma askiw masinahikan peci naway 2023-2024 askihk, misahi kaskihtâwin mamawi peci naway askihk, nanâskomâwak otatoskeak, peyakohehamâwak, onikâniwak, kehtehayak ekwa kecinahk oki kisikinwahamawâkanak.

Newiomitaw kekâc mitâtahtomitanaw (49) kisikinwahamâkosowak. Nimamahcihkonânak ekwa nitotamânân tapapewecik ekwa mistahi tape kaskihtawak ote nîkân. Namoya wiyawaw piko ekaskihtacik maka kahkiyaw ota askihk wistawâw.

Mistahi kîkway kâhitotamihk oki Kehtehayak Kâwasakâmepicik kahitotecik Kisinwahamâtokamikwahk. Mistahi kîkway pihtkwatawak kisikinwahamâkamikosihk tapiskoc kesikihkewina, âcimôwina, ekwa kisinwahamâkewina.

Nitâhkameyimonân tahosihâyahk Nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewina. Oki kâhatoskâtahkik oma Nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewina ohi kesekhekwin kisikinwahamâkewina: Îyiniw Mâmitonehickan, Nehiyawewin, Nehiyaw Pimâtisiwin, ekwa Wâhkohtowin.

Ewako ôma Wâhkohtowin kâpaminkeyahk ôta MESC nikisikehitenân ekwa nitakwastân ôma ohci kâmâwôpayihâyhik Maskwaciw Iyiniwak, tapiskoc ôhi,

- Ohpahô Pîsim 2023-Kâwi pekisikinwahamâkosihk (Kînitomânân Evander Saskahon)
- Ohpahô Pîsim-2023-MESC Otatoskewak Kikisepahk Miciwin
- Iyihkopîw Pîsim-Nîkanîw Mâwawôpayiwin-Newo Tipahaskân Okimâhkânak
- Niski Pîsim-Yotenamâkewin Wasikahikanih-NOK Neyaskweyâhk
- Pinâwew Pîsim-Nehiyawâtisiwin Mamawôpayiwin, Amskwaciw Wasikahikanih
- Pinâwew Pîsim- Oskâyak Mâwawôpayiwin, Newo Tipahaskân Sôniskwâtahikew Kamik
- Pâskawehô Pîsim-Kîsikisikinwahamâkosiwin (Kîsikisikinwahamâkosiwak wiyawâw piko tamiyowâtahkih ekwa namoya kâkatak ita nîmihtônihk)
- Pâskawehô Pîsim-Kîsi Kisikinwahamâto Askihk Pwâtisimôwin
- Ôhpahô Pîsim 2024- Kehtehayak Mâwawôpayiwin Neyaskweyahk Kisikinwahamâtokamik
- Ôhpahô Pîsim 2024-Kâwi Pekisikinwahamâkosiwin Mîyowâtamôwin

Sâsakamô mâna niwîhtapimânânak onikâniwak ôki Newo Tipahaskânahk ekwa mîna ôki Kîhcôkimânahk ekwa Kâhapisîsit Okimânâhk kapimpiyihâtacik Kisikinwahamâkewin ekwa Nîkî Masinahanân tawîtatostoyâhk.

Mistahi Ninanâskomom etepeyihitamehk ôma takisiknohtahâyâhkik ôma kisikinwahamâkewin ohci kitawâsimisiminawak. Ewako ôma kâmâwo atoskeyahk tamiyopayo ekwa tawâseyaw ôte nîkân, tamiyowâtamihk ekwa takîhcehitamihk kinehiyâwinaw ekosi tomiyokasikihawak ôki kâpenokosicik.

Kinanskomitinâwâw kâsihtoskwaiyahk, Kâwitatostemiyâhk ekwa etepeyihitamek peyakwan ehitapahtamahk. Mistahi kîkway tape kasikihitanaw ôte nîkan kisikinwahamâto askihk. Ay-hay Kinanâskomitinân

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

Masinahikan ohci Onikâniwak

Tansi Kahkiyaw,

As Board Chair, I am filled with gratitude as I reflect on and present our annual report for the 2023-2024 year, sharing the many achievements we have accomplished together in the past year, thanks to the dedication of our Ototoskewak, families, leadership, elders and most importantly our Kiskinwahamawâkanak.

We celebrated and honoured 49 graduates this year. We are so proud of every graduate and extend our heartfelt blessings and best wishes to each one for their continued success as they pursue their goals and aspirations. This is not just an achievement for our Kiskinwahamawâkanak but our entire Nation.

A significant focus this year has been increasing the presence of the Circle of Elders in our schools. They have contributed immensely in a variety of ways in the classroom to share values, stories, and teachings.

We also remain committed to the development of our Cree curriculum. Our curriculum team is actively advancing this work to enhance the process, guided by our core Cree values: Îyiniw Mâmitonehickan, Nehiyawewin, Nehiyaw Pimâtisôwin, and Wâhkôhtowin.

As part of our Wâhkôhtowin inspired governance model, MESC learns and grows from our Maskwacîs involvement and engagements, including the following:

- August 2023- Back to School Celebration (Featured Guest: Evander Kane)
- August 2023- MESC All Ototoskewak Breakfast
- November 2023- Leadership Summit - 4 Nations Chief and Council
- March 2024- Open House-NOK, Ermineskin
- May 2024- Nehiyawatisiwin Conference at Fort Edmonton Park
- May 2024- Oskayak Conference at the Four Nations Arena
- June 2024- Graduation (The grad ceremony was separate from the pow wow this year as requested by Kiskinwahamawâkanak)
- June 2024- Year-end Powwow Celebration
- August 2024- Kehtehayak Forum at the Junior High School
- August 2024- Back to School Celebration

In addition to our engagements, we have annual meetings with our Chiefs and Councils of each nation, as well as with representatives from the federal and provincial government and neighboring school Boards, with whom we have established educational service agreements.

I am deeply grateful for the sacred trust our families place in us to guide the education of our children. It is through our collective efforts that we are able to build a brighter future, one that celebrates and honors our ways and ensures the success of future generations.

Thank you for your continued support, collaboration, and commitment to our shared vision. I look forward to what we will accomplish together in the coming year.

Ay-hay Kinanaskomtinan,

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

Masinahikan ohci Kâkihci Nistam Apit

Tânsi Kahkiyaw

Kâpeki kitapahtamân ôma kotak kisikinwahamâtô askîhk epekisikinwahamâsoyâhk, ehita kwasitâyâhk ekwa kasikihtâwin ôta MESC. Nanâskomôwin ohci kâpetamatahk ôma 2024 MESC peci nâway Kisikinwahamâtô Masinahikan. Ekota masinihikâte w kâmamawo atoskâtamâhk ekwa kâkaskihtâyâhk ekwa kikwâya kâpakimisikâkoyâhk ôta Kisikinwahamâkewin ekakwe petamawâyâhk miyo kisiknwaâkewin ôkihôhci Awâsisak ekwa oskâyak.

Misiwe ôma kisikinwahamâtô askîhk, ôki kânistam apicik, kisikinwahamâkewak, owîcihtâsowak ekwa atoskew kamikohk otatoskewak âhkam kweyask kitâpahtamwak ekwa tahosîhtâcik kisikinwahamâkewina piko awiyak tasîhtoskahcik ôma kisikinwahamâkewin ekwa kesi ehihtehitamihk nanâtohk aysinihkewin, wîcihiwewin namakîkway nakîsikamowin ekwa tahitehihtamihk ekwa tamâmitonehihtamihk nanâtohk kisikinwahama kisikinwahamâsowin ekwa kânitawehitahkik kisikinwahamâkanak. Nîyanân kâtepehitamâhk ôma nehiyaw Kisikinwahamâkewin tahâhkameyimohk kisikinwahamâkewin ekwa miyo ayâwin ôki ohci kisikinwahamâkanak ewako tanîkan astâhk.

Tepehitamwak ôki Maskwacîs peyakowehamâwak ekwa nikisiteyimâwak. Kâhakimisowinâwâw mâna kâpe kisinwahamâkosicik Awâsisak ekwa oskâyak, kape sihtoskawâyehkik kitawâsimsowâwak mâna kîkway etahikamikahk kisikinwahamâto kamikohk, ahpo enasikihkomiyâhk, niwîcihkônân ekosi pîtos nikîsastân ekosi tamiyopamihtanân ekwa nitasôhkastânân ekwa tahâniskotamawânak ôki Maskwaciw Iyinwak.

MESC Nistam Apiwin kânîkân astacik, takisikinohtahiweck Newo Tipahaskân Kehtahayak ekwa tasîhtoskâkeck Newo Tipahskân Onîkânîwak kîmîyewk MESC kîkway ohci tahsôhkastamâhk tatipeyimsock Awâsisak ekwa oskâyak. Ekosi ahkampeyakwan kehisi kitâpahtamahk ekwa tanayâhtamahk ekosi ôki Awâsisak ekwa oskâyak takisikinwahamâsocik awina ôma wiyawaw Nehiyawak ekwa tahakam tepehihtamwak ote nîkân nîkânîwak ôta Maskwacîsihk.

Ay-Hay ekosi pitamâhk

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

Masinahikan ohci Kâkihci Nistam Apit

Tansi kahkiyaw,

As I reflect on another year of learning, growth and achievement within the Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC), it is with gratitude, we share the 2024 MESC Annual report with you. This report summarizes our collective efforts as a Maskwacis school system that highlights our success and outlines the challenges we have faced as we strive to provide an exceptional educational experience for our Awâsisak ekwa oskayak.

Throughout the past school year, administrators, teachers, support Otatoskewak and central office Otatoskewak continued to focus on creating inclusive and supportive learning environments that respect diversity, enabled participation, removed barriers and anticipated and considered a variety of learning needs and preferences of Kiskinwahamawâkanak. Our commitment to a nehiyaw school system that strives for academic excellence and well-being of Kiskinwahamawâkanak was and continues to be at the forefront.

I would like to acknowledge the commitment of the Maskwacis families. Your involvement, by sending your Awâsisak ekwa oskayak to school daily, attending school events with your children, keeping in contact with your child's school, or providing feedback, has helped us make necessary changes and adjustments to enhance the school system and strengthen our connection with Maskwacisak.

The MESC school Board priorities, the guidance of our 4 Nations Kehtehayak and the support of the 4 Nations leadership have given MESC, as an organization, the ability to set a path for true empowerment of Awâsisak ekwa oskayak. As we continue to share the vision and responsibility for Awâsisak ekwa oskayak to learn about who they are as nehiyawak, we will also continue to inspire them to become future leaders of Maskwacis.

Ay-Hay ekosi pitamahk

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



ᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ ᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ Kâwâsakâmepicik Kehtehayak MESC Circle of Elders



Over the past year, the Circle of Elders focused on strengthening nehiyaw programming, supporting educational initiatives, and strengthening relationships across all MESC schools. The Circle of Elders offered thoughtful recommendations to enhance Maskwacîs Cree programming, contributing valuable insights to enhance language and nehiyaw practices meaningfully in the schools.

The Circle of Elders contributed a nehiyaw perspective to school projects, including the Ermineskin Kindergarten and Kisipatinahk School retrofits, providing insights for these spaces to reflect the Nation's priorities and cultural needs. Additionally, regular school visits, alternating monthly, were key in building connections with school administration teams. Moving forward, the Circle of Elders will continue to participate in the schools to engage with Kiskinwahamawâkanak and Otatoskewak (staff).

This past year's work has reinforced our commitment to improving our practices and growing as a First Nations education system. Guided by Wahkôhtowin and Nehiyaw Pimâtisiwin, the Circle of Elders continues to dedicate their guidance to creating a meaningful impact in our education system for Kiskinwahamawâkanak, Otatoskewak, and our families.

MESC Transportation



In Maskwacis Posowinih (MESC Transportation Department), we have made significant improvements to enhance Kiskinwahamawâkanak safety and respond to Onikihkomawak concerns. Last year, we introduced the Bus Monitor Program, which has added on-bus supervision to support both drivers and Kiskinwahamawâkanak. This program is an additional safety measure to build Wahkohtowin between the bus driver and the school, making each ride safer.

A Gatekeeper Camera Systems has been installed on all buses, which helps monitor bus activity, allowing us to respond appropriately to any issues that arise. We continue to support our bus drivers by offering on-going training. Our upcoming accreditation as a bus driving school will help streamline and expand our training process.

All drivers have been given a list of Cree phrases to use with Kiskinwahamawâkanak on the bus, supporting MESC's goal to encourage Kiskinwahamawâkanak to converse in Cree. Through these initiatives, we are committed to continually improving our transportation services, striving for the highest standards for safety and communication.

ᐅᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕᓕ Oyeseckewina Capital Projects

At MESCC, we prioritize the safety and functionality of our facilities through regular condition assessments conducted by external consultants. Every five years, we assess the condition of each school and building, with specific inspections for critical components like roofing and fire safety happening more frequently. These findings are carefully recorded and sorted into two key areas: Health and Safety issues, and other necessary repairs or renovations.

To manage these needs effectively, we review each issue's urgency and importance over 5- and 10-year periods. This helps us create a clear plan for long-term facility operation, focusing on both safety and energy efficiency. Each year, school principals and Otatoskewak can also request changes or renovations, which are added to our prioritization process.

Health and safety issues are our top priority, receiving Priority 1 status, while other issues are ranked from 1 to 3 based on need and cost estimates. We then categorize these by type, such as mechanical, electrical, and grounds, to streamline the work process. The facility maintenance team determines which tasks can be completed in-house, while other priority items are reviewed against our budget.

For larger projects, we submit high-cost and high-priority issues to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) for funding. While some requests may be approved immediately, others may take longer. If funding is delayed or denied, these projects remain in our capital plan for future consideration, ensuring we are prepared to meet our facility needs over time.

Summary of Capital Projects and O&M Project Expenditures from 2018-2024

| Facility | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Maintenance YTD | Total |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Theresa C. Wildcat Early Learning Centre | | | | \$374,000 | | \$10,318,384 | \$7,732,526 | | \$18,424,910 |
| Learning Services | | | | | \$47,134 | \$52,500 | | \$276,321 | \$375,955 |
| Ermineskin Elementary School | \$202,643 | | \$427,656 | | \$673,043 | \$522,662 | \$440,765 | \$765,606 | \$3,062,376 |
| Grace Marie Swampy Primary School | \$867,539 | \$194,019 | \$1,744,534 | \$1,857,000 | \$490,739 | \$58,445 | \$190,872 | \$406,220 | \$5,809,368 |
| Kisipatinahk School | \$330,792 | \$88,014 | \$566,352 | \$314,000 | \$238,292 | \$142,849 | \$610,908 | \$682,679 | \$2,973,884 |
| Maskwacis Cree High School | \$1,008,439 | \$192,179 | \$305,207 | \$197,000 | \$490,439 | \$1,010,173 | \$110,083 | \$904,490 | \$4,218,010 |
| Maskwacis Cree Junior High School | \$474,329 | \$38,173 | \$116,300 | \$35,000 | \$521,929 | \$299,874 | \$592,327 | \$866,310 | \$2,944,240 |
| Maskwacis Outreach School | \$23,087 | \$28,087 | \$66,526 | \$20,000 | \$30,437 | \$34,564 | | \$348,892 | \$551,593 |
| Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School | \$264,916 | \$65,875 | \$181,910 | \$71,000 | \$60,416 | \$115,449 | \$75,351 | \$453,754 | \$1,288,672 |
| Nipisihkopahk Elementary School | \$964,429 | \$59,119 | \$372,685 | \$55,000 | \$41,629 | \$108,848 | \$193,829 | \$588,459 | \$2,383,999 |
| Transportation Facility | \$92,740 | \$127,740 | \$10,740 | \$9,000 | \$432,740 | | \$1,831,766 | \$95,458 | \$2,600,182 |
| Admin/Studies | \$473,655 | \$393,545 | \$445,327 | \$411,000 | \$267,205 | \$24,878 | | \$981,646 | \$2,997,255 |
| TOTAL | \$4,953,394 | \$1,242,301 | \$4,300,923 | \$3,343,000 | \$3,331,828 | \$12,866,866 | \$11,836,410 | \$6,639,739 | \$48,514,461 |

Supporting Employee Wellness



Our People Services Branch is dedicated to supporting the well-being of all Otatoskewak, focusing on both physical and mental health. This year, we expanded our Health and Wellness team to three specialists, providing expertise in areas like benefits, wellness resources, return-to-work planning, and external referrals. Additionally, a 15-member Wellness Committee, made up of Otatoskewak from across the district, actively contributes to developing and sharing wellness resources and programs.

MESC launched a Health & Wellness Google site, offering a comprehensive range of wellness information exclusively for Otatoskewak. Alongside this, our team has conducted site visits to address wellness and benefits questions in person and introduced bulletin boards at multiple locations to keep everyone informed.

Through these initiatives, MESC is committed to building a positive, supportive environment that prioritizes Otatoskewak well-being.

A key development last year was the Otatoskewak Health and Wellness Survey, conducted by an independent group, "BluLantern". These insights help us continue to tailor our health and wellness initiatives to better support our Otatoskewak. With 80% participation, the survey highlighted strong results:

(The following results include Otatoskewak that answered strongly agree, agree, and sometimes)

87% of respondents reported satisfaction working for MESC

91% of respondents feel psychologically safe at work

90% of respondents feel a sense of belonging working with MESC

Occupational Health and Safety and Security

MESC is committed to a safe and secure environment for Kiskinwahamawâkanak, Otatoskewak, Onikihkomawak and Maskwacîsak. Our Occupational Health and Safety and Security Program continues to strengthen safety through focused training, facility upgrades, and proactive security measures. We provide comprehensive safety training for all Otatoskewak, including specialized courses in first aid, equipment operation, and fall protection, equipping our teams to maintain a safe environment.

To support emergency preparedness, we've placed Naloxone Nasal Spray at each site and trained Otatoskewak in its use, adding a vital tool for handling health emergencies. MESC introduced a security team to monitor MESC assets. After-hours security patrols monitor all facilities, covering areas across the district from Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School to Mimiw-Sakahikan School.

School playgrounds are carefully inspected and updated to provide safe and enjoyable spaces for Kiskinwahamawâkanak and Maskwacîsak. Ensuring playground safety is a shared responsibility, and we encourage everyone in Maskwacîs to help keep these spaces safe for everyone to enjoy. Working together, we can make sure our playgrounds remain secure, welcoming, and fun for all.



Recruitment - Peoples Services

MESC's recruitment strategy focuses on building strong partnerships with universities and colleges that align with our vision and embrace the nehiyaw perspective. These partnerships enrich learning for Kiskinwahamawâkanak, create a robust pipeline for future talent, and keep us updated on the latest trends in education.

Career Fairs and Practicum Placements

To attract future educators, MESC participates in career fairs at:

- NorQuest College
- University of Alberta
- Red Deer Polytechnic
- Maskwacis Employment Centre
- Burman University

We have also collaborated with post-secondary institutions to provide practicum placements for the following post-secondary Kiskinwahamawâkanak:

- From Maskwacis Cultural College:
 - 1 Cree Language Instructor Diploma placement
 - 4 Advanced Field Experience (AFX) teacher placements
 - 1 Introductory Field Experience (IFX) teacher placement
- From University of Alberta:
 - 2 Introductory Field Experience (IFX) teacher placements
 - 4 Advanced Field Experience (AFX) teacher placements
- From Red Deer Polytechnic Institute:
 - 3 third-year teacher practicum placements
- From Burman University:
 - 3 Introductory teacher placements

Engagement with Potential Employees

To promote MESC employment, we:

- Hosted "Meet and Greet" sessions and "How to Apply with MESC" workshops for potential recruits
- Engaged post-secondary Kiskinwahamawâkanak directly by visiting classrooms and distributing welcome gifts
- Attended career events at multiple institutions, including Red Deer Polytechnic and the University of Alberta

54%

of MESC employees are from Maskwacis

70%

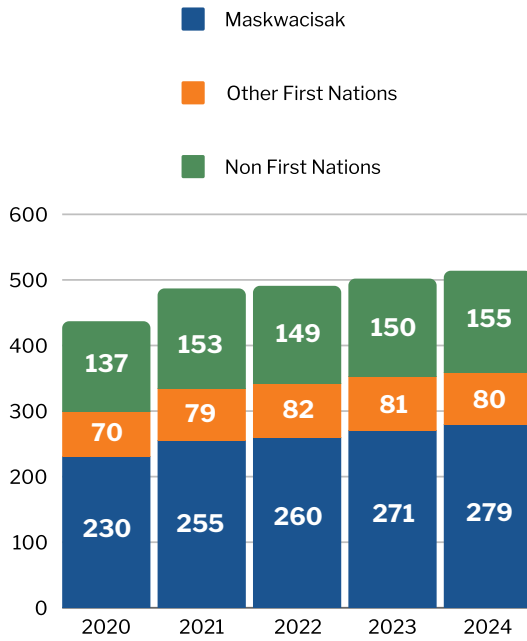
of MESC employees are First Nations (Treaty Status)



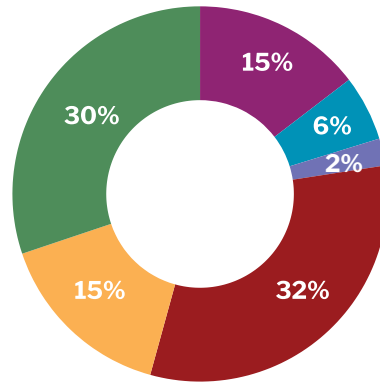
Our People Services branch remains highly engaged in recruiting exceptional professionals, working diligently to bring the best talent to our schools and uphold our commitment to quality education.

- MEC job fair - October 2023
- Presented at NorQuest to inform post secondary Kiskinwahamawâkanak about job opportunities with MESC - November 30, 2023
- University of Alberta Education Fair- January 2024
- Red Deer Polytechnic - January 2024
- Burman University Education Fair - February, 2024
- Trade Fair at MCHS - February 2024
- MESC open house - March 2024
- MEC Spring Job Fair - March 2024
- MESC Oskayak Conference - May 2024
- Back to School Celebration - August, 2024

Otatoskewak

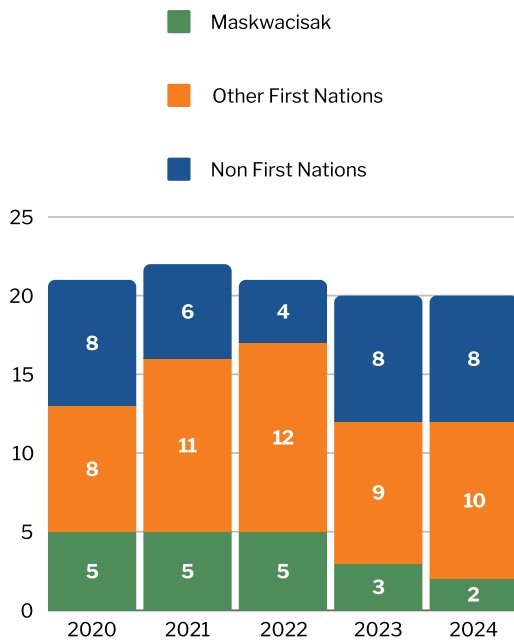


Total Otatoskewak Demographics

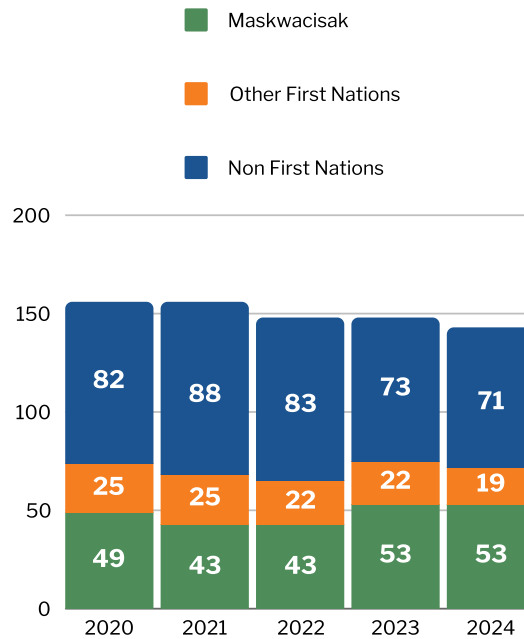


- Neyaskweyahk Employees
- Kisipatinahk Employees
- Akamihk Employees
- Nipisihkopahk Employees
- Other First Nation Employees
- Non-First Nation Employees

Principals & Assistant Principals 5 Year Trend



Teachers & Instructors 5 Year Trend



2024 Oskayak Conference

The annual Maskwacis Education Oskayak Conference took place on May 15, 2024, at the Four Nations Arena in Maskwacis, AB. The Maskwacis Cree Junior High leadership class, with support from the Superintendent's office, planned the event and selected the conference theme of "Plan for Growth, Support Our Roots."

The event featured inspiring sentiments from Maskwacis Leadership and performances by:

- Nike Ambassador - Kendra Jessie
- Hip Hop Artist Mattmac
- Juno Award winning Bearhead Sisters
- Dance showcase by Wildmint Arts

The conference provided not only motivation but also opportunities for growth. Learning & Student Services hosted a career expo where Kiskinwahamawâkanak could explore future career paths, connecting them with possibilities that align with their ambitions and strengths.



18%

The percentage of junior and senior high school kiskinwahamawâkanak who self-identify as Cree speakers has steadily increased over the past 3 years, showing an **18%** growth since 2022

85

To date, MESC has hosted **85** engagement sessions with Oskayak, Maskwacis Leadership, Ohpikinahawasiwahk, and Maskwacisak

Theresa C. Wildcat Early Learning Centre Grand Opening

The Theresa C. Wildcat Early Learning Centre, located on Ermineskin Cree Nation, officially opened its doors on December 8, 2023, marking a new chapter in MESC's commitment to early learning. Designed specifically for four and five-year-old Awâsisak, this 2,944 sq. m. facility offers an environment that celebrates Nehiyaw Pimatisiwin through its thoughtful architectural elements. The project was initiated by Ermineskin Cree Nation to replace the aging Ermineskin Kindergarten School and was followed through to completion by MESC after the amalgamation of the four school authorities in Maskwacîs.

The centre honors the legacy of Theresa C. Wildcat, the first teacher from Maskwacîs, who was a visionary and dedicated advocate for her Nation. Her legacy of sixty years in education is a guiding inspiration for the centre's mission. She set an example of sixty years of dedicated service with a sincere and deep interest for the betterment of her people, the advancement of First Nations education and the preservation of Nehiyawewin and history.

This facility not only addresses the need for a new learning space but also embodies MESC's vision of building respectful and inspiring schools. With a \$19.2 million investment from the Government of Canada, the Theresa C. Wildcat Early Learning Centre stands as a vibrant foundation for early learning in Maskwacîs, blending modern educational resources with Cree values to foster a nurturing environment for the youngest Awâsisak.



‘As parents, we must encourage our children to keep going to school and teach them our Cree language. Today’s children are tomorrow’s leaders.’

- Theresa C. Wildcat


Treaties, Residential Schools, and Maskwacîs History

To strengthen historical and Treaty education, we provided every classroom with a Treaty Kit from the Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom Center. This comprehensive K-12 resource offers materials to help Kiskinwahamawâkanak explore Treaties No. 6, No. 7, & No. 8 through hands-on activities, such as puzzles and stamps. As this kit is not yet aligned with any specific curriculum, the MESC Curriculum team is working to create a K-12 learning progression that incorporates local Maskwacîs content and aligns with the kit. This progression is scheduled for completion in 2024/2025.

Partnerships in Indigenous Education

MESC partnered with Augustana University's AUIDS 310 class to develop sample activities for Indigenous representation in junior and senior high English classes. Post-Secondary Kiskinwahamawâkanak and educators participated in workshops with speakers like Dr. Brian Wildcat and Dr. Wilton Littlechild, deepening their understanding of MESC's core values and Indigenous perspectives. These resources will be available in classrooms starting in the 2025/2026 school year, supporting an enriched nehiyaw curriculum.

Through these initiatives, MESC continues to build respectful and inspiring educational experiences that honour nehiyaw culture and language for the next generation of Maskwacîs learners.



*"I am a very proud
mother of 7, and they
all love school. I am very
proud of MESC."*

*-Quote from
Ohpikiniawasiwin Survey*

Nêhiyawî-pîkiskwêwina Maskwacîsihk Spoken Dictionary of Maskwacîs Cree

As part of an on-going co-partnership between MESC and Alberta language Technology Lab (ALT Lab, University of Alberta), an Oral Speech database was launched in early fall 2023 and continues to be validated by Elder Rose Makinaw. The Oral Speech database contains over 150,000 individual Cree words and 26,000 Cree phrases audio recorded by various Maskwacîs fluent nehiyawewin speakers. While completion of validating the audio and written content is set to wrap up in the 2024/2025 year, the resource is currently available for use via <https://speech-db.altlab.app/Maskwacîs/entries>.

Nehiyawewin

Nehiyawewin is seen and heard throughout MESC schools. In the 2023/2024 school year, 1843 MESC Kiskinwahamawâkanak were enrolled in nehiyawewin and culture classes across our schools.

Evening nehiyawewin continued to be offered both in the Fall of 2023 and Winter of 2024. Participants continue to enroll from both MESC, Maskwacîs and internationally in one of four-course offerings: Nistam, Maci, Tapitaw, and Nestaw.

The results of the Fall 2023 and Winter 2023 are as follows:

Fall 2023

| Class Level | Completions |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Nistam (Introductory) | 60 |
| Maci (Beginner) | 37 |
| Tapitaw (Intermediate) | 14 |
| Nestaw (Advanced) | 3 |

Winter 2024 results

| Class Level | Completions |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Nistam (Introductory) | 42 |
| Maci (Beginner) | 29 |
| Tapitaw (Intermediate) | 11 |
| Nestaw (Advanced) | 5 |

201

people registered, participated,
and completed the online
Nehiyawewin program.



Misatim Horsemanship Program

The Misatim Horsemanship Program continued successfully this past year as part of our Grade 5 and junior high wellness programs. Through hands-on horsemanship and traditional teachings, this program helps Kiskinwahamawâkanak build essential life skills, including confidence, communication, and cooperation. The Grade 5 program focuses on groundwork, allowing Kiskinwahamawâkanak to connect with horses in a safe, supportive environment. By the end of the program, Kiskinwahamawâkanak experience the joy and sense of accomplishment that comes with riding, leaving them with a strong sense of empowerment and connection.

This year, the Grade 5 program held 22 sessions, engaging 102 Kiskinwahamawâkanak from Mimiv Sakahikan School, Meskanahk Ka Nipa Wit School, Kispitnahk School, Nipisihkopahk Elementary School, and Ermineskin Elementary School. In addition to the Grade 5 program, the Misatim Student Wellness Program offers junior and senior high kiskinwahamawâkanak the opportunity to develop self-esteem, confidence, and communication skills through horsemanship.



Nehiyawatiswin Conference Otatoskewak Professional Development

Last year, MESC Otatoskewak participated in a meaningful off-site conference at Fort Edmonton Park in Edmonton, AB. The MESC Circle of Elders proposed the theme of “Kahkiyaw Kîkwây Ewâhkôhtamâhk - We Are Related to Everything”, which guided the conference and emphasised the interconnectedness of all things.

Planning began in September 2023, with a dedicated committee of 13 members from different branches. Over two days, Otatoskewak engaged in professional development centered on Nehiyawatiswin with sessions led by presenters Lamarr Oksasikewiyin, Derek Bruno, Dwayne Donald, Amber Dion and Terri Cardinal from Two Crees in a Pod, as well as Carol Wildcat and Dale Saddleback.

Highlights included a special screening of Talk Treaty to Me, an Indigenous play performed in the Capitol Theatre, which offered powerful insights into Indigenous history and perspectives. The conference allowed Otatoskewak to connect, reflect, and recharge away from their usual work setting, with wellness activities woven throughout the event to enhance this enriching experience.

‘It was my first time attending a conference with MESC, I really enjoyed it overall. I loved to have the opportunity to see colleagues that you may not see daily and also to be able to see colleagues you regularly see in a non-work environment. Also, I enjoyed the opportunity to join in on various activities throughout the two days.’

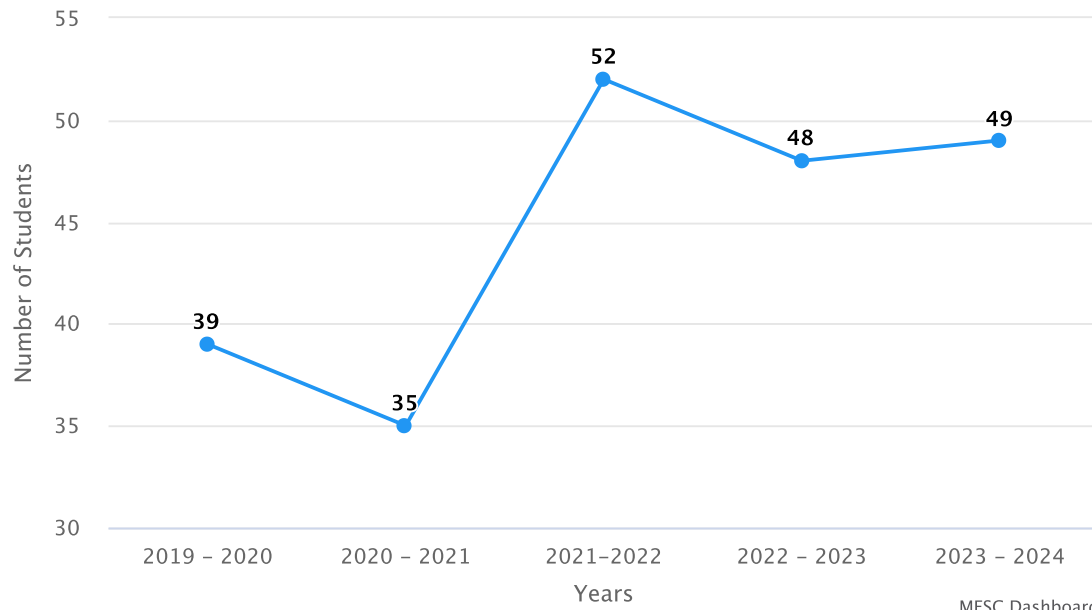
-MESC Otatoskewak





Increase in the total number of graduates

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission

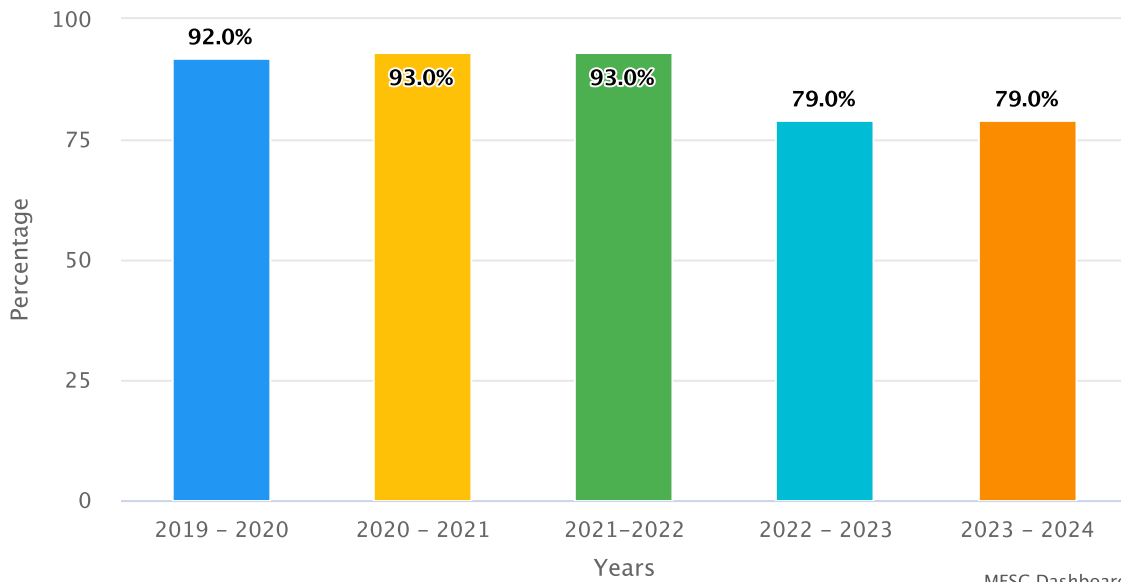


MESC Dashboard
Developed by Intellimedia

Onikihkomawak Involvement

Percentage of parents who are satisfied with how safe the school is

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission



MESC Dashboard
Developed by Intellimedia

Counselling / Student Wellness / VTRA

The 2023-2024 school year saw notable progress and innovation in how we support the emotional and mental well-being of our Kiskinwahamawâkanak. Our counselling team has made a strong commitment to integrating nehiyawatisiwin strategies into their practice, including activities like archery, outdoor experiences, and the 'Misatim Wellness' program. These approaches have proven effective in engaging kiskinwahamawâkanak and fostering personal growth. This year, all counsellors participated in a two-day training, led by Maskwacîs Elders, on the use of circles for healing. They also engaged in monthly discussions with Circle of Elders representatives, further refining strategies to support Oskayak through emotional challenges.

The number of counselling interventions provided to kiskinwahamawâkanak increased significantly, reflecting a growing demand for mental health support. In addition to the direct counselling services, our Student and Family Support Workers (SFSWs) played a critical role, supporting over 100 Oskayak and their families in the community. This year also saw our SFSWs preparing for a significant shift in their role, set to take effect in the fall of 2024, when they will transition to Wellness Coaches. In this new capacity, they will focus on supporting kiskinwahamawâkanak in making healthy lifestyle choices and delivering prevention education across a variety of settings.

While there were many successes, we also faced challenges. A marked increase in the number of At Risk to Other (ARTO) meetings highlighted growing concerns around student safety, requiring additional interventions and resources. We also had an increase in the number of referrals made to the Nations' HUB tables. These increased demands underscore the importance of continued investment in kiskinwahamawâkanak safety and well-being as we look ahead.

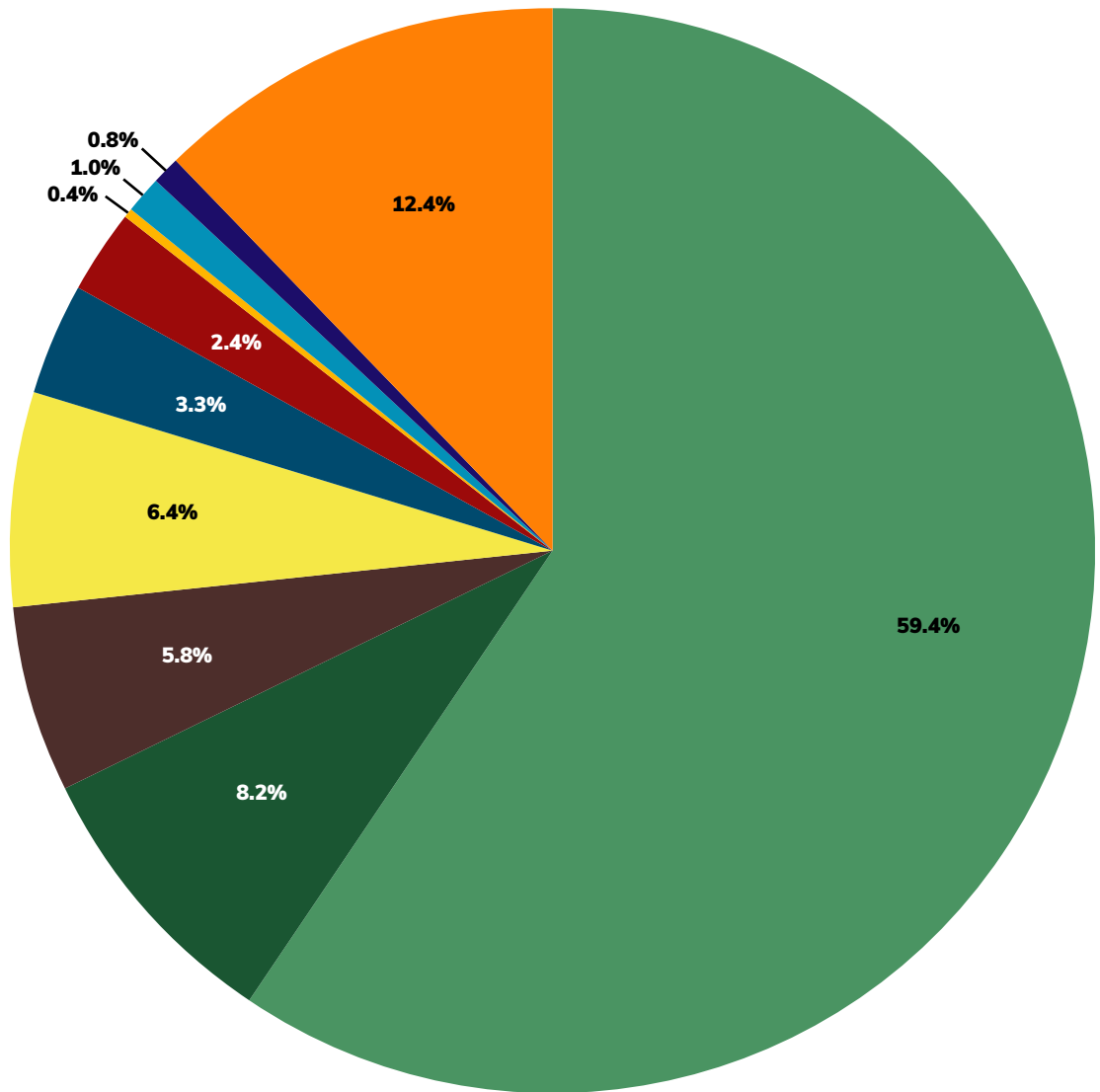
Despite these challenges, we remain deeply committed to enhancing the supports available to our kiskinwahamawâkanak and ensuring that they have the tools and resources they need to succeed, both academically and personally.



102

Number of
kiskinwahamawâkanak
supported by MESC Student
and Family Support Workers

Summary of Expenditures



- 12.4% Tuition
- 0.8% Parental & Community Cons
- 1.0% Professional Development
- 0.4% Prog Expen
- 2.4% Student Exp
- 3.3% Capital
- 6.4% Repairs & Maint
- 5.8% Contractors & Prof Fees
- 8.2% Admin
- 59.4% Salaries, Benefits and Hon

**Maskwacis Education Schools
Commission (MESC)
Financial Statements**
March 31, 2024

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 17, 2024



Chief Executive Officer



Secretary-Treasurer

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, 2024, 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, 2024, 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 17, 2024

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Financial assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 30,050,306 | 33,313,890 |
| Accounts receivable | 1,251,663 | 148,429 |
| Goods and services tax receivable | 1,581 | 1,581 |
| Guaranteed investment certificate (Note 3) | 215,253 | 209,478 |
| Receivable from Ermineskin Cree Nation | 1,080,410 | - |
| Total of assets | 32,599,213 | 33,673,378 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable and accruals | 2,818,594 | 3,148,532 |
| Deferred revenue (Note 5) | 27,105,023 | 30,524,846 |
| Total of financial liabilities | 29,923,617 | 33,673,378 |
| Net financial assets | 2,675,596 | - |
| Commitments (Note 6) | | |
| Non-financial assets | | |
| Tangible capital assets (Schedule 1) | 31,692,914 | 22,283,514 |
| Total non-financial assets | 31,692,914 | 22,283,514 |
| Accumulated surplus | 34,368,510 | 22,283,514 |

Approved on behalf of the Board

e-Signed by Shauna Bruno
2024-07-23 10:21:39:39 MDT

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, 2024

| | <i>Schedules</i> | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue | | | | |
| Indigenous Services Canada | | 70,292,801 | 70,292,801 | 68,230,796 |
| Province of Alberta | | 4,339,573 | 4,387,046 | 4,345,845 |
| Carried forward from prior year | | 30,503,561 | 30,524,845 | 35,015,214 |
| Other revenue | | 2,755,733 | 2,768,888 | 1,384,634 |
| Interest income | | 2,490,000 | 2,488,293 | 1,645,676 |
| Carried forward to next year | | (4,742,526) | (27,105,023) | (30,524,845) |
| Transfer to (from) Ermineskin | | 889,071 | 889,071 | (733,386) |
| | | 106,528,213 | 84,245,921 | 79,363,934 |
| Program expenses | | | | |
| Administrative and Schools | 4 | 68,907,191 | 57,899,487 | 55,145,945 |
| ISC - High Cost | 5 | 2,622,288 | 2,622,288 | 3,050,852 |
| Structural Readiness | 6 | 2,735,465 | 2,735,465 | 2,421,133 |
| ISC - Capital | 7 | 9,048,436 | 139,449 | - |
| Government of Alberta - Enhancement Capital | 8 | 3,976,428 | 3,969,191 | 4,126,566 |
| | 9 | - | 3,479,295 | 3,010,417 |
| Government of Alberta - Grant | 10 | 455,046 | 455,643 | 579,562 |
| Louis Bull HeadStart | 11 | - | - | 512,782 |
| Ermineskin HeadStart | 12 | 1,148,689 | 773,640 | 117,686 |
| Government of Alberta - Other | 13 | 47,473 | - | - |
| Pigeon Lake HeadStart | 14 | 203,409 | 86,467 | 70,537 |
| Jordan's Principle | 15 | - | - | 453,107 |
| Total expenditures | | 89,144,425 | 72,160,925 | 69,488,587 |
| Surplus | | 17,383,788 | 12,084,996 | 9,875,347 |
| Accumulated surplus, beginning of year | | 22,283,516 | 22,283,516 | 12,408,169 |
| Accumulated surplus, end of year | | 39,667,304 | 34,368,512 | 22,283,516 |

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, 2024

| | <i>2024 Budget</i> | <i>2024</i> | <i>2023</i> |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Annual surplus | 17,383,788 | 12,084,996 | 9,875,347 |
| Purchases of tangible capital assets | (11,668,830) | (12,888,695) | (12,885,764) |
| Amortization of tangible capital assets | 3,479,295 | 3,479,295 | 3,010,417 |
| Increase in net financial assets | 9,194,253 | 2,675,596 | - |
| Net financial assets, beginning of year | - | - | - |
| Net financial assets, end of year | 9,194,253 | 2,675,596 | - |

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, 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cash provided by (used for) the following activities | | |
| Operating activities | | |
| Surplus | 12,084,996 | 9,875,347 |
| Non-cash items | | |
| Amortization | 3,479,295 | 3,010,417 |
| | 15,564,291 | 12,885,764 |
| Changes in working capital accounts | | |
| Accounts receivable | (1,103,234) | (148,429) |
| Accounts payable and accruals | (329,938) | 1,126,089 |
| Deferred revenue | (3,419,823) | (4,490,367) |
| Receivable from Ermineskin Cree Nation | (1,080,410) | - |
| | 9,630,886 | 9,373,057 |
| Capital activities | | |
| Purchases of tangible capital assets | (12,888,695) | (12,885,764) |
| Investing activities | | |
| Purchase of guaranteed investment certificate <i>(Note 3)</i> | (5,775) | (1,034) |
| Decrease in cash resources | (3,263,584) | (3,513,741) |
| Cash resources, beginning of year | 33,313,890 | 36,827,631 |
| Cash resources, end of year | 30,050,306 | 33,313,890 |

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, 2024

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:

| | Method | Rate |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 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 12 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 and Jordan's Principle. 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 3.5%, and matures on May 21, 2024.

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2024

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.

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Payments from Ermineskin Cree Nation | 1,398,485 | 125,135 |

5. Deferred revenue

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Indigenous Services Canada | 25,426,720 | 30,174,439 |
| Province of Alberta | 75,396 | 113,184 |
| Other | 1,602,907 | 237,223 |
| | 27,105,023 | 30,524,846 |

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:

| | |
|------|--------|
| 2025 | 35,000 |
|------|--------|

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.

8. Comparative figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with current year's presentation.

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Schedule 1 - Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | Buildings | Equipment | Furniture & Fixtures | Technology | Vehicles | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cost | | | | | | | |
| Balance, beginning of year | 20,569,212 | 1,353,103 | 1,737,653 | 7,272,288 | 2,263,000 | 33,195,256 | 20,309,492 |
| Acquisition of tangible capital assets | 11,141,942 | 491,982 | 76,896 | 710,758 | 467,117 | 12,888,695 | 12,885,764 |
| Balance, end of year | 31,711,154 | 1,845,085 | 1,814,549 | 7,983,046 | 2,730,117 | 46,083,951 | 33,195,256 |
| Accumulated amortization | | | | | | | |
| Balance, beginning of year | 2,284,374 | 840,227 | 1,596,316 | 4,862,593 | 1,328,232 | 10,911,742 | 7,901,325 |
| Annual amortization | 1,585,558 | 293,462 | 118,918 | 1,143,115 | 338,242 | 3,479,295 | 3,010,417 |
| Balance, end of year | 3,869,932 | 1,133,689 | 1,715,234 | 6,005,708 | 1,666,474 | 14,391,037 | 10,911,742 |
| Net book value of tangible capital assets | 27,841,222 | 711,396 | 99,315 | 1,977,338 | 1,063,643 | 31,692,914 | 22,283,514 |
| 2023 Net book value of tangible capital assets | 18,284,838 | 512,876 | 141,337 | 2,409,695 | 934,768 | 22,283,514 | |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Schedule 2 - Schedule of Consolidated Expenses by Object

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Consolidated expenses by object | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 45,055,977 | 43,831,840 | 41,439,490 |
| Tuition | 13,296,717 | 9,226,228 | 7,713,089 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 5,045,257 | 3,637,409 | 3,298,457 |
| Amortization | - | 3,479,295 | 3,010,417 |
| Contractors | 3,045,890 | 3,046,537 | 2,569,589 |
| Student expenses | 2,124,318 | 1,793,909 | 1,768,001 |
| Consultants | 899,290 | 1,035,673 | 1,229,650 |
| Utilities | 794,235 | 777,834 | 782,397 |
| Professional development | 660,020 | 713,885 | 615,107 |
| Insurance | 995,500 | 644,832 | 821,369 |
| Staff appreciation | 538,539 | 521,279 | 149,281 |
| Administration | 529,500 | 482,741 | 761,866 |
| Office equipment lease | 408,203 | 408,203 | 224,176 |
| Parental and community engagement | 344,574 | 332,021 | 481,537 |
| Program development | 285,800 | 282,963 | 316,333 |
| Office supplies | 285,098 | 272,387 | 275,407 |
| Board honorarium | 262,000 | 261,255 | 253,422 |
| Supplies | 254,497 | 252,457 | 265 |
| Health and wellness | 154,500 | 154,291 | 107,112 |
| Feasibility study | 270,008 | 139,449 | - |
| Communications | 133,000 | 133,330 | 117,066 |
| Telephone | 99,669 | 100,692 | 134,741 |
| Travel and meals | 125,181 | 94,794 | 106,090 |
| Meeting | 101,977 | 83,421 | 97,211 |
| Cultural Ceremony | 144,021 | 73,464 | 162,443 |
| Professional fees | 87,365 | 70,283 | 122,188 |
| Subcontracts | 169,152 | 68,923 | 363,512 |
| Office rent | 60,165 | 60,164 | 65,664 |
| Elders circle | 58,800 | 58,778 | 25,817 |
| Advertising and promotional material | 50,800 | 50,898 | 83,466 |
| Bursary | 45,000 | 44,092 | 38,777 |
| Donation | 13,700 | 13,644 | 14,533 |
| Memberships | 8,328 | 7,597 | 16,156 |
| Bank charges and interest | 20,000 | 3,150 | 8,208 |
| Recruitment & Retention | 6,708 | 2,656 | 1,616 |
| Equipment Rental | 4,333 | 551 | 7,306 |
| Capital items | 11,668,830 | - | - |
| Exterior upgrades | 500,000 | - | - |
| Boiler | 500,000 | - | - |
| Roofing | 50,000 | - | - |
| Board costs | 47,473 | - | - |
| COVID supplies | - | - | 1,945,120 |
| Training | - | - | 361,708 |
| | 89,144,425 | 72,160,925 | 69,488,587 |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Schedule 3 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | Schedule # | ISC Revenue | Other Revenue | Total Revenue | Total Expenses | Current Surplus (Deficit) |
|---|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| ISC funded programs | | | | | | |
| Administrative and Schools | 4 | 57,757,057 | 4,555,143 | 62,312,200 | 57,899,487 | 4,412,713 |
| ISC - High Cost | 5 | 2,622,288 | - | 2,622,288 | 2,622,288 | - |
| Structural Readiness | 6 | 2,656,500 | 78,965 | 2,735,465 | 2,735,465 | - |
| ISC - Capital | 7 | 7,178,779 | 1,363,362 | 8,542,141 | 139,449 | 8,402,692 |
| Pigeon Lake HeadStart | 14 | 78,177 | 81,580 | 159,757 | 86,467 | 73,290 |
| ISC funded programs subtotal | | 70,292,801 | 6,079,050 | 76,371,851 | 63,483,156 | 12,888,695 |
| Other programs | | | | | | |
| Government of Alberta - Enhancement Capital | 8 | - | 3,969,191 | 3,969,191 | 3,969,191 | - |
| Government of Alberta - Grant | 9 | - | - | - | 3,479,295 | (3,479,295) |
| Ermieskin HeadStart | 10 | - | 455,643 | 455,643 | 455,643 | - |
| Other Revenue | 12 | - | 773,640 | 773,640 | 773,640 | - |
| | 16 | - | 2,675,596 | 2,675,596 | - | 2,675,596 |
| Other programs subtotal | | - | 7,874,070 | 7,874,070 | 8,677,769 | (803,699) |
| Total | | 70,292,801 | 13,953,120 | 84,245,921 | 72,160,925 | 12,084,996 |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Administrative and Schools
Schedule 4 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | <i>2024 Budget</i> | <i>2024</i> | <i>2023</i> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Indigenous Services Canada | | | |
| Core funds | 39,508,740 | 39,508,740 | 45,068,649 |
| Transportation | 4,951,600 | 4,951,600 | 8,231,083 |
| Tuition | 13,296,717 | 13,296,717 | - |
| Other revenue | 1,318,449 | 1,249,753 | 1,259,499 |
| Interest income | - | - | 33,650 |
| Carried forward to next year | (657,820) | (22,086,578) | (25,391,968) |
| Carried forward from prior year | 25,391,968 | 25,391,968 | 26,297,617 |
| | 83,809,654 | 62,312,200 | 55,498,530 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 39,825,435 | 38,596,152 | 35,923,153 |
| Tuition | 13,296,717 | 9,226,228 | 7,713,089 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 5,015,656 | 3,608,805 | 3,263,428 |
| Student expenses | 1,725,877 | 1,376,792 | 1,221,381 |
| Contractors | 747,000 | 746,251 | 769,589 |
| Professional development | 461,813 | 506,395 | 297,286 |
| Staff appreciation | 507,424 | 491,165 | 132,893 |
| Consultants | 275,097 | 417,374 | 490,028 |
| Office equipment lease | 408,203 | 408,203 | 224,176 |
| Utilities | 301,624 | 293,914 | 359,897 |
| Insurance | 623,000 | 272,332 | 350,000 |
| Parental and community engagement | 284,174 | 271,640 | 462,758 |
| Program development | 268,300 | 265,961 | 238,468 |
| Board honorarium | 262,000 | 261,255 | 253,422 |
| Office supplies | 182,598 | 169,887 | 267,758 |
| Health and wellness | 154,500 | 154,291 | 107,112 |
| Communications | 133,000 | 133,330 | 117,066 |
| Telephone | 95,000 | 94,692 | - |
| Travel and meals | 120,381 | 89,888 | 102,138 |
| Administration | 117,454 | 74,354 | 29,416 |
| Cultural Ceremony | 144,021 | 73,464 | 161,347 |
| Professional fees | 87,365 | 70,283 | 116,188 |
| Subcontracts | 169,152 | 68,923 | 363,512 |
| Elders circle | 58,800 | 58,778 | 25,817 |
| Advertising and promotional material | 50,800 | 50,898 | 83,466 |
| Meeting | 65,231 | 49,692 | 60,556 |
| Bursary | 45,000 | 44,092 | 38,777 |
| Donation | 13,700 | 13,644 | 3,026 |
| Memberships | 8,328 | 7,597 | 16,156 |
| Recruitment & Retention | 6,708 | 2,656 | 1,616 |
| Equipment Rental | 4,333 | 551 | 7,306 |
| COVID supplies | - | - | 1,945,120 |
| Capital items | 3,448,500 | - | - |
| | 68,907,191 | 57,899,487 | 55,145,945 |
| Surplus | 14,902,463 | 4,412,713 | 352,585 |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
ISC - High Cost
Schedule 5 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Indigenous Services Canada | | | |
| High cost funds | 2,622,288 | 2,622,288 | 2,332,093 |
| Core funds | - | - | 8,368 |
| Carried forward from prior year | - | - | 710,391 |
| | 2,622,288 | 2,622,288 | 3,050,852 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 2,116,653 | 2,094,766 | 2,351,732 |
| Consultants | 168,000 | 166,571 | 393,777 |
| Student expenses | 135,603 | 154,149 | 164,444 |
| Professional development | 135,671 | 144,222 | 86,855 |
| Meeting | 36,646 | 33,634 | 35,504 |
| Staff appreciation | 29,715 | 28,796 | 12,738 |
| Travel and meals | - | 150 | 3,653 |
| Office supplies | - | - | 2,149 |
| | 2,622,288 | 2,622,288 | 3,050,852 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | - |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Structural Readiness
Schedule 6 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Indigenous Services Canada | 2,656,500 | 2,656,500 | 2,698,932 |
| Carried forward to next year | (271,728) | (271,728) | (350,693) |
| Carried forward from prior year | 350,693 | 350,693 | 533,492 |
| | 2,735,465 | 2,735,465 | 2,881,731 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Contractors | 2,298,890 | 2,300,286 | 1,800,000 |
| Administration | 357,252 | 355,473 | 221,746 |
| Consultants | 79,323 | 79,323 | 264,140 |
| Professional development | - | 383 | 116,747 |
| Parental and community engagement | - | - | 18,500 |
| | 2,735,465 | 2,735,465 | 2,421,133 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | 460,598 |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

ISC - Capital

Schedule 7 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 <i>Budget</i> | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Indigenous Services Canada | | | |
| ISC - Major Projects | 6,908,771 | 6,908,771 | 8,612,419 |
| ISC | - | - | 1,050,000 |
| Feasibility | 270,008 | 270,008 | - |
| Carried forward to next year | (2,562,120) | (3,068,415) | (4,431,777) |
| Carried forward from prior year | 4,431,777 | 4,431,777 | 5,229,912 |
| | 9,048,436 | 8,542,141 | 10,460,554 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Feasibility study | 270,008 | 139,449 | - |
| Major projects | 7,728,428 | - | - |
| Exterior upgrades | 500,000 | - | - |
| Boiler | 500,000 | - | - |
| Roofing | 50,000 | - | - |
| | 9,048,436 | 139,449 | - |
| Surplus | - | 8,402,692 | 10,460,554 |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Government of Alberta - Enhancement
Schedule 8 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Province of Alberta | | | |
| Province of Alberta | 3,932,000 | 3,932,000 | 3,844,000 |
| Carried forward to next year | - | (7,237) | (44,428) |
| Carried forward from prior year | 44,428 | 44,428 | 326,994 |
| | 3,976,428 | 3,969,191 | 4,126,566 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 2,706,859 | 2,725,164 | 2,591,141 |
| Utilities | 477,611 | 468,920 | 419,000 |
| Insurance | 350,000 | 350,000 | 468,869 |
| Student expenses | 233,809 | 233,809 | 331,798 |
| Office supplies | 100,000 | 100,000 | 5,000 |
| Office rent | 60,165 | 60,164 | 65,664 |
| Professional development | 27,984 | 27,984 | 49,395 |
| Bank charges and interest | 20,000 | 3,150 | 8,208 |
| Repairs and maintenance | - | - | 35,026 |
| Donation | - | - | 11,507 |
| Professional fees | - | - | 6,000 |
| Telephone | - | - | 132,741 |
| Meeting | - | - | 1,135 |
| Cultural Ceremony | - | - | 1,082 |
| | 3,976,428 | 3,969,191 | 4,126,566 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | - |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Capital

Schedule 9 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Expenses | | | |
| Amortization | - | 3,479,295 | 3,010,417 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | (3,479,295) | (3,010,417) |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Government of Alberta - Grant
Schedule 10 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | <i>2024 Budget</i> | <i>2024</i> | <i>2023</i> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Province of Alberta | 455,046 | 455,046 | 501,845 |
| Carried forward from prior year | - | 21,283 | 99,000 |
| Carried forward to next year | - | (20,686) | (21,283) |
| | 455,046 | 455,643 | 579,562 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Consultants | 341,871 | 341,871 | 81,705 |
| Salaries and benefits | 55,000 | 55,000 | 270,160 |
| Student expenses | 28,629 | 28,824 | 50,000 |
| Professional development | 22,752 | 23,172 | 64,675 |
| Administration | 6,794 | 6,776 | 35,228 |
| Program development | - | - | 77,794 |
| | 455,046 | 455,643 | 579,562 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | - |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Louis Bull HeadStart

Schedule 11 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Indigenous Services Canada | - | - | 151,074 |
| Carried forward from prior year | - | - | 361,708 |
| | - | - | 512,782 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | - | - | 147,706 |
| Transferred to Louis Bull First Nation | - | - | 361,708 |
| Staff appreciation | - | - | 3,003 |
| Supplies | - | - | 265 |
| Student expenses | - | - | 100 |
| | - | - | 512,782 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | - |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Ermineskin HeadStart
Schedule 12 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Other revenue | 1,398,485 | 1,480,380 | 125,135 |
| Carried forward to next year | (1,145,963) | (1,602,907) | (146,944) |
| Carried forward from prior year | 146,944 | 146,944 | 872,881 |
| Transfer (to) from other programs | (139,848) | (139,848) | - |
| Transfer to (from) Ermineskin | 889,071 | 889,071 | (733,386) |
| | 1,148,689 | 773,640 | 117,686 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 293,543 | 303,312 | 98,584 |
| Supplies | 246,797 | 244,721 | - |
| Parental and community engagement | 60,000 | 59,990 | - |
| Administration | 45,800 | 44,202 | 18,504 |
| Consultants | 35,000 | 30,535 | - |
| Repairs and maintenance | 29,600 | 28,600 | - |
| Program development | 17,500 | 17,003 | 72 |
| Insurance | 15,000 | 15,000 | - |
| Professional development | 11,800 | 11,730 | - |
| Utilities | 10,000 | 10,000 | - |
| Telephone | 4,000 | 4,000 | - |
| Travel and meals | 3,700 | 3,656 | - |
| Staff appreciation | 800 | 796 | 496 |
| Meeting | 100 | 95 | 16 |
| Capital items | 375,049 | - | - |
| Cultural Ceremony | - | - | 14 |
| | 1,148,689 | 773,640 | 117,686 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | - |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Government of Alberta - Other
Schedule 13 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Carried forward from prior year | 47,473 | 47,473 | 47,473 |
| Carried forward to next year | - | (47,473) | (47,473) |
| | 47,473 | - | - |
| Expenses | | | |
| Board costs | 47,473 | - | - |
| | 47,473 | - | - |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | - |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)
Pigeon Lake HeadStart
Schedule 14 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Indigenous Services Canada | | | |
| Core funds | 78,177 | 78,177 | 78,177 |
| Carried forward to next year | - | - | (90,279) |
| Carried forward from prior year | 90,279 | 90,279 | 82,639 |
| Transfer (to) from other programs | (8,699) | (8,699) | - |
| | 159,757 | 159,757 | 70,537 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Salaries and benefits | 58,487 | 57,445 | 57,014 |
| Supplies | 7,700 | 7,736 | - |
| Insurance | 7,500 | 7,500 | 2,500 |
| Utilities | 5,000 | 5,000 | 3,500 |
| Office supplies | 2,500 | 2,500 | 500 |
| Telephone | 669 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Administration | 2,200 | 1,936 | 3,865 |
| Travel and meals | 1,100 | 1,100 | 300 |
| Staff appreciation | 600 | 523 | 150 |
| Parental and community engagement | 400 | 390 | 280 |
| Student expenses | 400 | 337 | 278 |
| Professional development | - | - | 150 |
| Capital items | 73,290 | - | - |
| | 159,846 | 86,467 | 70,537 |
| Surplus (deficit) | (89) | 73,290 | - |

Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Jordan's Principle

Schedule 15 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 Budget | 2024 | 2023 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------|---------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Carried forward from prior year | - | - | 453,107 |
| | - | - | 453,107 |
| Expenses | | | |
| School resources | - | - | 453,107 |
| Surplus (deficit) | - | - | - |

Maskwacîs Education Schools Commission (MESC)

Other Revenue

Schedule 16 - Schedule of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended March 31, 2024

| | 2024 | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Other revenue | 38,800 | 38,756 | - |
| Interest income | 2,490,000 | 2,488,293 | 1,612,026 |
| Transfer (to) from other programs | 148,547 | 148,547 | - |
| | 2,677,347 | 2,675,596 | 1,612,026 |
| Surplus | 2,677,347 | 2,675,596 | 1,612,026 |

Nistohtamohowewin/ Glossary

Ahkameymowin - The act of persevering and remaining steadfast to overcome adversity

Âmômey - Honey

Awâsisak - Children

Cahkipehikewin - Syllabics

Îyinîw Mâmitonehicikan - Think and understand our being and existence through a Cree perspective

Kahkiyaw Kîkwây Kânehiyawemakahk - Nehiyaw traditions, Nehiyaw life and everything that encompasses Nehiyawewin.

Kehtehayak - Elders

Kiskinwahamawâkanak / Kiskinwahamawâkanak - 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 - Otatoskewak

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



Notes



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