

EDUCATION POLICIES –ANISHINAABEG OF NAONGASHIING

The Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing administers educational programs for community members.

- 60.1.1 Elementary grades JK – Grade 8 is offered either at the Big Grassy School, or through the Fort Frances Rainy River District School Board at McCrosson/Tovell in Bergland. Parents who wish to send their children to other elementary schools are responsible for transportation or board.**
- 60.2 Secondary Education is offered at the Rainy River High School for community residents.**
- 60.3 The Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing is not responsible for tuition or other costs associated with Elementary or Secondary Education for First Nation members who are resident off reserve, or resident of another First Nation community.**
- 60.4 Students who are in attendance at Rainy River High School will be eligible for monthly allowance at a rate to be determined from time to time by Chief and Council. Receipt of the monthly allowance is based on the attendance of the pupil at school, and can be suspended at any time at the discretion of the First Nation.**
- 60.5 Funds for special supplies, and/or equipment is limited, and will be awarded on an as needed basis. All requests for assistance, should be in writing and directed to the Education Director, who will allocate resources based on need and available funding.**
- 60.6 The First Nation will not pay for extra-curricular activities. Field trips that are course related or of a cultural nature, will be considered for a subsidy on a case by case basis.**
- 60.7 High school students who are in need of “volunteer Hours” to graduate should advise the Education Director who will attempt to assist in placement.**
- 60.8 Parents of children in need of Special assistance in their education should contact the Education Director, who will review the situation, seek advice if appropriate and in consultation with the parents seek the appropriate solutions, which could include, but not be limited to testing, including academic, social and if appropriate medical, counseling, tutoring, special assistant or if required placement in a suitable school with the facilities that the pupil may require.**

- 60.9** Parents may send their children to any school they may wish, but, except in the case of extraordinary special need, the Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing will only be responsible for tuition and transportation to the designated school appropriate to the students grade.
- 60.10** The Education Director may remove a student from the High School registration list, if that student is not attending school on a regular basis, and is unlikely to obtain a credit due to poor attendance or school suspensions.
- 60.11** The First Nation will offer an incentive to High School students who's name appears on the High School Honour roll, this incentive of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) will be available to a student each time their name appears on the honour roll.
- 60.12** Application fee for colleges and universities is a one time fee and will only be paid by the First Nation for those students graduating from full time High School and going immediately to a qualified program at College or University.

61. ADULT EDUCATION

- 61.1** Adult education is available to community residents only through the Alternative Education program, for those students who wish to complete their High School education
- 61.2** Any community resident who wishes to be part of this program should contact the Director of Education who will make the arrangements most suitable for the student.
- 61.3** Community residents who wish to be part of an individual training program, which is sponsored by Shoonyyaa should contact the Director of Education who will contact the agency and assist with arrangements. First Nation Members may also apply to the Director of Education for training in "Trades" occupations, this training can include both schooling and on the job experience. Financial assistance for Trades Schools is only offered to First Nation Members in accordance with the University and Professional Guidelines while the student is in school and not while employed in the trade.

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL

- 61.4** First Nations members living on or off reserve are eligible for assistance under the University and Professional program. Sponsorship under this program will be granted depending on qualifications as set out in this policy and the availability of resources. Sponsorship under this program is only available for attendance at a college or University and preparatory programs for college or University entrance are not eligible for sponsorship. Sponsorship for attendance at private schools will be limited to a tuition fee of four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) per year, except when arrangements have been made with another agency i.e. Shooniyaa for an individual training program.
- 61.5** Applications for acceptance into a college or university program for admittance in September should be forwarded to the Director of Education before the 15th of June annually. The letter of application should include a letter of acceptance from the school and details of residence and family size.
- 61.6** All applications will be reviewed and the following criteria will be used to determine priority on the sponsorship list.
- **Returning students.** Including those students pursuing a combination degree(i.e. medicine, law, teaching social work etc.), who have completed their pre-requisite degree.
 - **High School graduates** who are First Nation members, and will be enrolled in a post secondary program in the school year immediately after they graduate from high school.
 - **Applicants for sponsorship** in post secondary program who have been placed on the waiting list.
 - **Mature students,** defined as any member who is an adult, and has been out of school for at least two years, and has not previously applied for sponsorship and placed on the waiting list.
- 61.7** Applicants who are not successful in receiving sponsorship for the September semester will be placed on a waiting list and will be advised when resources are available. Students who have been accepted by the school, but are unsuccessful in obtaining full sponsorship may, depending on the availability of resources be eligible for payment of tuition only and may receive full sponsorship at a latter date.

- 61.8 All students receiving sponsorship from the Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing must provide to the Education Director every semester a transcript of their achievements at the school. Failure to provide the transcript will result in suspension of sponsorship.**
- 61.9 Students who do not maintain a 2.00 grade point average, but who provide the required transcripts may be placed on Probation for the next semester, to enable them to improve their standing. If no improvement is achieved in the next semester, sponsorship will be cancelled.**
- 61.10 Student receiving sponsorship from the Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing and a living allowance must carry a full time course load, as defined by the educational institution.**
- 61.11 Students who drop out of classes and the case load decreases to a level that would not be full time, may have their living allowance suspended.**
- 61.12 Any student who leaves a post secondary institution during the course of the school year will not be eligible for sponsorship for the next two years.**
- 61.13 Students who drop out of a multi-year program at the end of a school year, will not be treated as a returning student, but will have to make application and be prioritized as a new student.**
- 61.14 Any student who is re-admitted into sponsorship after having failed to completed a school year, and once again fails to complete the program, will not be eligible to apply for further funding, until two (2) years has expired since they were sponsored, at which time they will be placed on the waiting list.**
- 61.15 Students in attendance at a post secondary institution will received sponsorship to attain their undergraduate degree for the equivalent of 4 years (32 months) at the Maximum. The Education Director may extended this time in special circumstances, (i.e. Medical or Family Crisis situations). The Education Director may grant a leave of absence.**
- 61.16 Students who have not graduated after this time may apply to the Director of Education for partial sponsorship (Tuition and Books Only) to assist them in obtaining their degree.**

61.17 The Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing will allocate one space in the University and Professional program for Post Graduate study, only one position will be available at any time at this level. Students are encouraged to make early application and will be placed on a waiting list. Criteria for selection for the space will not be based on the eligibility criteria in section 61.6, but on the separate waiting list for the space. In the event that all applicants for undergraduate study on the waiting list have been sponsored a further post graduate student may receive sponsorship, if sufficient resources are available, and the program would not adversely effect future years.

61.18 The Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing wishes to further the professional schooling of staff members and will on an annual basis, consider sponsorship for one staff member per year under the U & P program. For a certificate/diploma/degree related to their position. Staff wishing to pursue further education are offered the following options:

- a) Unpaid leave of absence from their position with full sponsorship for the duration of their program
- b) On line courses, while continuing employment.
- c) Where attendance is required at an institution away from the community, for less than one week per month, continued employment, with a monthly travel allowance not to exceed the single monthly sponsorship allowance and receipts to be provided in accordance with the Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing staff travel policy. This option will only be available to staff members who meet the following criteria.
 - (i) No more than one week per month away from the office.
 - (ii) No other workshops or training.
 - (iii) Maintain at least 2.00 grade point average.
 - (iv) The absence from the office does not interfere with the service provided to the community.
 - (v) All reporting and other job performance criteria are up to date and accurate and continue to be so.

61.19 Any staff member wishing to attend an institution under section 61.18, must contact the Director of Education prior to June 15th annually and must have an acceptance letter from the institution as well as a letter of permission from their immediate supervisor.

- 61.20 Any staff member attending school under section 61.18, whose standing at school or whose work performance is adversely effected by the attendance at school, will be warned of the implications and if both school standing and work performance are not brought up to standard, the staff member will be expected to either take a leave of absence from work for the duration of the schooling or withdraw from the school program.**
- 61.21 New applicants for U & P sponsorship will be placed on a waiting list, their position on that list will depend on the date that the letter of application is received. Students graduating from High School and wishing to attend University or College, will have priority over those already on the waiting list.**

WAITING LIST

- 61.22 Any applicant whose application for sponsorship is received after June 15th will automatically be placed on the waiting list, regardless of what other priority they may have for sponsorship**
- 61.23 The Education Director will allocate sponsor students in accordance with section 61.6 of this policy prior to the end of June and will advise the successful applicants that they have been approved for sponsoring. The Education Director will at the same time advise the unsuccessful applicants that they have been placed on the waiting list, and their position on that list.**
- 61.24 In the event that further resources become available during the coarse of a school year, offer of sponsorship will be made to the first person on the list, in the event that person, declines the offer, their name will be removed from the waiting list and the next person on the list will be contacted.**
- 61.25 Any person who declines an offer of sponsorship during a school year, but still wishes to be considered for sponsorship in a future school year, should advise the Education Director of that fact, and request that their name be included on the wait list for the next year.**
- 61.26 The Education Director will contact all applicants on the wait list in April annually to advise them of their status and invite them to update their enrollment in school, to ensure that they have met all the conditions prior to the June 15th deadline.**
- 61.27 A separate waiting list will be maintained for post graduate studies, that are not part of a continuing program.**

61.28 Applicants on the waiting list, who decide to enroll in post secondary education, prior to approval of sponsorship, will not be reimbursed for any expenses incurred prior to receiving sponsorship.

61.29 GRADUATION.

Any student wishing representation by the Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing at their graduation ceremonies, are requested, where possible to advise the Director of Education at least 14 days before the ceremony.

The Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing will award a payment in recognition of the success of a student upon graduation. The allowance will be paid according to the following schedule:

a)	Upon graduation from high school	\$ 500.00
b)	Upon successful completion of a college diploma	\$1,000.00
c)	Upon successful completion of an under-graduate degree (i.e. Bachelor degree)	\$1,500.00
d)	Upon completion of Post Graduate study (i.e. Master or Doctorate Degree)	\$ 500.00

The High School awards are only payable to those high school students, who complete High School on a full time basis, within the education system, and are not available to mature students who receive a High School diploma, through an Alternative Education program.

The graduation incentive for College and University graduates is only applicable for those students, who are sponsored by the Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, and does not apply to graduates from College or University, who do not receive full time sponsorship from the First Nation. Staff members who receive full salary while attending school are not eligible to receive these awards.

62. APPEALS POLICY.

Any student who is dissatisfied with the decision of the Education Director may appeal any action taken within these policies, as set out in the Administration Code of the Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing.

63. At the time these policies were amended the First Nation does not have a full time Education Director, therefore for greater certainty the following designated staff member will be responsible for the activities delegated to an Education Director:

- a) Elementary/Secondary Education. – The consultant hired by the First Nation to assist with education.**
- b) University and Professional – The First Nation Manager.**
- c) Boards and Agency representation – The Councilor designed for Education by Chief and Council.**

This policy approved this 1st day of October 2005, will remain in place until such times as it is either repealed or amended.

Chief Albert Handorgan

Councilor Carl Big George

Councilor Patrick Handorgan