

An Update from the

ANISHINAABE ANOKIIWIN AANOKIITOOGJIG

Chiefs Committee on Governance

The Anishinabek Nation Anishinaabe Anokiwin Aanokiitoojig [Chiefs Committee on Governance ("CCoG")] was established to provide a forum that provides a linkage between the political vision of the Anishinabek Nation with the self-governance negotiations of the Anishinabek Nation. In this regard, the CCoG provides guidance, leadership, and feedback to the Anishinabek Nation's self-governance negotiations through regular meetings.

The CCoG is comprised of two (2) representatives from each of our four (4) regions of the Anishinabek Nation:

- Lake Huron Region
- Northern Superior Region
- Southwest Region
- Southeast Regions)

Other CCoG members include the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief and the Deputy Grand Council Chief.

On November 1 and 2, 2017, the CCoG met at the Anishinabek Nation's head office in Nipissing First Nation and received information and updates on the status of the negotiation of the *Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement*.

The Anishinabek Nation's Chief Negotiator on Governance, Martin Bayer, provided an update to the CCoG on the progress of the negotiation of the *Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement* and noted that, for the most part, only the fiscal chapter requires additional work.

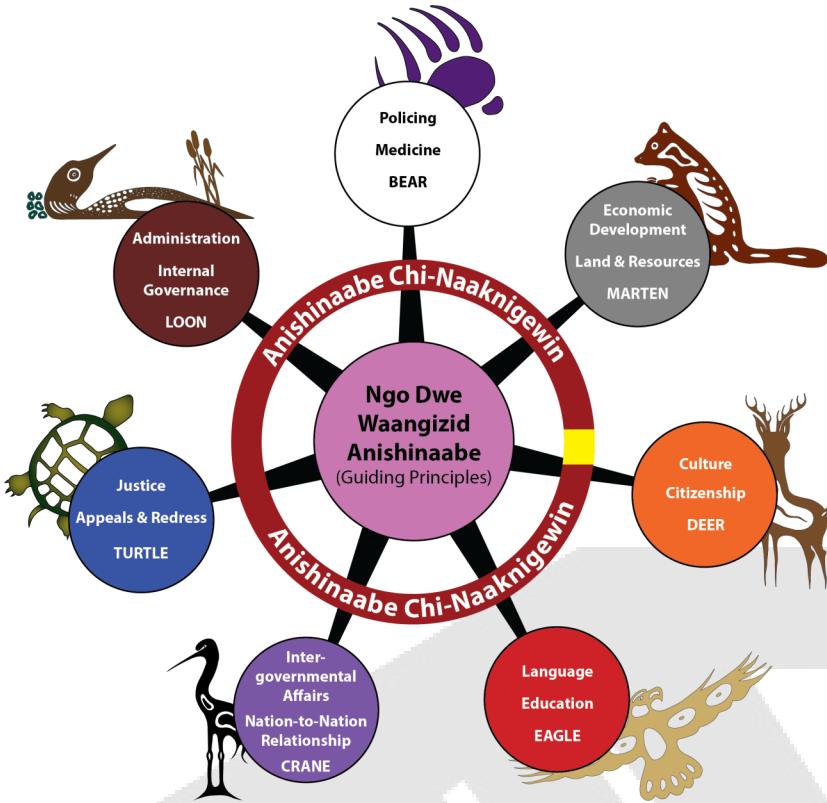
He also talked about the new fiscal frameworks being discussed at the national fiscal working group and how this impacts the efforts to complete the fiscal chapter. He indicated that this information is also being taken to the member First Nations of the Anishinabek Nation in order to keep the Chiefs and Councils and their citizens apprised on the latest developments.

The CCoG was also provided with updates and the latest developments on the recently signed *Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement* with Canada. The updates included:



- Fiscal legislation
- The negotiations of the Master Education Agreement (the Tripartite Workplan)
- Major capital
- Education law-making

Information regarding the legislative process on the *Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement*, more specifically about the introduction in Parliament of Bill C-61, *Anishinabek Nation Education Agreement Act*, was provided. It was expressed that there is urgency in moving this legislation through the House of Commons and the Senate to meet the target effective date for the Anishinabek Education System to open its doors and be operational on April 1, 2018.



The Grand Council Chief stressed the need to convene a gathering in February 2018, to discuss the future direction and vision of the Anishinabek Nation. At the gathering, “Respecting and Honouring the Past, Present and Future”, participants would reflect on our past, and look at the challenges facing our member First Nation communities today. The gathering would also engage in discussions on where we need to go in the future, including a discussion about the need to develop an Anishinabek Nation Long-Term Strategic Plan. The Long-Term Strategic Plan could lay out a plan developed from the input received from our member First Nations and discuss ways that we could work more effectively together to meet the future needs of our member First Nation citizens.

This CCoG confirmed the dates of February 13, 14, and 15, 2018, in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, for this gathering of our Chief and Councils from all of our 40 member First Nation communities of the Anishinabek Nation. Other potential topics for the gathering may include the implementation of parts of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin, including our Anishinaabe clan based system of governing, our member First Nation Chi-Naaknigewin and E'dbendaagzijig (Citizenship) laws.

The next CCOG meeting will be on February 7 and 8, 2018, in Sault Ste. Marie, ON.

If you require additional information about the work of the CCOG, please contact Esther Gilbank, ROJ Projects Coordinator: 705-497-9127 / 1-877-702-5200 ext. 2275, or by e-mail: esther.gilbank@anishinabek.ca