



**MULTI-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL ACTION PLAN
For the Three Year Period
April 2013 to March 2016**

Background

Six Nations Polytechnic is a centre of excellence for indigenous community-based post-secondary education. Established in 1993, Six Nations Polytechnic (SNP) is preparing to celebrate twenty years of service.

SNP learners gain knowledge, confidence, and skills to seek opportunities and participate in the labour market while acquiring Haudenosaunee culture, languages, and traditions.

The Six Nations Polytechnic vision statement demonstrates commitment to

- Excellence in creating a culturally supportive learning environment;
- Unconditional acceptance of learners;
- Incorporating traditional knowledge and concepts embedded in Hodinohso:ni language in service delivery; and
- Validating Indigenous worldviews while supporting unique gifts of the individual.

Six Nations citizens, and other Indigenous brothers and sisters, believe there is an interdependency and connectedness with all elements of the natural world. Indigenous knowledge systems, which consist of language, spirituality, and values (cultural identity), come from the land. Protecting the natural resources of our Mother, the Earth, is necessary to survival; this philosophy and belief is the foundation of Six Nations Polytechnic's governance.

Maintaining the natural resources that Mother Earth provides is a responsibility and duty that is accepted, supported, and passed on through cultural practices. This concept, the notion of sustainability as evidenced through the cultural teachings of the Hodinohso:ni of Six Nations, is paramount.

Action Plan

The Board of Directors and staff of Six Nations Polytechnic have established, and support "Indigenous Sustainability" as the priority and focus for the 2013-2016 Institutional Action Plan.

Indigenous Sustainability is the perpetual use of Indigenous Knowledge (understood and expressed through language, values and actions) that provides capacity to live in harmony with the natural world, and to restore and maintain a healthy existence in a nation with diverse citizenship and needs.

The Six Nations Polytechnic Board (SNP Board) practices the Carver Model of Governance and supports culturally based education and lifelong learning. The Mega Ends Policy of the SNP Board is “Self-sufficient, educated, employable Six Nations people with a commitment to Six Nations culture and community”.

The strategic objectives of SNP are:

1. Increase engagement of Six Nations citizens in the cultural, social, and economic systems and structures that sustain indigenous existence.
2. Close the knowledge gap that exists in society pertaining to indigenous people of Canada.
3. Contribute to a sustainable future through mutually beneficial reciprocity.

Key goals and activities necessary to achieve the strategic objectives include:

Community Capacity

- Increase community capacity to sustain indigenous knowledge by reducing barriers to participation, expanding opportunities for access, and support nation building.
- Stakeholder engagement; develop meaningful and measurable indigenous knowledge performance indicators.
- Develop mechanisms to measure the benefits of locally delivered indigenous knowledge, in a post-secondary education setting, and impact on quality of life.
- Celebrate twenty years of excellence in indigenous teaching and learning.

Indigenous Sustainability

- Develop indigenous knowledge products; that support increased Indigenous participation and completion of post-secondary education, and close indigenous knowledge gaps.
- Foster rich, vibrant Indigenous culture and traditions through Indigenous Knowledge Guardians and Indigenous education.
- Build the capacity of Deyohahá:ge (Six Nations Polytechnic’s Indigenous Knowledge Centre) to become a hub for Indigenous Sustainability, through research opportunities, Indigenous scholars and champions, and International partnerships.

Diversify through Innovation

- Facilitate multi-cultural experiential learning opportunities.
- Develop an Institutional Advancement Strategy.

The 2013-2016 Institutional Action Plan is supported by the Six Nations Polytechnic Board as evidenced by the signatures below.



Bonnie Freeman
Board Chair



Rebecca Jamieson
President/CEO

Date: April 12, 2013

Date: April 12 - 2013

Motion: Motion to support the 2013-2016 Institutional Action Plan by Melba Thomas seconded Kevin Martin. Accepted with consensus.