

MEDIA RELEASE



Shingwauk KinooMaage Gamig Secures 10-Year Approval from Indigenous Advanced Education Skills Council

A Historic Milestone in SKG's Journey Toward Full Accreditation

(Bawaating - Sault Ste. Marie, ON – August 19, 2025): Shingwauk KinooMaage Gamig (SKG) proudly announces the successful completion of its organizational review with the Indigenous Advanced Education Skills Council (IAESC), marking a historic milestone in SKG's path toward full accreditation.

On August 8, 2025, pursuant to Section 4(1) of the *Indigenous Institutes Act, 2017*, SKG received 10-year approval, with a mid-term review scheduled at the five-year mark. This approval grants SKG the authority to submit new program proposals directly to IAESC for stand-alone accreditation, opening the door to expanding educational opportunities rooted in Anishinaabe knowledge and ways of being.

“This achievement reflects the vision of Chief Shingwaukoonse to establish a Teaching Lodge where Anishinaabe people could learn in ways that honour their identity, culture, and knowledge systems,” said Mary Wabano-McKay, President / Chief Academic Officer. “It is a moment of pride, not only for SKG, but for our students, graduates, and the communities we serve.”

SKG extends its heartfelt gratitude to:

- The team at SKG, for their dedication to advancing quality Anishinaabe education.
- The Indigenous Advanced Education Skills Council, for their guidance and support throughout the review process.
- The SKG Board of Directors, for their leadership and commitment to this sacred work.
- Our students, graduates, and communities, who continue to inspire and guide our efforts.

“This milestone affirms SKG's role as a vital Indigenous post-secondary institution in Ontario, advancing Anishinaabe-led education while ensuring accountability, quality, and

sustainability. It marks a journey of promise—for those who have come before us, and for future generations”, *Dr. Melanie Goodchild, Vice President, Indigenous Knowledge, Scholarship and Research.*

“This milestone affirms the strength of our collective commitment to Anishinaabe-led education. The 10-year approval from IAESC not only honours the vision of Chief Shingwaukoonse, but also ensures that future generations will have access to programs that reflect our culture, language, and ways of knowing. On behalf of the Board, I extend gratitude to the SKG team, our students, and the communities we serve — this achievement belongs to all of us.”

— *Dean Sayers, Chair, Board of Directors, Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig*

About Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig

Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig (SKG) – the Shingwauk Teaching Lodge – is an Anishinaabe post-secondary institute dedicated to fulfilling the vision of Chief Shingwaukoonse. SKG provides culturally grounded education and training rooted in Anishinaabe aadziwin (worldview), serving Anishinaabe learners, Nations, and non-Indigenous students seeking to learn through an Anishinaabe lens.

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