



**City of Kingston
Report to Council
Report Number 25-053**

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Jennifer Campbell, Commissioner, Community Services
Resource Staff: Ruth Noordegraaf, Director, Community Development & Wellbeing and IIDEA
Date of Meeting: February 18, 2025
Subject: Renewal of the Service Level Agreement between the City of Kingston and the Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest

Council Strategic Plan Alignment:

Theme: 4. Foster a Caring and Inclusive Community

Goal: 4.5 Promote and support diversity.

Executive Summary:

On September 7, 2021, Council approved the first Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. (KNCLN) ([Report Number 21-215](#)). This agreement included financial support transferred from the City of Kingston to KNCLN to fund initiatives that align with City-approved strategies and plans as well as Council's direction to support the potential for Indigenous cultural space. Council continued to approve consecutive SLAs between 2022 and 2024.

Staff reviewed the overview of KNCLN's activities in 2024 and are satisfied KNCLN has met its obligations as required by the 2024 SLA. Staff are requesting that Council support the renewal of the SLA with KNCLN in 2025. The renewed agreement will continue to include several deliverables, notably the development and delivery of Indigenous language and cultural programming and educational opportunities. Staff are also recommending to Council that the

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2025 SLA include an option to extend the SLA under the same terms for up to two more years (2026-2027) with an annual report presented to Council each year.

Through a separate agreement ([Report Number 22-006](#)), the City has leased to KNCLN the property at 610 Montreal Street for a period of five years (beginning in January 2022) for delivery of services as outlined in the SLA and beyond. Over the past year staff have worked closely with KNCLN to secure a temporary building for their operations while 610 Montreal Street undergoes renovations. The City-owned facility on 218 Concession Street was identified as a temporary location for this purpose and a transition (up to 18 months) to this location is scheduled to commence in early spring 2025. To support the sustainability of the program, staff are recommending executing a Municipal Capital Facility Agreement with KNCLN for the exemption from paying municipal property taxes for 218 Concession Street. A similar agreement is in place for 610 Montreal Street and this new agreement ensures a similar level of City support the KNCLN's operations over the term of the renovations at 610 Montreal Street.

Recommendation:

That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute a Service Level Agreement between the City of Kingston and the Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. for one year with the option to extend with two more terms, that identifies the services to be provided by Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. and the associated funding to be issued by the City of Kingston for those services, in a form acceptable to the Director of Legal Services or designate; and

That Council approve the release of \$52,020 from the Community Development & Wellbeing and IIDEA Department's 2025 operating budget to support Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. and the services identified as part of a Service Level Agreement between the City of Kingston and the Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. in 2025; and

That in accordance with Section 110(6) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, the by-law attached as Exhibit B to Report Number 25-053, be presented and given all three readings to provide an exemption to all of 218 Concession Street from taxation for municipal and school purposes on terms set out a Municipal Capital Facility Agreement; and

That Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a Municipal Capital Facility Agreement with the Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. for the premises leased at 218 Concession Street, Kingston, in order to exempt the premises from taxation for municipal and education purposes effective upon the execution of the Municipal Capital Facility Agreement; and

That in accordance with Section 110(8) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* the Clerk be directed to give written notice of the passing of the by-law to the local school boards having jurisdiction in the area in which the property is located and to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation as required by Section 110(5) and (8); and

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That Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute any agreements requisite to the provision of the Municipal Capital Facility Agreement with the Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services or designate.

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Options/Discussion:**Background**

On September 7, 2021, Council approved the first SLA with KNCLN (then known as the Kingston Indigenous Languages Nest or KILN) covering the last quarter of 2021 and all of 2022. Council also approved leasing the City-owned property at 610 Montreal Street to KNCLN for the delivery of Indigenous language and cultural programming, and a Municipal Capital Facility Agreement for the 610 Montreal Street property.

This initial SLA and the lease of 610 Montreal Street aligned with Council direction to support the potential for Indigenous cultural space. While physical spaces for delivering Indigenous-focused programming are crucial for language revitalization efforts, a major barrier to provisioning learning opportunities is a lack of sustainable operational funding. Funds for this first SLA came from the capital budget for Engage for Change Phase III administered by the Heritage Services Department.

The first SLA funding totalled \$62,500 (\$12,500 for the last quarter of 2021 and \$50,000 for 2022). Through [Report Number 21-215](#) staff committed to including funding for the renewal of the SLA in the annual operating budget of the Heritage Services Department. The SLA funding for 2023 and 2024 included a 2% inflationary increase to \$51,000 and \$52,020 in the respective years for KNCLN operational funding.

Analysis

With the formation of the Community Development & Wellbeing and Indigeneity, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility Department (CDWB-IIDEA) in 2024, a dedicated Indigenous Initiatives portfolio was created, and the oversight of the SLA with KNCLN was transferred.

In January 2025, KNCLN submitted a year-end report: 'The Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Year-End Report 2024' (Exhibit A).

This report provides an overview of the services identified for delivery as part of the 2024 SLA along with activities that are in keeping with the principles and intent of various City-approved heritage and cultural strategies.

Staff have reviewed the report and are satisfied KNCLN has met its obligations as required by the 2024 SLA. As a result, staff are recommending that the City of Kingston renew its SLA with KNCLN in 2025 and add the authority for staff to extend the agreement for two more consecutive years, based on a satisfactory annual report presented to Council each year. This will ensure the organization can continue to provide Indigenous language and cultural programming as language is a vital part of cultural connection and revitalization. KNCLN is dedicated to supporting language learning and continues to be a well-established and respected organization within the Indigenous community and with Indigenous residents in Kingston. KNCLN continues to grow and expand the services it provides.

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The SLA amount for 2025 is \$52,020. It is anticipated that the services to be included as part of the 2025 agreement will be as follows:

- Develop and implement programs that support Indigenous language learning, including land-based cultural teachings and relevant community gatherings.
- Develop and maintain partnerships with Indigenous-led organizations and initiatives in the Kingston region to support Indigenous-focused cultural programming and community-led events.

As in previous years, the agreement will include specific language related to the management and expenditure of the funding KNCLN receives. It will also outline reporting requirements, including the submission of quarterly reports as well as a year-end report. The agreement will also include general terms and conditions typical of all such agreements the City of Kingston uses when entering partnerships with external organizations like KNCLN.

Staff continue to work with KNCLN on events such as the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebrations.

KNCLN SLA and Lease of 610 Montreal Street and 218 Concession Street

Through a separate agreement, the City has leased to KNCLN property at 610 Montreal Street for a period of 5 years (beginning in January 2022) for the delivery of services, including Indigenous language and cultural programs. Supporting KNCLN through an SLA and the property lease at 610 Montreal Street is a demonstrated commitment by the City of Kingston to support Indigenous-led community programming, associated smaller events and cultural gatherings.

Over the past year staff have worked closely with KNCLN to secure a temporary building for their operations while their location at 610 Montreal Street undergoes renovations in 2025. As part of the City's commitment to support KNCLN with finding a temporary location during renovations, staff from both organizations identified 218 Concession Street as a viable option. Some minor capital work in the building is underway to prepare the space to accommodate KNCLN programs and gatherings. KNCLN's temporary transition to 218 Concession Street is scheduled for early spring 2025, around the same time the renovations at 610 Montreal Street are expected to commence. KNCLN will use this temporary location for up to 18 months, the expected duration of the renovation work at 610 Montreal Street.

An exemption from paying municipal property taxes, as requested in this report, shall continue to relieve the City and KNCLN from property tax assessment charges. An exemption from applicable property taxes will help ensure sustainability of the respective program as previously approved by Council.

Next Steps

With Council's approval to renew the City of Kingston's SLA with KNCLN, staff will meet with KNCLN staff to finalize the 2025 Service Level Agreement after which it can be executed by the

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Mayor and Clerk in a form that is acceptable to the Director of Legal Services. Staff recommend that an annual report continue to be presented to Council each year.

KNCLN and partners are working on a longer-term vision for a location for an expanded Kingston Native Friendship Centre. This vision includes the continued operation of a language learning hub out of the property at 610 Montreal Street. Staff are working to support KNCLN in developing their project proposal and in exploring opportunities for alignment with Council's Strategic Priority 4.5.2. Staff anticipate bringing a report back to Council by the end of 2025 with more information on KNCLN's long term vision and requesting Council direction to support where appropriate.

Public Engagement

None

Climate Risk Considerations

None

Indigenization, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IIDEA) Considerations

A renewed SLA with KNCLN aligns with Council Strategic Priority 4.5.2 to Advance Indigenization, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IIDEA) in the Community by supporting programs for Indigenous language learning, cultural teachings and community gatherings. More specifically, Strategic Priority 4.5.2 includes the renovation of 610 Montreal Street in partnership with KNCLN for its enduring use as a centre of Indigenous language revitalization and cultural learning. A renewed SLA will provide operational funding to carry out these programmatic goals.

Existing Policy/By-Law

Investing in KNCLN through an SLA helps to fulfill various City-approved strategies and plans as well as Council's Strategic Priorities, particularly 4.5.2, in advancing Indigenization, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IIDEA) in the community.

Notice Provisions

The Clerk shall provide written notice of the passing of the associated by-law to the local school boards having jurisdiction in the area in which the property is located and to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation as required by Section 110(5) and (8).

Financial Considerations

Operational funding for the SLA with KNCLN in 2025 was included as part of the 2025 operating budget for the Community Development & Wellbeing and IIDEA Department.

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Contacts:

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Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

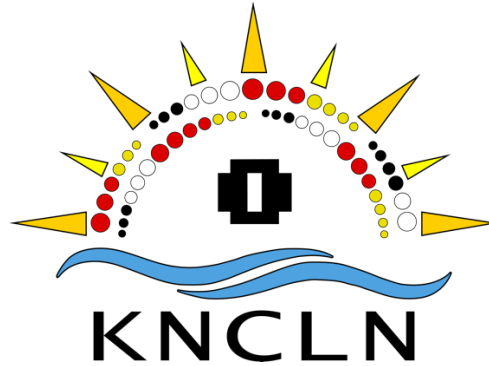
Alan McLeod, Senior Legal Counsel & Deputy City Solicitor, Legal Services

Evan Embacher, Property Specialist, Business, Real Estate & Environment

Exhibits Attached:

Exhibit A – The Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Year-End Report 2024

Exhibit B – Draft Municipal Capital Facility By-Law



The Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Year-End Report 2024

In accordance with our Service Level Agreement

with the

City of Kingston

January 2025

Prepared by Brandon Maracle
Executive Director

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Strategic Plan

In July 2023, the Kingston Indigenous Language Nest (KILN) became known as the Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest (KNCLN). We carry on the work of Indigenous language revitalization, foundational to our roots, while also expanding into full urban Indigenous programs and services.

The Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest (KNCLN) continues to support Urban Indigenous people in Kingston through culturally rooted programs and services and language revitalization.

Organizational Mission

Strengthening connection to each other, the land, our cultures, and our identity.

Vision

Guided by our ancestors' love and wisdom, KNCLN is an organization that connects the urban Indigenous communities on this territory by growing safe and inclusive spaces to support one another and revitalize our cultures, languages, and worldview, for generations to come.

Strategic Priorities

- Expanding Community Services
- Restoring Our Languages and Cultures
- Strengthening Our Organizational Resilience
- Nurturing Land & Food Spaces



Governance

Member of the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

KNCLN remains in good standing with the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (“OFIFC”) since our application was accepted in July 2023. The OFIFC provides the bulk of our funding for our programs as well as relevant training for our staff. The OFIFC’s internal checks and balance provide an additional layer of accountability for both our Board and Operations. Our involvement with the OFIFC is a significant boon for Kingston, the local Indigenous community, and KNCLN.

Board of Directors

2024 witnessed little change in our Board. The Board has set its gaze upon preparing for upcoming term expirations in 2025. Our board members are all members of the Indigenous community and have supported KNCLN well through 2024:

- **PRESIDENT: Carol Ann Budd**, Founder, Financial Advisor, Woodland Wealth.
- **VICE PRESIDENT: Laura Maracle**, Cultural Coordinator, Family and Child Services Lennox & Addington.
- **TREASURER: Aaron St. Pierre**, Executive Director, Kelowna Friendship Centre
- **SECRETARY: Vicki Babcock**, RECE, Language & Cultural Leader, Kahwá:tsire Indigenous-Led Child & Family Programs
- **MEMBER: Grandmother Kate Brant**, Grandmother, Katarokwi Grandmother’s Council; Indigenous Community Development Worker, Kingston Community Health Centre

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee provides financial oversight to the organization. The Committee meets monthly, is Chaired by Aaron St. Pierre, Board Treasurer and comprises Executive Director Brandon Maracle and our assistant bookkeeper Kevin Vertatschitsch.

Members

KNCLN reported a member list of 60 in our 2023 report which has sustained through 2024 with minimal change. However, we experienced significant growth in our community members, those individuals who we regularly support and are not official/legal members of the Not-for-profit. The Centre continues to engage and record the concerns of our community as a vital part of KNCLN’s ongoing success.

Staff

The organization is lead by **Executive Director, Brandon Maracle**. Brandon has supported the Centre since his arrival in Summer 2024 and is a member of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte. Brandon carries the name of his great-grandfather, Karonhyata:tye (along the sky). The Executive Director oversees the operations and expansion of the organization and represents KNCLN around multiple community tables. Brandon holds two degrees from Queen's University, his Bachelor (Hon) degree in Linguistics and Indigenous Studies and his law degree (JD) from Queen's Law. Brandon's involvement with local charities, familiarity with the law, Board experience, and passion for language revitalization are all assets to KNCLN.

Our staff continues to grow as we retain additional programming and partners. By the end of 2024, KNCLN employed 13 staff:

1. **Lynda Gerow – Operations Manager.** Lynda is from the Wet'suwet'en Nation in Burns Lake, British Columbia. Her teachings are mostly Anishinaabe and Mohawk. Mukade Miiagan is her spirit name which means Black Wolfe. Lynda was one of the founding members of our precursor organization, the Kingston Indigenous Language Nest. Lynda's education and professional experience are in social work, community programming, harm reduction, and early childhood education. Lynda holds many positions of responsibility throughout the community including Firekeeper, Powwow Dancer, and a member of the Katarokwi Grandmother's Council.
2. **Deborah St. Amant – Elder in Residence / Cultural Knowledge Keeper** - Deb is Métis from Penetanguishene and Ojibwe (Bear Clan) from Henvey Inlet First Nation. An author and retired educator, Deb has spent decades learning Indigenous knowledge, providing community and education-based cultural teachings and leading ceremony. Deb came to this role alongside her current role as the Elder in Residence for Queen's University and the work she continues to do with youth in our community. As a lover of languages, Deb is one of our root organization's original founders. Deb speaks English, French, Michif, and Anishinaabemowin and is also a member of our Anishinaabemowin Language Warrior team. Deb provides cultural support and guidance to our whole centre with special attention for our Alternative Secondary School Program and Indigenous Languages Program.

3. **Constance Carrière-Prill – Director of Strategic Development.** Constance is an Anishinaabemowin language learner and is charged to lead our relocation and expansion plans including our Legal Clinic and Housing Solutions. Constance holds a Bachelor of Honours degree from Queen’s University in Global Development Studies, is a JD Candidate at Queen’s Law and has an extensive career in business, management, consulting, and criminal justice. Her family has been associated with our organization since 2018, and she served as our Executive Director from 2022-2024.

4. **Christine Allan – Executive Assistant.** Christine is a member of the Métis community, and is named Agaashiinyi Gaag which means Small Porcupine. Christine has a professional background in administration and bookkeeping. She holds an associate degree in applied science in Medical Assisting from Ross Medical Education Centre in Minnesota and is a certified Gladue writer.

5. **Taylor Arndt – Alternative Secondary School Program Coordinator.** Taylor is a certified teacher with the Ontario College of Teachers and a graduate of the Queen’s University Faculty of Education Indigenous Teacher Education Program. Taylor is Anishinaabe, does professional beadwork, and is an Anishinaabemowin language learner. Taylor coordinates and facilitates the Alternative Secondary School Program, the River, at the Katarokwi Learning Centre, in partnership with the Limestone District School Board.

6. **Kearstie Snary – Intergenerational Strength and Resiliency (ISR) Coordinator.** Kearstie is Metis and has worked in Kingston community for the past 15 years. Kearstie supports some of our most vulnerable community members including those involved with the criminal justice system, experiencing housing struggles, and navigating substance use disorder. Kearstie’s deep knowledge of the local Kingston supports is bolstered by her Indigenous approach to counsel and support. Kearstie continues to lead our Mental Health Initiatives.

7. **Yessica Belsham – Care Support Worker, Life Long Care Program.** Yessi’s traditional name is Ocelopacihuahatl and is an avid Náhuatl language learner. As a Registered Practical Nurse and a Teaching Artist, Yessi builds strong, trusting relationships with individuals and families in her work as Care Support Worker. Aided by her diverse background in healthcare, education, and multidisciplinary arts, Yessi ensures that Indigenous perspectives and needs are central to her work, while she navigates various aspects of health, wellness, and long-term care with her clients

8. **Jade Corbiere – Children’s Program Coordinator.** Jade is Anishinaabekwe Bear Clan from Baawaating (Sault Ste. Marie), Ontario. Jade lead our youth programming

in a part time fashion until late 2024 when she took on the role of developing our Children's (ages 7-12) Programming as a new full time position. Jade's work is both upstream and interventionist where she supports healthy attachments in some of our youngest community members and supports others through the tumult that life has already accosted them with.

9. **Courtney Sovie – Youth Program Coordinator.** Courtney is bear clan with roots coming from Pikwakanagan First Nation. Courtney joined the KNCLN team late in 2024 and develops our youth programming. Courtney graduated from the Social Service worker program and is a candidate to become a death doula. Courtney has worked in this field for the past 9 years.

10. **Claire Scruby – Indigenous Languages Program Coordinator.** Claire has championed our language programs and supported our garden programming.

11. **Annie Wapachee – Kitchen Worker.** Annie is a member of the Cree community and a fluent Cree first speaker. She has a professional background in food services and preparation and began with us full time in November 2023. Annie provides one of the most vital parts of our centre, thoughtful food made with love.

12. **River Masters – Maintenance Lead.** River joined our team in the middle of 2024 and ensures that our space is and feels clean.



Programs

As the centre grows, we have had the privilege to deepen our supports into streamlined programs allowing for more impactful and sustainable working moving forward.

Total Individuals Served: over 7147

Total direct program hours: over 3530

Life Long Care

provides transportation services; opportunities for socialization; service navigation and advocacy; and emotional and spiritual supports to promote independent living and good quality of life. KNCLN LLC program has impacted over 900 participants in a variety of capacities and has supported our community with over 1200 hours of programming in both 1:1 and group settings.

Intergenerational Strength and Resiliency

provided peer support, counselling, and agency navigation for over 100 clients in 2024. Community members struggling with housing challenges, substance use disorder, and criminal justice matters are directed to the ISR program. Over 1200 direct hours of group and 1:1 programming was offered to over 100 clients.

Akwe:go/ Children's Programming and Wasa-nabin/ Youth Programming

Both programs offer one-to-one activities, group activities, and family circles to encourage positive behaviours and wellbeing with different targeted ages ranges. Akwe:go supports children ages 7-12 and Wasa-nabin supports ages youth ages 13-18. These programs support individualized goals to enhance the client areas of need; supporting social skills, educational intervention, individuals with disabilities, violence prevention, children in care or at risk of being in the care of the Children's Aid Society, 2SLGBTQ+ supports, and positive nutrition and physical activity practices. Both programs provide a space where urban Indigenous children and youth can feel safe to be themselves and accepted.

Akwe:go and Wasa-nabin received full time staff members in December 2024. Despite this late addition these programs saw impressive growth and involvement through out 2024.

Akwe:go hosted weekly family nights prior to its staffed status and offered 200 hours of directed programming and had 258 instances of participation.

Wasa-nabin, formerly KNCLN youth connections, held weekly youth groups, and 1:1 sessions as needed, offered 230 hours of directed programming to community and over 300 instances of participation.

Healthy Living and Drop in Program

KNCLN continued to grow our drop in program in conjunction with our Healthy living program. This program although one of our more "simple" programs is critical to who we are as people and an organization. Monday – Thursday our centre is open and hosts a warm meal and conversation with

the community that comes through the door. This work is not glamorous, but it is the bedrock for which all other programming benefits from by creating a space where community wants to attend.

The drop in program will often host directed programs, but we are intentionally to allow conversation and relationship develop slowly in this space. Healthy living, being our most accessible program supported over 4000 participants and provided over 800 hours of programming.

Alternative Secondary School Program

The Alternative Secondary School Program, or River, launched In September 2023 through the collaboration between KNCLN and the Limestone District School Board. The program runs out of the Katarokwi Learning Centre. KNCLN staffed the position of ASSP Coordinator with a certified teacher, to create an equitable teaching partnership with the LDSB staffed teacher position in the classroom. Our Coordinator, Taylor Arndt, is a graduate from the Queen’s University Faculty of Education Indigenous Teacher Education Program, and coordinates and facilitates cultural training and the infusion of cultural knowledge into classroom learning. The River classroom hosts up to 14 students in a daily school setting supporting disengaged indigenous students learn, grow, and graduate. Up to 14 students at any given time and over 1200 hours of directed programming.

Language Programming

KNCLN continues to prioritize language programming at the Centre. Our language programs focused on both Kenykenha:ka and Anishnaabemowin in 2024 with hopes to extend into additional languages as we can retain the needed speakers and supports. These programs present a unique challenge and opportunity as speakers, and therefore teachers, are less common than non-polysynthetic language teachers. It is the goal of KNCLN and its Language programming to support the learning of those interested to grow the number of speakers in a slow but intentional way. The majority of our programming was hosted through group learning sessions. Over 175 participants and over 100 hours of programming.

Katarokwi Indigenous Legal Clinic

KNCLN’s application to form the Katarokwi Indigenous Law Clinic was accepted late 2024 by the Law Foundation of Ontario. Much work will be completed in 2025 to become operational including research plan prior to commencing services.

The Gibanemindimin/ Teyakwatatyenawá:se

Those who attend our Centre regularly take what they need from our community sharing centre - Gibanemindimin/ Teyakwatatyenawá:se (“we all share”). The centre provides fresh produce as well as plants and traditional medicines (tobacco, cedar, sage and sweetgrass) harvested from our community garden program, cultural items (smudge kits, medicine bags), diapers, personal protective equipment , hygiene items, lice kits and a variety of other useful household items, toys and clothing that anyone attending programming at KNCLN may take home with them.

Community Partnerships

KNCLN has collaborated with the following community partners, organizations, funders and grassroots initiatives during 2024:

- Mutual Aid Katarokwi
- Katarokwi Grandmother’s Council
- Kingston Frontenac Public Library
- Belle Park Project
- Belle Island Caretakers
- Odemin Collective
- Kewaywin Circle
- Walking the Path of Peace Together
- Youth Diversion Program
- Queen’s Law
- Queen’s Faculty of Education
- Extend-a-Family Kingston
- Sexual Assault Centre Kingston
- Interval House
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- Juvenis Festival
- Queen’s University
- Limestone District School Board
- Tipi Moza
- Kingston Community Health Centre
- OFIFC
- Family and Children’s Services Lennox and Addington
- Community Foundation of Kingston and Area
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Canadian Red Cross
- The City of Kingston
- 4 Directions Student Centre
- Métis Nation of Ontario
- Tsi Tyónnheht Onkwawén:na
- Indigenous Diabetes Health Circle
- United Way KFLA
- Loving Spoonful
- MTB Mountain Biking Kingston
- One Roof
- The Food Sharing Project
- Katarokwi Learning Centre
- Tsi Kanonkwatsriyo (IIPCT)
- Homebase Housing
- Addictions Mental Health
- Integrated Care Hub
- Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
- FLA OHT
- ONWA
- Thunderwomen
- Service Canada
- Restart
- John Howard Society
- Kagita Mikam



Outcomes

Outcomes of programming are analyzed through trends in program attendance, responsiveness and uptake of new events and workshops, feedback from community when soliciting input, requests for expanded services, waitlists, and the deepening of our community partnerships. Community interaction, involvement, and opinion is the chief determiner of our success at KNCLN.

2024 saw the slow growth of language skills which can be measured in a number of ways, but most importantly whether language shifts closer to thriving status. Our programming will likely never tip the skills either way, but our dedication through adversity is a clear indication of the success of language warriors who have supported our efforts since the initial decline of our languages post contact.

Impact

All progress and decisions at the Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest are filtered through 7 generations thinking. This means that what we do today must consider the implications for 7 generations to come. This is challenging in a colonial environment where fast growth and large numbers are what is impressive. It is with great pride that the Centre has provided a space for new friends to learn, for the isolated to re-engage, and for all to ask questions. It is through the patient approach implored by our elders that we continue to grow ourselves and our programming.

Program impacts this past year have comprised feedback from community consultation, research initiatives, and self-reports. This collective feedback has enabled us to monitor trends and be responsive to community needs in our program planning and organizational decision-making.

We have greatly expanded our ability to impact the community chiefly through our staff and program growth. We expanded our efforts and impact into our youth through continued efforts education through the River, and implementing full time staff in our Youth and Children's programming. The community responded with a resounding "yes" to both our ISR and LLC programming, which both supported lengthy client lists and impossible waitlists. The Centre continues to explore growth opportunities for these high demand supports.

By-Law Number 2025-XX

A By-Law to Authorize an Agreement for the Provision of a Municipal Capital Facility at 218 Concession Street, Kingston, Ontario

Passed: [Meeting Date]

Whereas Section 110(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the “Act”) provides that a municipality may enter into agreements for the provision of municipal capital facilities; and

Whereas Section 110(6) of the Act states that the council of a municipality may exempt from all or part of the taxes levied for municipal and school purposes land or a portion of it on which a municipal capital facility is or will be located that is the subject of an agreement under Section 110(1) of the Act; and

Whereas pursuant to Ontario Regulation 603/06 enacted under the Act, a municipality may enter into an agreement under Section 110(1) of the Act for the provision of municipal facilities utilized for cultural purposes; and

Whereas Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc., as tenant (the “Tenant”), entered into a lease agreement dated XXXXX, 2025 (the “Lease”) with The Corporation of the City of Kingston, as landlord (the “City”), whereby the City agreed to lease certain premises located on the property municipally known as 218 Concession Street, Kingston (the “Premises”) to the Tenant for purposes of an Indigenous language programming centre, including offices, program space for small groups, meeting rooms, and a resource centre; and

Whereas Council is desirous of entering into an agreement with the Tenant for the provision of a municipal capital facility at the Premises;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the City hereby enacts as follows:

1. Pursuant to Section 110 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* the City is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Tenant for the provision of a municipal capital facility for cultural purposes at the Premises, in accordance with Section 2(1)(16) of Ontario Regulation 603/06 (the “Agreement”).
2. The Premises are exempt from taxation for municipal and school purposes.
3. This By-Law shall be deemed repealed:
 - (a) If the City ceases to own the Premises without having assigned the Agreement to the new owner of the Premises;

- (b) If Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest Inc. ceases to use the Premises for purposes of the provision of an Indigenous language programming centre, including offices, program space for small groups, meeting rooms, and a resource centre;
 - (c) When the Lease, or any renewal or extension of the Lease, expires or is otherwise terminated for any reason whatsoever; or
 - (d) If the Agreement is terminated for any reason whatsoever.
4. Sections 1 and 4 of this By-Law shall come into force on the day that this By-Law is enacted. Sections 2 and 3 of this By-Law shall come into force on the day that the Agreement is entered into by the City and the Tenant.

Given First and Second Readings

Given Third Reading and Passed

Janet Jaynes
City Clerk

Bryan Paterson
Mayor