

## **Relaunch of the Round Table on the Educational Success of First Nations Students**

**Province of Quebec, August 18, 2025** - More than 27 key players representing 13 educational organisations from the provincial school network and Indigenous communities met on August 12<sup>th</sup> to relaunch the Round Table on the Educational Success of First Nations Students.

The Table is essential to students' educational success: it is the sole forum for consultation for the Government of Quebec to become fully aware of the educational challenges experienced by our young people in order to find collaborative solutions to these issues.

The relaunching of this work comes at just the right time: in November 2024, the Auditor General of Quebec (AGQ) published a highly critical report on the Minister of Education's inaction, asserting that it contributes to erecting systemic barriers to the perseverance and success of more than 1300 First Nations and Inuit students attending public schools.

Despite these alarming findings, the Government of Quebec unilaterally suspended the Table's work last January, just two months after the AGQ report was published. This ill-considered decision occurred as the Table members worked together to advance an innovative mandate that had been established with the support and the participation of the Minister of Education during previous years. This mandate is based on guiding principles, offering constructive solutions to the Government of Quebec to enable students to reach their full potential and improve their perseverance and their educational success.

With provincial elections fast approaching, the Table members are sending a clear message to the government: the educational success of First Peoples and Inuit must be a top priority. We hope that the province will act in good faith so that together we can find practical and sustainable solutions. We reaffirm our willingness to welcome the Minister back to the Table. In recognition that the Minister of Education works with other departments, which have an impact on the ability of the Table to succeed in its mandate, we respectfully request and stress the need to meet soon with Ministers Drainville, Déry, Dubé, Girard, and Lafrenière.

### ***Signatures***

***Marjolaine Tshernish, Executive Director – Tshakapesh Institute***

***Pascal Sasseville Quoquochi, Director of the Education Sector – Wemotaci***

***Josée Dion, Director - Onyawawenda', Heritage, Education and Workforce Development – Wendat Nation Council***

***Vicky Lelièvre, Director – ITUM Educational Services***

***Denis Gros-Louis, Executive Director – First Nations Education Council (FNEC)***

**David Meloche, Executive Director** – Quebec English School Board Administration  
**Tanya Sirois, Executive Director** – Quebec Native Friendship Centres Association  
**Tanu Lusignan, Executive Director** – First Nations Adult Education School Council  
**Ana Osborne, Director** - Adult Education Services – Littoral School Service Centre  
**Annie Gros-Louis, Director of Educational Services** – First Nations Education Council (FNEC)  
**Isabelle Tremblay-Chevalier, Advisor** - Centrale des Syndicats du Québec (CSQ)

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