



## **Mentor/Learner Opportunity**

### **Overview:**

Anishinaabemodaa, the Ojibwe Language Strategy, is introducing a critical add-on to the existing Anishinaabemowin Pathway at Fort Frances High School. The Mentor/Learner Program matches an Anishinaabemowin speaker with two students for a period of 15 hours per week where only conversational Anishinaabemowin at the speaker's home community will be used. Please note that the Program will follow all COVID-19 restrictions.

The Mentor/Learner Program is a three-year program to support students to become conversationally fluent in Anishinaabemowin, with the hopes that these students can advance their careers as Anishinaabemowin teachers or Early Childhood Educators. Even if students going through this program do not chose to advance their post secondary academic careers in these two areas, our communities will still benefit from the knowledge transferred to the youth.

### **Process for student selection:**

Grade 9 and 10 students attending Fort Frances High School will be invited to apply to the Mentor/Learner Program, with the first wave of successful candidates to start in January 2021. Selection will be made based on an application process, academic standing, as well as a virtual interview.

The utilization of Computer Based Training (CBT) will provide both a consistency of knowledge transfer and a minimum level baseline upon completion. Students will be required to work their 15 hours per week on these modules. Once the modules are completed, the student will be paired with a mentor where conversational Anishinaabemowin will be spoken for 15 hours per week.



**Anishinaabemodaa**  
**RRDSB PATHWAY OPPORTUNITY**  
**ANISHINAABEMOWIN MENTOR-LEARNER PROGRAM**  
(DEADLINE – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH)

RRDSB, SayITFirst and Seven Generations Education Institute have co-developed a program that will help students to become conversationally fluent in Ojibwe upon graduation. This program has been developed to support students wishing to pursue careers which require Anishinaabemowin, such as teaching and Early Childhood Education.

**Students in Grades 9 and 10 who are enrolled in Ojibwe** are invited to participate in the Mentor-Learner Program. The expectation of the students is to speak Anishinaabemowin 100% of the time when participating in this program.

Students will work to complete 120 hours (one hour per module) of a computer-based training program in Anishinaabemowin. Once the computer-based training modules are completed the students will be paired with a fluent first speaker from their home community in order to develop conversational fluency in the language. Students in this Program will spend their time between Fort Frances High School and the mentor's home community or local First Nation for 15 hours per week of Anishinaabemowin immersion where only Ojibwe can be spoken. This program allows the student to make money while learning Anishinaabemowin to enhance their school experience.

**Students:** Must be willing to make a commitment to learning and speaking Anishinaabemowin for 15 hours per week and be enrolled in Ojibwe at Fort Frances High School each year until graduation. This position will require the student to commit to at least 36 weeks of program participation over the next three years, with the possibility of more.

**Hours:** 120 hours of Computer Based Training will happen at the discretion of the student and their schedule. Once completed the training, students will sit with fluent speakers to speak Anishinaabemowin for 15 hours per week as agreed upon with the mentor. The program will not run on holidays.

**Hourly rate:** \$15.00 an hour

**Location:** The Computer Based training can occur anywhere the student has access to a computer. The face to face sessions will rotate between Fort Frances High School and the students' local First Nation community.

**Start Date:** Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Selection:** As spaces are limited, successful participants will be chosen through a combination of an interview, and academic performance.

All sections of the **application form** need to be filled out completely. Please submit by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6th, 2020 via email to [kim.kirk@rrdsb.com](mailto:kim.kirk@rrdsb.com).

Find the online form at: <https://forms.gle/6NFQ7TfuTqLMYrFAA>



## Application Form for Mentor-Learner Program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (where you want to be contacted): \_\_\_\_\_

Check the box indicating which is the preferred Pathway:

Teacher

Early Childhood Care worker

Other-

Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Describe what it means to you to have an opportunity to learn Anishinaabemowin at a much deeper level than provided currently in school.

- 2) Describe how you imagine using this increased Anishinaabemowin knowledge once you have finished the Pathway. How do you see yourself passing on the language to future generations?



## Privacy Release Form

I hereby consent to the disclosure, transmittal or examination of my/my child's academic information, including marks and attendance, to members of SayITFirst, the Rainy River District School board and Seven Generations Education Institute as required to participate in the Mentor-Learner Program for the sole purpose of monitoring eligibility for my/my child's participation in this program.

I have been informed and understand how this information will be used, and that this information will not be passed on to other third parties without my prior consent. This consent is valid for October 30, 2020 through June 2023 and may be revoked at any time by the parent/guardian or student (if 18).

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if 18 or older)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Verification Form for Mentor-Learner Program

(Do not sign this is page if the privacy release form is not signed)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I will enrol in an Ojibwe course offered at Fort Frances High School each year and demonstrate good attendance and academic progress in order to stay in the Mentor-Learner Program. For the 2020/21 year, I am enrolled in \_\_\_\_\_ and am in good standing.  
(class, quadmester)

I am currently enrolled in the following courses:

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I am enrolled in the following courses during the next quadmester:

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I am currently in Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if 18 or older)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_