



North Vancouver  
**School District**  
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# Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement

IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

MARCH 7, 2023

# Introduction



## *hands back, hands forward*

*An indigenous teaching from Dr. Vincent Stogan, Tsimilano, from Musqueam*

# Updated Grad Requirement



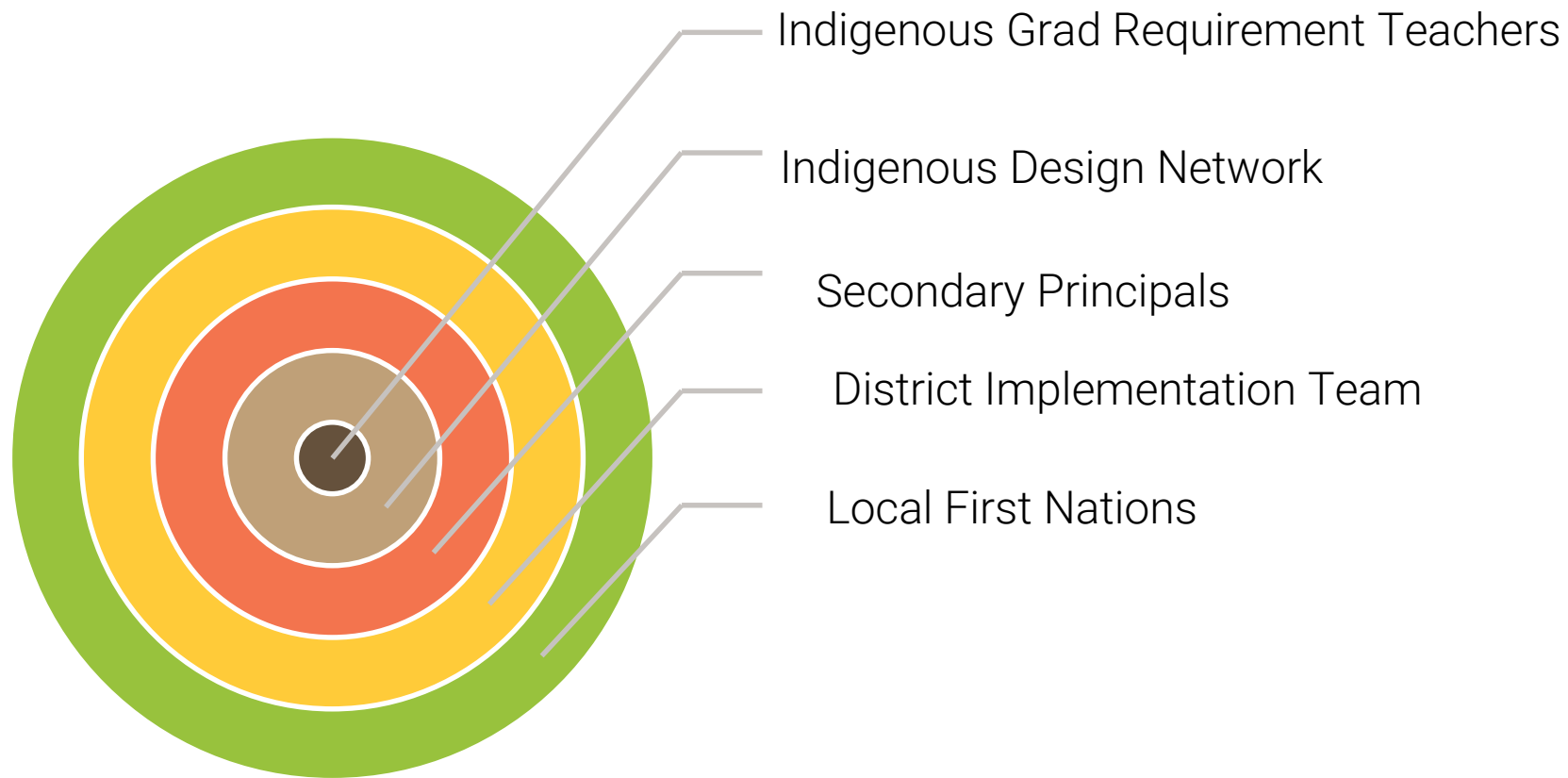
- Effective 2023/2024
- All students working toward a B.C. Certificate of Graduation, in English or French
- Must successfully complete at least 4 credits in Indigenous-focused coursework
- Applies to all BC schools: public, independent, First Nations, and offshore
- The total number of credits required to graduate remains unchanged at 80

# Background



- 2019, *Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*
  - Acknowledges that colonization drastically disrupted the self-determined lives and cultures of Indigenous peoples
  - Establishes UNDRIP as the province's framework for reconciliation as called for by the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action*
- Indigenous Focused Grad Requirement
  - Directly responds to the commitment in the *Act*
  - Consistent with the obligations in the *BC Tripartite Education Agreement*

# Implementation Plan



# Implementation Details



- There are two main subject areas, or strands, where we have concentrated our efforts to provide new classes for all students who will graduate in 2024.
- In Social Studies, there are two courses: BC First Peoples 12, which focuses on the local Nations; and Contemporary Indigenous Studies, which takes a more global approach.
- The second strand is English. In Grades 10, 11, or 12, students study the curricular competencies of the English language in combination with the Indigenous ways of knowing and understanding. Indigenous story is a key unifier, and the courses are aimed at all students who will graduate next year.
- The vast majority of the students who are taking the courses are currently in Grade 11. While in other districts, we understand students will be taking an Indigenous class next year in their Grade 12 year, we felt Grade 11 was a better time for students to take the course. One of the benefits of offering the course in Grade 11 is allowing students the opportunity to extend their learning by taking another course in their Grade 12 year.



# Indigenous Design Network



Curriculum Implementation Day



# **Truth, Healing and Reconciliation: Indigenous Learning through Story Work**





# Iteration and Efficacy



Street Data Sample: Nick George at the Carson Graham Professional Development Day ...  
Looking back at Semester One from the perspective of a local Indigenous Youth

For more information:



[Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement  
Implementation Handbook](#)