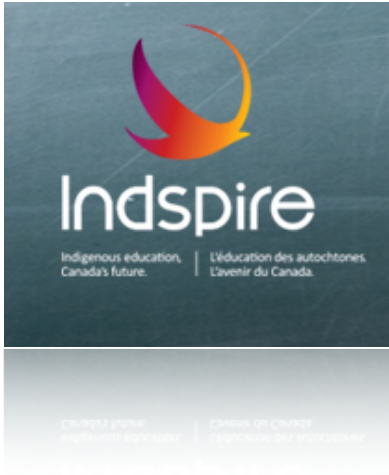


# Indigenous Education

## North Vancouver School District

November 19-23, 2018

### The National Gathering



From November 7-10, 2018, representatives of the North Vancouver School District attended *Indspire: The National Gathering for Indigenous Education*, in Edmonton, Alberta. The theme of the conference this year was Transforming Education through Reconciliation. Teams presented on what is occurring in the North Vancouver School District and also participated in workshops facilitated by educators from across Canada. One of the workshops was a film screening of Alanis Obomsawin's *Our People Will Be Healed*.

NVSD District Principal, Brad Baker, served as the Emcee for *Indspire, The National Gathering for Indigenous Education*, and had the honour and pleasure of introducing award winners from across the country for their contributions to Indigenous Education.



Did you know....

Indspire offers many different programs for educators and students. Resources, webinars and many scholarship opportunities can be found [here](#). Teachers can also sign up to be a mentor or mentee with another educator currently working in Indigenous Education.

### Table of Contents

#### Page 1:

The National Gathering for Indigenous Education  
NVSD Indigenous Education Request Form

#### Page 2

Student Profile  
Strengthening Connections Post Secondary Fair

#### Page 3

Student poem  
Upcoming Workshops: FNEESC

#### Page 4

Upcoming Events

[NVSD Indigenous Education Team Request Form](#)  
[Request Form](#)

### Core Competencies

[Core Competencies](#) with Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Métis connections can be found [here](#).

## Student Profile of the Week

**Name:** Mya Bordeau

**Nation:** Squamish and Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy.

**School:** Cheakamus Centre

Mya is a Squamish Nation member, who also has Mohawk ancestry with the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. Mya is 19 years old and was a student at Carson Graham Secondary. Some of her favourite hobbies include music, movies, and most recently she has been practicing weaving. She is also a passionate soccer player, participating in tournaments all over BC and even Hawaii. During this past summer, she enrolled in a youth leadership program at Cheakamus Centre in Squamish, home of the Outdoor School and Skw'une-was longhouse programs. The leadership program focused on connecting Indigenous students from the school district with Indigenous based education. Her goal was "to learn more about the Squamish culture and meet new people interested in the same thing." During the program, Mya really enjoyed the opportunity to work with visiting elders who shared their specialized knowledge of plants, weaving, carving, and the Squamish language. According to Mya, "There were many great aspects to it: my favourite was meeting new people and working with specialists throughout the program. I also really enjoyed going on field trips with the group to places like the Sea to Sky Gondola and the UBC Museum of Anthropology." Mya is now taking the knowledge that she gained and passing onto elementary students in her new role as an official member of Cheakamus Centre's Cultural Program Staff.



## Strengthening Connections: Indigenous Post Secondary Fair

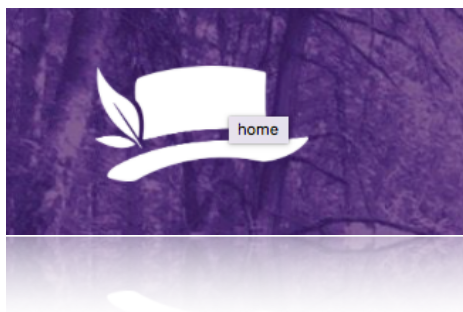
Strengthening Connections: NVSD is hosting the Strengthening Connections Post Secondary Fair on November 23, 2018. Over 19 different institutions will be on site at Carson Graham to provide students with information and a range of different post secondary options. Strengthening Connections will run from 9:45am -12:00pm (Carson Small Gym). Please see your Secondary Indigenous Support Teacher for more information.

## FNESC Upcoming workshops

Check out some upcoming workshops from the First Nations Education Steering Committee. Sign up fast as they usually sell out! To register and for more information click [FNESC WORKSHOPS](#)

*January 18, 2019: Integrating First Peoples Content and Principles of Learning into Schools and Classrooms:*

*January 28, 2019: English First Peoples Teacher Resource Guide*



## Gord Downie Wenjack Legacy Project

The five schools that are participating in the Gord Downie Wenjack Legacy project continue to share with students about the history of Indian Residential Schools in Canada. Here is a collaborative poem from Carisbrooke students:

### Chanie (A Response to 'The Stranger')

You're not a stranger  
We can see you  
You're not a stranger  
We know what you mean  
We see you walking  
We are your friends  
We are walking with you  
This journey has no end  
We can hear you  
The sound of your breath  
We can sense you  
Feel the warmth of our hands  
As you walk in the clouds  
You touch the air with your breath  
We follow your path  
It's in our hearts, in our heads  
Flying up above  
Let's jump forward, not back  
Use the map  
The one that's in your soul  
You're not a stranger  
We can see you  
You're not a stranger  
We know what you mean  
We are sorry  
There was no Secret Path  
So stop, catch your breath  
We will step together  
You are never alone  
We are right behind you, head home  
It's not a Secret Path anymore  
Canada knows who you are  
We're reaching towards you  
It's not too far

Holding our hands  
We can make it together  
We believe in you  
You're a revelation  
You're not a stranger  
We can see you  
You are not a stranger  
We know what you mean  
We know your dad's a nice man  
We know he's a strong man  
He's a good man  
Sometimes you feel like you need to surrender  
We all do  
But you came back  
You have the courage  
It's only you and me  
Have your mind set  
It's only you and me  
You can take our breath  
You are so brave  
Always have faith  
We understand  
We know what you're feeling  
It's not a guess  
It's in our hearts  
It's in our chests  
You made it  
To a better place  
You didn't stop  
Our journey goes on  
You're still on the path  
Our hands stretched out to yours  
We are the path

## Upcoming Events

**December 3, 2018. NVSD Indigenous Education Winter Celebration** at the Artists for Kids Gallery. **Gathering open to all NVSD staff.** 4:30-6:00pm. Limited to 125 people. Please email rsvp to [abed@sd44.ca](mailto:abed@sd44.ca) by November 27, 2018.

**NEW TIME: December 6, 2018. Dinner and Dialogue: The Pass System: 5:30-7:00pm.** The Indigenous Education team will be showing the film, *The Pass System*. This documentary by Alex Williams investigates the use of the Pass System to prevent Indigenous Peoples from leaving reserves to maintain social and economic inequalities. *Email confirmation of attendance to [abed@sd44.ca](mailto:abed@sd44.ca). Film viewing will be in the Carson Theatre*

If your school has a success story to share please email Brad Baker at [bbaker@sd44.ca](mailto:bbaker@sd44.ca)