

Indigenous Education

North Vancouver School District



What's happening

March 1st: Teachings of weaving at Upper Lynn and Ross Road Elementary.

March 4th: Land-based learning at Cleveland Elementary

March 4th: NVTAs Social Justice Workshop - BC Blanket Exercise: Sutherland Secondary

- This experiential workshop helps participants understand how colonization of the land we now know as British Columbia and Canada has impacted the people who lived here long before settlers arrived.
- Through this exercise participants explore the nation to nation relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada, how this relationship has been damaged over the years, and how we can work toward reconciliation.

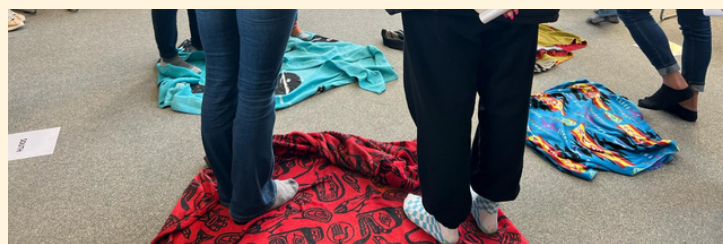


Table of Contents

What's happening

Announcements

- **Upcoming days of significance**
- **World Water Day**
- **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

Staff Spotlight

Resources

- **Your Voice is Power**
- **Métis Courses & Resources**

We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and TsleilWaututh Nation, whose unceded traditional territory the North Vancouver School District resides on. We value the opportunity to learn, share and grow on this traditional territory.

Announcements

Upcoming Days of Significance of 2024

- Mar 21st - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- Mar 22 - World Water Day
- Mar 31 - National Indigenous Languages Day
- April - Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month



[CLICK HERE](#)

World Water Day - March 22

28 First Nations Communities STILL don't have access to clean drinking water.

In Canada, the federal government has a special responsibility to make sure that people living on First Nations reserves have clean water to drink. The treaties that we signed with First Nations long ago still bind us and they must be honoured. Our First Nations treaty partners have not benefited nearly as much as we have. We are all responsible for ensuring our governments respect and abide by the treaties.

We have to do better.

- [Map of Long Term Drinking Water Advisories on Public Systems on Reserves](#)
- [Take Action](#)

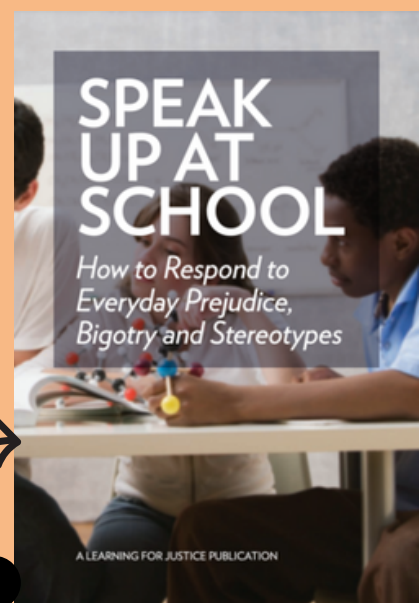
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - March 21

#FightRacism #NoToHate

Education is the tool to fight against Racism. [Learn more.](#)

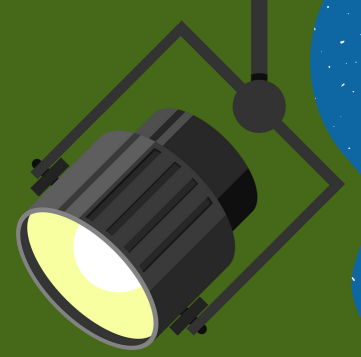
8 Everyday Ways to Fight Racism. ([Link](#))

- Learn to recognize and understand your own privilege
- Examine your own biases and consider where they may have originated
- Validate the experiences and feelings of people of color
- Challenge the "colorblind" ideology
- Call out racist "jokes" or statements as not okay
- Find out how your school works to expand opportunities for people of color
- Support BIPOC-owned businesses
- Adopt an intersectional approach in all aspects of your life



[CLICK HERE](#)

Indigenous Education Staff Spotlight



Staff at Sutherland Family of Schools and Carson Graham Secondary

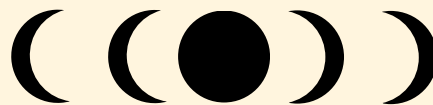


Name: Evan Skye

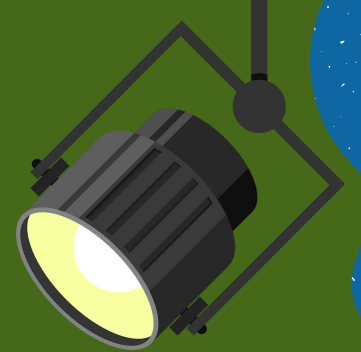
Role: Family of Schools Indigenous Support Worker

Where: Sutherland Family of Schools, Carson Graham.

- Of Squamish (*Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh*), Cayuga (*Haudenosaunee*), Tseshaht (*číšaaʔath*) descent
- 1st year as an Indigenous support worker (makes my day everyday)
- Especially thankful for the Indigenous support team(s) at Carson and Sutherland, But shout-out the Indigenous support staff!
- “I want to advocate for and support students in a way that embodies Indigenous teachings”
- “I am honoured to be in a position to provide students with my undivided attention and support.”
- “Indigenous support during my time in the education system was still in the building stage, even so; I don’t think I would’ve seen graduation day without the help of the support team at Carson, which consisted of Steph Mackie. I am beyond proud to be part of a new era of Indigenous support.”
- Favourite subjects are English, science, and social studies.
- Applying to the NITEP program to become a teacher!



Indigenous Education Staff Spotlight



Alex Buque

Indigenous Support Worker

Staff at Carson Graham Secondary

Born and raised in Whitby, Ontario, Canada.

10 years- Professional Lacrosse Athlete- NLL – First Team All Rookie. Several star of the week performances.

Graduated in 2014 from American International College (NCAA D2) – Summa Cum Laude- Dual Major Finance and Economics.

- 1x CCLA 1ST Team All-Conference
- 4x Dean's List.
- 2x Minto Cup champion (Whitby Warriors Jr.A Lacrosse)
- 1x MCLA D2 Champion (Collegiate)
- 1x President's Cup Champion (Sr.B Lacrosse)

Interned at RBC Corporate (2014), employed by Westland Insurance (2015-2021)



Currently, in my 3rd year as an Indigenous support worker. Having been employed at Norgate Elementary and Carson Graham Secondary. I truly enjoy making connections with students and helping them pursue the proper academics or career path for their future.



Currently, on staff on the Carson Graham as a Football Coach (Defensive Line) on the football team and the Golf team. Favourite subjects include Math, Business and History.

I also enjoy encouraging the student athletes to continue their athletic career at the collegiate level with the hopes to pursue scholarships and degree. Currently, under my coaching/ teaching career I have helped to send multiple students to the USA on athletic scholarships and furthered their careers at the Junior and Professional level.

My goal for everyone is “Every day is a chance to be better than the day before” and support students and embody the teachings and guidance of Indigenous ways.

Currently applying at UBC to become a full time teacher to further encourage our youth in pursuit of a higher education.



Educational Resource: Your Voice is Power



Contest submissions are **now** open for the 2023-24 contest, through **May 31, 2024**.

YOUR VOICE IS POWER

REMIX BEATS. LEARN CODE.

Ready to compete for awesome prizes while learning new skills and inspiring action towards social justice? Time to get creative, code, and put your entrepreneurial spirit to the test.

WWW.YOURVOICEISPOWER.CA

EarSketch

WHAT YVIP IS

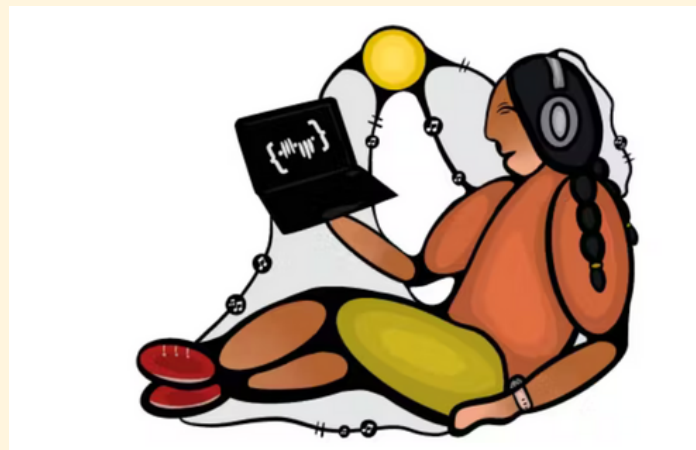
Your Voice is Power is a national competition for middle and high school students designed to teach the fundamentals of computer science, entrepreneurship, and social justice. Using the EarSketch platform, students get creative to remix songs from Indigenous artists and use what they have learned from the provided course outline.

HOW IT WORKS

The Your Voice Is Power competition is an opportunity to remix beats while learning to code. Yes, code! Your students will use EarSketch, a free online code editor, to compose a unique song while learning computer science. No experience is necessary to participate. Students can also participate in the curriculum experience to develop an understanding of social justice themes to include in their song.

Links:

- [Website](#)
- [Teacher Checklist](#)
- [Teacher Training](#)
- [Course Module Overview](#)
- [Competition Requirements](#)



BRING THIS TO MY CLASSROOM

Encourage your students' creativity by bringing together music, computer science, entrepreneurship, and social justice. Engage them with an immersive experience on a national scale.

WIN PRIZES



First Place

Two students will win \$5,000 to go towards college or to start a business.



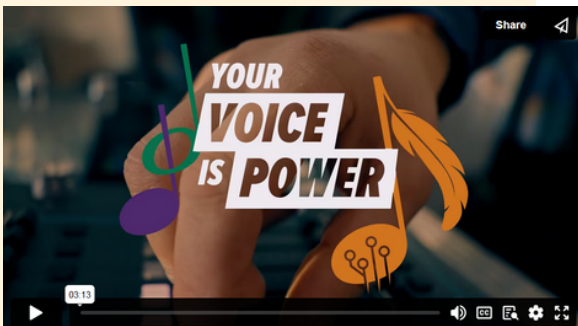
Runners up

Runners up will win \$200 Amazon gift cards and \$25 for honourable mentions!



Teachers

One excellent teacher will receive \$1,000 for their remarkable instruction.



[CLICK HERE](#)

Métis Courses & Resources: including a Michif language course!

Métis Courses for Educators:

(Click the links to learn more)

1. [Michif Language Introductory Course](#) - Early Bird Registration Open
2. [Connecting to the Land, the Métis Way Summer Course](#) - Early Bird Registration Open



Métis Resources for Learners:

1. [Medicines to Help Us: Traditional Métis Plant Use](#)
2. [Metis 'Connecting to the Land' Children's Book Bundle](#)



With 100% of proceeds going back into outdoor learning non-profit initiatives, [The Outdoor Learning Store](#) is a charitable social enterprise grown in the homelands of the Secwepemc and Ktunaxa, and flourishing across Turtle Island (North America). We understand that Indigenous Knowledge and Perspectives are foundational to Outdoor Learning.