

Indigenous Education

North Vancouver School District



What's happening

Indigenous Leadership Conference at Sherwood Park Elementary



On Friday, April 12th, grade 6 & 7 students from Sherwood Park Elementary participated in various Indigenous career focus workshops.



Some of the invited guest presenters were Skwxwú7mesh weaver, Deanna Lewis, Ojibway entrepreneur Patrice Mousseau, St'át'imc beader, Vanessa Mountain, Gitxaala, Nisga'a, & Metis business owner, Lynn-Marie Angus, Skwxwú7mesh archeologist, Roderick Lewis, Ts'ymsyen member & Indigenous Spotify consultant, Tracy Ridler, botanist & NVSD employee, Ainsley Thor.

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We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation and səlilwətał (Tseil-Waututh) 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.

What's Happening

Indigenous Leadership Conference at Sherwood Park



The day began with a traditional welcome by Tsleil Waututh community members, Sara Hyland & William George. Squamish nation member & NVSD ISW, Dallas Gus also provided land acknowledgment teachings. Followed by a Chief Dan George rendition by students & music teacher from Windsor Secondary.



Entrepreneur



Weaving



Archeology



Announcements

Upcoming Days of Significance of 2024

- April 30th - T̓silhqot'in Incident (1864)
- May 5th - Red Dress Day
- May 10th - Jordan's Principle: Bear Witness Day ([link](#))
- May 11th-Nisga'a Day
- May 10th-12th-Annual Mother's Day Powow
- May 16th - Moose Hide Campaign Day



May 5th is:

Free
Printable poster

CLICK HERE

National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Peoples (MMIWG2SLGBTQQIA+)

Native Women's Association of Canada's Red Dress Day Tool Kit -- INFO and TEACHING GUIDE: ([link](#))



This Toolkit Includes:

- Introductory information
- Statistics
- Questions for students aged 12-18
- Key discussions questions with answers
- Letter writing template
- Faceless Doll Project resources
- Additional resources



Listen to Indigenous Voices:

Brianna Jonnie, at age 14 wrote a letter imploring for a better response to missing Indigenous people. Her emotional letter, paired with the art of Indigenous illustrator, Neal Shannacappo, have been assembled into this powerful book. ([Link](#))

Announcements: Indigenous Concert Series

May 5, 2024 1:30 pm - May 5, 2024 4:30 pm

Location: Grandview Park, Vancouver

VANCOUVER PARK BOARD & BRITANNIA COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTRE PRESENTS

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

**CHRISTIE LEE CHARLES
INDIGENOUS WOMEN
RISE DRUM GROUP
ELECTRIC WARRIOR BAND**



HOST
CASEY DESJARLAIS

FREE EVENT
ALL AGES
INDIGENOUS
MARKET

INDIGENOUS CONCERT SERIES



**MAY
5/24
1:30-4:30PM**

**GRANDVIEW PARK
1657 CHARLES STREET**



Announcements: Annual Mother's Day Powow

May 10th, 2024 - May 12th, 2024

Location: Trout Lake Community Centre, Vancouver



40TH ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY POWWOW HONOURING OUR MATRIARCHS MAY 10 - 12 2024 | TROUT LAKE COMMUNITY CENTRE

HOST DRUM:
BLACKFOOT CONFEDERACY

ARENA DIRECTOR:
MELEM-ST'YE E. WHITE

GRAND ENTRY:

FRIDAY, MAY 10: 5PM
SATURDAY, MAY 11: 12PM & 6PM
SUNDAY, MAY 12: 12PM

DRUM GROUP & DANCERS:

FIRST REGISTERED 10 DRUM GROUPS WITH 6 PEOPLE MIN TO RECEIVE DAY PAY
REGISTRATION CLOSED SATURDAY 1PM

FOR MORE INFO, TO HOST A SPECIAL AND TO VOLUNTEER:

CONTACT CHENCHENSTWAY@GMAIL.COM

VENDORS APPLY NOW:



SCAN ME!

HOST AGENCY



Vancouver Aboriginal Health Society

EVERYONE IS WELCOME



3360 VICTORIA DR, YVR, BC

We are honoured to be hosting our PowWow on the unceded traditional territories of the of the x^mməθk^wəyám (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations

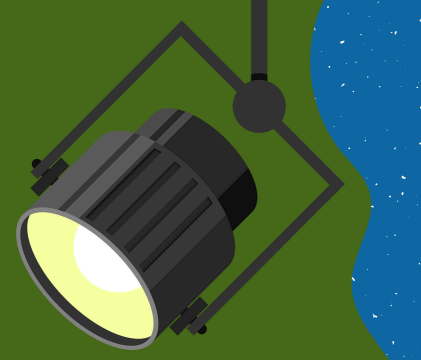
HONOURING OUR MATRIARCHS

Especially those affected by MMIWGT2S+ and the Opioid Epidemic



METRO VANCOUVER
ABORIGINAL EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL

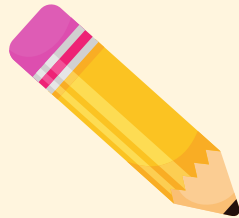
Indigenous Education Staff Spotlight



Staff at Norgate Xwemélch'stn Community Elementary



Carlo Cusanelli has been an Indigenous Support Teacher at Norgate Xwemélch'stn Community Elementary since 2019. At Norgate, the focus is on intensive reading and writing intervention with his students. After having taught in the early primary classroom for over 20 years, Carlo now helps children from K-7 find a new path to overcome their literacy struggles.

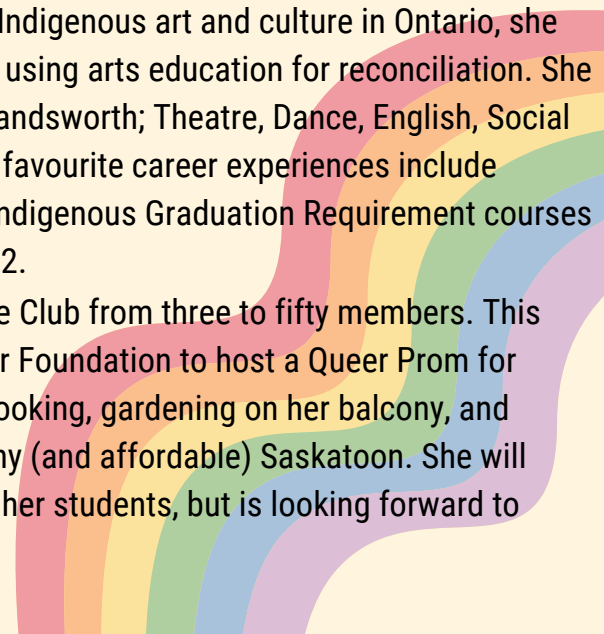


Staff at Handsworth Secondary



Simone Brodie has had the honour of being the Indigenous Resource Teacher at Handsworth Secondary since 2019. She is a settler whose ancestors had the privilege to come to Turtle Island after facing violent anti-Semitism in Russia and the Odessa Ghetto. Simone grew up on the unceded territory of the Lkwungen peoples in Victoria. Before becoming a teacher, she worked as a theatre director and dramaturg, getting her BFA in Theatre from UVic and her MA in Intercultural Theatre from U of T. Shocked by the lack of representation of Indigenous art and culture in Ontario, she came to do her BEd at UBC with a goal of using arts education for reconciliation. She has taught a wide variety of courses at Handsworth; Theatre, Dance, English, Social Justice, and BC First Peoples. One of her favourite career experiences include working on the curriculum design of the Indigenous Graduation Requirement courses and then teaching English First Peoples 12.

She is proud to be an East Van Queer and has brought the Handsworth Pride Club from three to fifty members. This year, her Pride Club students received a 10,000 grant from the It Get's Better Foundation to host a Queer Prom for 300 youth across the lower mainland. When she is not working, she loves cooking, gardening on her balcony, and chilling with her cat. This summer, she is leaving North Van to move to sunny (and affordable) Saskatoon. She will miss Handsworth, the amazing Indigenous Education team, and most of all her students, but is looking forward to this new beginning and the adventures that lie ahead!



Educational Resource: Indigenous Earth Day



CLICK HERE

Francois Paulette talks climate change @ the 2015 Parliament



Innu writer Melissa Mollen Dupuis

Inuk author, Ashley Qilavaq-Savard



Click Here

Everyday is Earth Day for Indigenous People Article

This two page article discusses the vital role of Indigenous Peoples and their knowledge in promoting planetary health. It emphasizes the historical and ongoing challenges faced by Indigenous communities, such as colonialism, racism, and marginalization, and how they are disproportionately affected by poverty and reduced life expectancy. Despite these challenges, Indigenous Peoples continue to protect and steward about 80% of Earth's remaining biodiversity. The article calls for the recognition and incorporation of Indigenous knowledge systems in climate change and health-related initiatives to ensure a holistic approach to planetary health. It also highlights the need for Indigenous leadership in shaping research, policy, and practice to address environmental issues effectively



References:

Redvers, N., Warbrick, I., Kokunda, S. Porokwa, A., Taylor, J., Bingham. B. & Roth, G. (2024). Every day is Earth Day: Indigenous peoples and their knowledges for planetary health. In *The Lancet*. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(24\)00704-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(24)00704-9)

Educational Resource: Reel Canada Recorded Event

Rctv: Honouring Truth and Reconciliation

CLICK HERE

Couldn't make the livestream date? You can still watch an interactive recording any time afterwards.

Rctv livestream: Honouring Truth and Reconciliation

Join us for a nationwide conversation reflecting on Canada's legacy of Indian Residential Schools and pathways towards reconciliation. This FREE recorded event will showcase the powerful short documentary, Honour to Senator Murray Sinclair, by legendary Abenaki filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin.



After watching the film, students engaged in a live, virtual Q&A discussion with our moderator and special guests, and students across the country. While watching the broadcast, youth used our online platform to submit their questions for our special guests and participate in discussion boards, polls, chat, and more. As always, teachers will receive lesson plans and support resources geared specifically toward this event to enrich student learning.

This recorded livestream is suitable for Grades 9-12, for both in-class or virtual learning. It's presented as part of our annual National Canadian Film Day on April 17th, at 9am. But even if the live date doesn't work for teachers' schedules, they **can still watch an interactive recording afterwards**. We will also be providing a French-subtitled recording of the livestream in the weeks following the event.

 REGISTER NOW

CLICK HERE

For any questions, more information, or want to preview the film, here's how to connect:

- email: contactus@reelcanada.ca
- call at: 1-888-508-0881, ext. 229

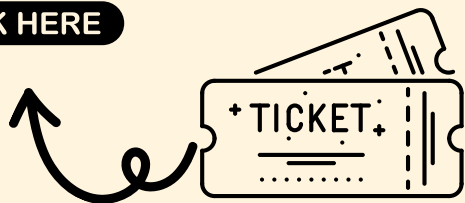
The Clutch

Educational Resource: You used to call me Marie...

April 18-28th



CLICK HERE



Indigenous Pricing

There are complimentary tickets available for self-identifying Indigenous patrons who wish to see *You used to call me Marie...* Contact outreach@thecultch.com for more details and to book your seats

"It articulated my family story and the story of so many of our families. It was perfect."

- Christi Belcourt (Métis Visual Artist)

By Tai Amy Grauman

A Savage Society (Vancouver) and NAC Indigenous Theatre production, 2024.

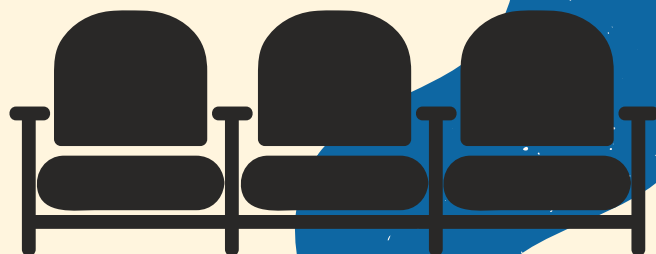
An epic Métis love story.

A love story, a historical epic, and a celebration of Métis song and dance, *You used to call me Marie...* paints the stories of the Callihoo women in Alberta. Music plays, and ponies dance as the story of Marie Callihoo unfurls through generations and time. We follow Iskwewo, Napew, and Mistatim ('horse' in Michif) in eight intertwined stories of love and resilience as the Métis nation emerges across the plains. As we experience the love stories of Alberta's Métis women—through stories of the fur trade, governance, and organizing in the 1930s and into the present day—we witness generations of Callihoo women unfold.

Don't miss this beautiful new play, featuring era-spanning dance and live music, from French fiddle to contemporary country!

Links:

- The Clutch: [Website](#)
- Savage Society: [Website](#)
- Location: [York Theatre](#), Vancouver





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

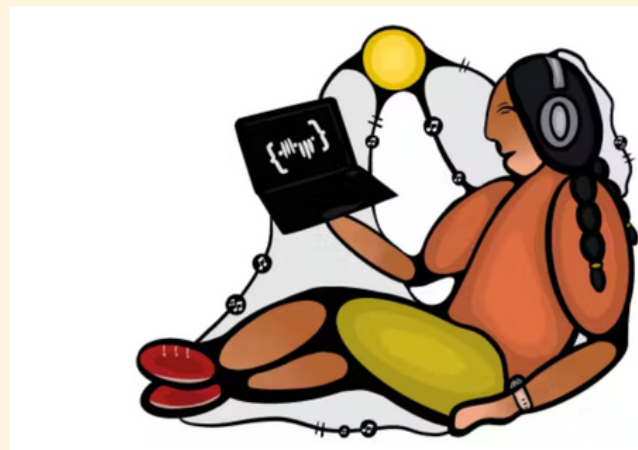
Your Voice is Power is a national competition for middle and high school students designed to teach the fundamentals of computer science, entrepreneurship, and social justice. Using the EarSketch platform, students get creative to remix songs from Indigenous artists and use what they have learned from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



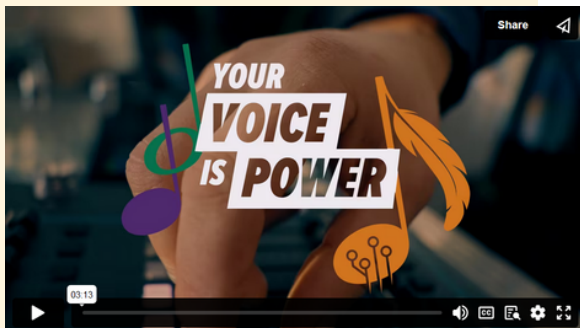
Runners up

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 until **April 15th**
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.