

Indigenous Education

North Vancouver School District

April 8-12th, 2019



Norgate Jiggers sharing the Sash Dance

“My Grandmother’s Garden”

Last fall Flora Weistche unveiled her beaded buckskin called “My Grandmother’s Garden”, or *Nuuhkum Unihtaauhichikin* (Cree) which took her over three years to complete. Read about the process and the inspiration for this beautiful piece of beadwork [here](#)



Flora said she hopes when women view her piece they will feel inspired to bead, empowered and proud of who they are as strong Indigenous women.

Flora Weistche

Métis Beading Workshops At Boundary

Thursday April 11, 2019 marked the beginning of a school wide Métis Beading Project in which all students Kindergarten to Grade 7 will be participating and learning about the teachings and traditions of Métis Beadwork. The project was opened by NVSD Indigenous Education team and the Norgate Jiggers.

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

Core Competencies

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

We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Tsleil-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.

Student Profile

Name: Lily Johnston and Rodney Lee

Nation: Cree

School: Eastview



Lily and Rodney are an amazing brother/sister duo!

Lily is a proud Indigenous student who is keen to learn more about her heritage and the Cree language. She actively engages in all of her classwork and loves it when we are able to provide opportunities for her to learn about Indigenous art and culture. Lily is a storyteller. Her gift for remembering details and for describing situations make her stories come alive. She is very creative especially in the fine arts (music, performing, drawing, etc.). Lily's empathetic nature means she is always quick to help others (including her teachers) whenever they need it. Her outstanding work ethic often gives her free time to create books or visual art. At home, it seems as if Lily is always exploring a new interest. She is very curious and always has a list of things she wants to try and do. She likes reading, computer games, coding and always enjoys playing online chess against her Grandpa who lives in Edmonton. She is an amazing big sister to her two younger

brothers. She often creates fun games for them to play or helps to build elaborate forts. Her favourite out of school activity is Irish Dancing, and she has recently even started competing in local competitions which are called Feissanna. She is very athletic and loves sports like snowboarding, softball, swimming and running (and is even participating in the Vancouver Sun Run 10km for the second time this year!).

Rodney always has a smile on his face. He is a leader in his class and can always be counted on to make his friends laugh with a silly joke or a funny face. He likes to use his amazing imagination to tell and share stories. His teacher describes him as a kind, thoughtful and helpful student who is always the first one to cheer up a sad or hurt friend. At school, Rodney is a bright light that shines with enthusiasm and joy in everything that he does. At home Rodney's favourite thing to do is create and play with LEGO, he always has a table of his latest creations on display. Rodney is also very passionate about art and especially loves drawing. He loves spending time with his family: playing board games and reading with his Mom, Papa and older Sister, and wrestling with his little Brother (which they like to call "Battling"). Rodney is very exuberant and is always telling jokes and funny stories. He loves to laugh and make others laugh too.

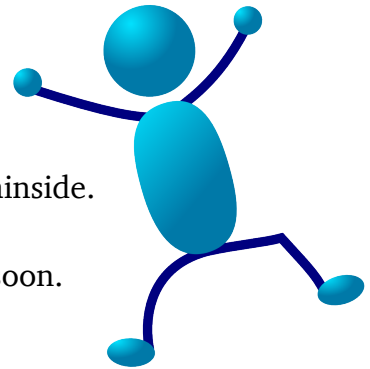


Student Opportunities

Indigenous Student Celebration of Success

The NVSD Indigenous Education team will be hosting a student event, Indigenous Student Celebration of Success on May 31st, 2019 at Mountainside.

The event will run from 9am-3pm. Watch for more information coming soon.



Native Youth Program: Museum of Anthology (MOA) UBC



MOA is accepting applications for the Native Youth Program to work at the Museum of Anthropology for the summer. Youth ages 15-18 of Indigenous ancestry may apply to this program which runs from July 2-August 16, 2019. Find out more or to apply click [here](#).

Blanket Exercise: Sutherland FOS

On Thursday, April 11, 2019, PAC's and administrators from the Sutherland FOS participated in the Blanket Exercise, facilitated by NVSD Indigenous Education Team. It was a powerful and emotional evening of learning with the third pathway of Indigenous Education, the community. The Sutherland FOS was the third PAC group to participate in the Blanket Exercise. Carson Graham and Seycove PACs have also participated in the Blanket Exercise.

Almost every school site has participated in the Blanket Exercise. If your location would also like to have the NVSD Indigenous Education team facilitate the Blanket Exercise for your staff please fill out the request form.

The Secret Path

Windsor and Sherwood Park hosted a community screening of *The Secret Path* on the evening of April 9, 2019, as part of the Downie Wenjack Legacy Project. Students, Community Members, Parents, and NVSD Staff came together at Windsor to share stories and experiences about being part of the Downie Wenjack Legacy Project. The evening included student presentations, the sharing of the Coast Salish Anthem by students from Sherwood Park and Windsor. The evening was opened with words from Vince White, Director of Instruction: Learning Services and Gabe George from Tsleil-Waututh Nation shared his thoughts about the work and the path forward. Brad Baker, District Principal of Indigenous Education provided the closing remarks.



Gordon Dick, NVSD Indigenous Support Worker sharing his thoughts and feelings about visiting classes as part of the Downie Wenjack Legacy Project

2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL2019)

In honour and recognition that 2019 is *International Year of Indigenous Languages* we will feature an Indigenous Language resource each week. You can check out the [IYIL2019 website](#) to learn about events in your community and the goals of the UN International Year of Indigenous Languages.

Feature Resources of the Week: Mi'kmaq

Mi'kmaq is a Algonquin Language spoken by the Mi'kmaq Peoples. The Mi'kmaq territory is in Atlantic Canada, including Gaspé Bay and the word Mi'kmaq is plural for “my friends.”

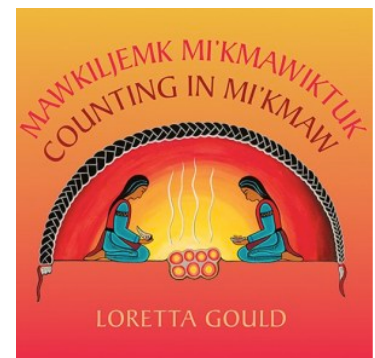
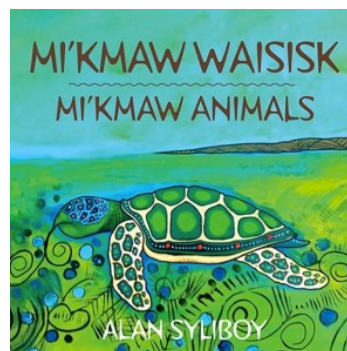
Resources to Learn Mi'kmaq

[Learn Mi'kmaq](#)

[Mi'gmaq/Mi'kmaq language](#)

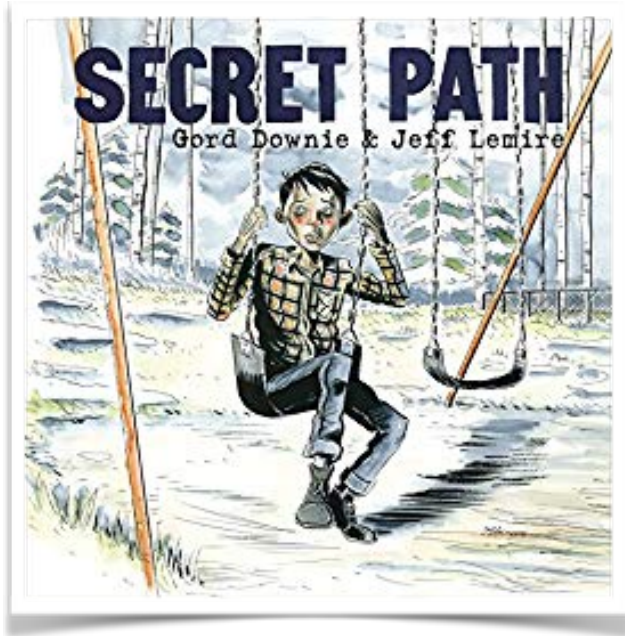
[Mi'kmaq Translations](#)

[First Voices Mi'kmaq](#)



Upcoming Events and Workshops

Secret Path Screening




The North Vancouver School District Indigenous Education Team will be hosting a screening of *The Secret Path* at Centennial Theatre on April 29, 2019. Mike Downie and Pearl Wenjack will also be in attendance for the discussion following the film. *Tickets are limited and they are free.* Donations to the Downie Wenjack Foundation will be accepted at the the theatre.

Click [here](#) to obtain your tickets.

Indigenous Math K-12 Symposium.

UBC will be hosting the the 9th Annual Indigenous Math K-12 Symposium on May 14th, 2019. Click [here](#) for more information or to register for the symposium. Registration is open now.



9th Indigenous Math K-12 Symposium

M in STEM: Exploring Mathematics in All Kinds of Places

Tuesday May 14, 2019 | 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Sty-Wet-Tan First Nations Longhouse, 1985 West Mall, UBC

Registration by May 10 | Registration fees: \$30 | tinyurl.com/9thIndigenousMathSymposium

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