

Indigenous Education

North Vancouver School District

June 3-7 , 2019

Honouring Indigenous Student Success

On Friday May 31st Indigenous Student leaders met at Mountainside to participate in the annual student conference hosted by the NVSD Indigenous Education team.

In addition to participating in ice breakers, outdoor activities and getting to know each other, students had the opportunity to listen to three keynote speakers.

The first keynote speaker was Kory Wilson, Kwakwaka'wakw who is currently the Executive Director, *BCIT* Indigenous Initiatives and Partnerships. Ms Wilson shared with students her personal journey and educational experiences. Ms. Wilson shared with students that only they can define success and the



Kory Wilson

“you are perfect and good just the way you are ...and the fact you are still here today is a testament to the strength of our ancestors”
Kory Wilson

powerful words that its not about being the smartest but more to do with hard work and telling your truth. Following the first keynote, students shared their own thoughts and feelings on what makes a good school, and areas for improvement. NVSD Superintendent, Mark Pearmain spoke with students about his own personal journey towards understanding of Indigenous history and the importance of student

voice in making change. The afternoon keynote featured, Peshanquet Shognosh, Anishnaabe, who is currently the Provincial Coordinator, Performance Sport at Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Council shared with students his passion for sports and the opportunities that sport can provide. Mr. Shognosh talked with students about his passion for the Olympics, all the countries and places that sport has taken with him. Students heard how you don't have to be the star athlete but there is room for all in sports. The afternoon ended with Kiskino humakew'iskwew, Heather Myhre sharing Métis Finger Weaving with students.

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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.



NVSD Staff



Peshaunquet Shognosh and Raven



Mark Pearmain and Monica



Seycove Students with Ms. Yeo

Student Profile

Name: Jaimee Thomas

Nation: Tsleil Watuth Nation.

School: Lynnmour Elementary

Meet the artist who created the new NVSD Indigenous Education logo!



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Jaimee is 10 years old and in Grade 4 at Lynnmour Elementary and is a member of the Tsleil Watuth Nation. Her friends and teachers at Lynnmour describe Jaimee as being caring, hard working and respectful. She tries very hard to master skills she has difficulty with. At school, Jaimee loves Art, Science, Math and PE. In her community she loves to play with friends and help cook. She is proud of her design for the new Indigenous Education logo.

Student Opportunities

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](#).



NVSD Graduation Ceremonies for Indigenous Students: June 24, 2019

Honouring Indigenous Students

NVSD Graduation Ceremony for Indigenous Students



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NVSD is hosting a graduation ceremony for students of Indigenous ancestry in Grade 7 and Grade 12.

When:
June 24th 2019. 5pm start

Where:
Education Services Building
2121 Lonsdale Avenue (5th Floor)

Who:
Any student in grade 7 or 12 who self identifies as Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and Métis) and their families

Please rsvp to abed@sd44.ca total number attending by June 19th, 2019.

Wear your regalia if you have it.

The NVSD Indigenous Education team is hosting a graduation ceremony for students of Indigenous ancestry in Grades 7 and 12 on June 24th.

This event is open to all students of Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Métis and Inuit).

Invitations will be handed out to students at school. Please email rsvp's to abed@sd44.ca by June 19th. Friends and family welcome



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: Siksiká/ Blackfoot Confederacy

The Blackfoot Confederacy consists of the Kainai, Siksika and Aapatohsi-pikani Nations and the Aamsskaapi-pikani in Montana. The Blackfoot language is known as Siksiká. The Siksiká language is part of the Algonquin language group.

Read about a virtual reality game being used as an educational language tool in this article: [Language article](#)



native-land.ca

“Projects like this may seem just like educational tools, but they’re part of this larger decolonization movement in our community,”
“Indigenous culture, languages, teachings, they’re important and they’re relevant and we have to find ways to bring them forward with us with the technology that we have now.”

LeeAnne Ireland

Here are some resources to learn more about the Siksiká language

[Blackfoot language resources](#)

[Blackfoot Dictionairy](#)

FNESC Summer Learning Workshops

FNESC will be offering a series of three workshops for teachers this summer.

The workshops are:

Aug. 19, 2019 BC First Nation Land, Title and Governance Teacher Resource Guide (Elem/Sec)

Aug. 20, 2019 Integrating First Peoples Principles of Learning, Knowledge and Perspectives in Classrooms (Elem/Sec)

Aug. 21, 2019 Secondary Science First Peoples Teacher Resource Guide

Each session is \$30 which includes lunch and will be held at the Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel.

You can read more about each workshop in the online [flyer](#). Register soon as this workshops fill up fast.

To register click [FNESC Registration](#)



National Indigenous Peoples Day: June 21, 2019

Watch for upcoming community events

Squamish Nation Youth Pow Wow July 12-14, 2019