

# Indigenous Education

## North Vancouver School District

March 11-15th, 2019



### Rugby Sevens comes to the North Vancouver School District

It was a full week of rugby in the North Vancouver School District! The HSBC Rugby Sevens Tournament was held at BC Place from March 9th-10th, 2019.

Leading up to the HSBC Rugby World 7's Tournament on March 5th, 2019, team members from the New Zealand All Blacks visited students at Sp'ákw'us Skwúul-áwtxw, Carson Graham Secondary, for a rugby clinic. The All Blacks were welcomed to the territory with the Eagle Song by Evan and Josh.



Norgate-Xwemélch'stn with Wilson Williams from the Squamish Nation welcomed the Fiji Mens Rugby 7's team to Chief Joe Mathias Centre to share culture and sport with students. After a traditional welcome, the Fiji team also shared a traditional song. Everyone had a great time connecting through sport and culture.



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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.

## HSBC We Scrum As One Rugby Workshop



HSBC Rugby hosted a ***We Scrum As One*** Rugby clinic on Friday March 8, 2019, for Indigenous students interested in rugby or sport. NVSD students from Carson, Norgate and Windsor, participated in a meet and greet, Friday morning with a full breakfast. The morning activities were followed up with a rugby clinic with coaches from Rugby Canada. The sun came out and students had a great time connecting with new friends through community and sport.

Students who participated in the ***We Scrum As One*** Clinic were also invited to watch the HSBC Rugby Sevens Tournament on Saturday March 9th, 2019, at BC Place Stadium. It was a full and amazing week for students.





## **Student Profile:**

**Name: Selena Smith-La Rochelle**

**Nation: Old Massett Village Council (Haida)**

**School: Sp'ákw'us Skwúul-áwtxw, Carson Graham**

Selena is a member of the Old Massett Village Council (Haida) who are located on Haida Gwaii. She is currently in Grade 12 studying in the full International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at Carson Graham. Selena was born and raised on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish and has been fortunate enough to learn her family connections to the Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw and has participated in and attended ceremonies for which she feels humbled and honoured. Selena is blessed with many gifts. She is an intellectual who thinks deeply about ideas and issues, and excels academically across the curriculum. Selena also has a passion and talent for the arts: visual, literary, and performing. She is an accomplished playwright and director whose plays have been showcased across North Vancouver. She has also acted in and stage-managed multiple community theatre productions. Selena has a sophisticated and confident voice as an artist. As an IB Diploma Programme student, Selena studies in a highly rigorous academic program, which demands much of her thoughts and time; yet her contributions to society extend far beyond her academic and artistic work. Selena is a caring and principled young woman who gives freely of her time and energy to causes for the betterment of all. People young and old have known the pleasure of Selena's patience and gentle spirit through her work guiding children as camp counsellor at Cheakamus and helping elders tell their stories at Vancouver. Selena's volunteer work for the Ocean Ambassadors club, planning shoreline clean ups and battery recycling campaigns, demonstrate her stewardship of the environment; while her work with child and family services, the First Nations Health Authority, and Harvest Project exemplify the care she takes of others. Selena has a strength of character and quiet leadership like few of her peers. Selena leads by example and walks an ethical path. Selena will pursue her Bachelor of Education degree in the Native Indigenous Teacher Education Program at UBC in the fall. She will join other Indigenous leaders in education and write her part in the story of transforming schools, organizations, and communities through Indigenous ways. Selena's passion for her work and gentle and caring nature make her a natural to inspire generations to come.



## Student Opportunities



### Design our New Logo!

The NVSD Indigenous Education team is looking for a new logo. Do you know a student artist who may be interested in designing the new logo? The new logo must represent Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, Urban First Nations and Métis communities. The contest is open to students K-12 and the deadline for submissions is April 15, 2019. Please have students submit their submission and a short paragraph about their designs to [abed@sd44.ca](mailto:abed@sd44.ca).

### Give them Wings

Do you know a youth age 15-39 who is interested in an aviation career? **Give them Wings**, Hosted by the Indigenous LIFT Collective in partnership with Indigenous Works is holding a Spring Break session Saturday March 16th, 9:30am -1:30pm in Boundary Bay. Click [here](#) for more information.



### Our Story: Indigenous Arts and Story Contest



This contest is open to self identified students of Indigenous ancestry (ages 6-29) to submit a story or two dimensional art that explores Indigenous heritage or culture. The rules state that entries must include a 200-400 word artist/author statement about the student and how their piece explores Indigenous heritage and culture. Click [here](#) for more information and how students submit their entries. Deadline is March 31st!

We Matter has an opportunities for Indigenous youth ages 16-25 to become Ambassadors of Hope. Find out more [here](#). Applications due April 1, 2019.

I Matter. You Matter. We Matter.

**HOPE. CULTURE. STRENGTH.**

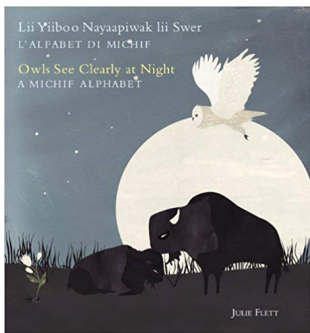
## 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL2019)

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.

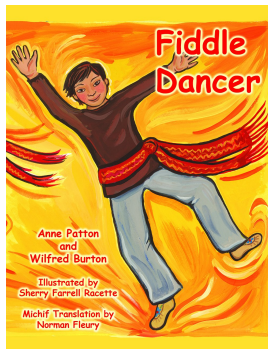
### Feature Resources of the Week: Michif

Did you know that the language used by the Métis is known as Michif? Michif is a combination of Cree and French.

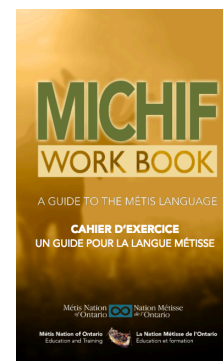
### Here are some resources on the Michif Language



[Learn Michif](#)



[Michif Language Lessons](#)



[Michif Dictionary](#)

[Michif Workbook](#)

Read about Deborah Saucier, Métis, who was recently appointed president of Vancouver Island University

[Educator with Métis Heritage Returns to VIU](#)




## The Blanket Exercise

Has your staff participated in the Blanket Exercise? The NVSD Indigenous Education team is available to facilitate the Blanket Exercise for your staff, as well as age/grade appropriate versions for classes. Here is an interesting article about the Blanket Exercise. [Blanket Exercise Article](#)

“There’s more, much more. But it’s enough to say that being part of the exercise also reveals how ignorant I am, which makes me angry at and disappointed in myself. Blaming a grade-school curriculum riddled with omissions is just an excuse. The responsibility – and obligation – to learn these truths, I realize as I sit outside Turtle Island and listen, is mine.” Scott Messenger

## Upcoming Events and Workshops

### Walk the Circle: Putting ReconciliACTION In Your Practice




Putting ReconciliACTION In Your Practice

Are you working hard to incorporate Indigenous perspectives and knowledge in your lessons? Have you been worried about how to do this authentically and respectfully?

**Walk the Circle is here to help.**


Walk the Circle is an innovative online professional development opportunity that connects teachers with Indigenous artists, Knowledge Keepers, Elders and educators in a collaborative, safe environment to explore the Curriculum through Indigenous ways of knowing. Teachers can ask questions and further enhance their understanding of integrating Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being, as well as the First Peoples Principles of Learning into their classroom. Participants will also be introduced to all kinds of easy to use media creation and online collaboration tools that they can bring back into the classroom to share with their students.



This innovative approach to online collaboration with all participants has allowed teachers to ask for additional resources which are specific to their needs and due to the collaborative nature and design of this way of facilitating an online experience, it has fostered community building and is an effective model for this type of training.

Robert Clifton (Limikuum Halayit), Indigenous Education Consultant, Vancouver School Board

Visit us at [WalktheCircle.org](http://WalktheCircle.org)



Are you interested in taking an online course on incorporating Indigenous Content in your classroom? Walk the Circle Organization is currently offering a four module online course that begins March 6th, 2019 and the cost is \$150. Find out more information at their [link](#).

### Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education:

The next MOOC offered by Jan Hare at UBC begins April 1st. Find out more information or to register click [here](#)

### Indigenous Math K-12 Symposium.

UBC will be hosting the the 9th Indigenous Math K-12 Symposium on May 14th, 2019. Click [here](#) for more information

