# Indigenous Education

North Vancouver School District



### What's happening

On February 14th, more than 100 of North Vancouver school students attended the Annual Women's Memorial March in downtown Vancouver. The first march was held in 1992 in response to the murder of a Shíshálh Nation woman, Cheryl Ann Joe. Indigenous women, girls, two-spirit and gender diverse people continue to be disproportionately subjected to violence with minimal to no action to address these tragedies or the systemic nature of gendered violence, poverty, racism, or colonialism. This annual march on Valentine's Day is to express compassion, community, and caring for all in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside on unceded Coast Salish territories.



#### Click link for more information

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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 1st & 2nd- Hoobiyee (Nisga'a New Years) Mar 21st - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Mar 22 - World Water Day

### Hoobiyee! - March 1-2

Nisga'a New Year Celebration: Hoobiyee A two day event celebrating the upcoming harvesting season. The Hoobix (spoon) shape of the moon would herald the return of the ooligan fish to the Nass Valley.

• Listen to Indigenous voices



HOOBIYEE

st of the Hoobiyee T'samiks Edition, featur the Nisga'a Ts'amiks Traditional Dancers.

We look forward to celebrating and honouring our culture and traditions, uniting as one nation

March 1, 2024 | 10:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. March 2, 2024 | 10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. PNE FORUM

2901 E Hastings St, Vancouver

Halimootkw, Saviour Fish, Ooligan, Oolichan, Eulachon, Hooligan, Candlefish



Learn more: How an oily fish is connecting Nisga'a youth to the land <u>(link)</u>



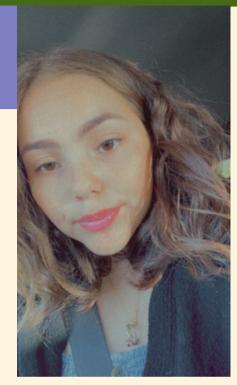
# Indigenous Education Staff Spotlight



### Staff at Windsor Secondary and Windsor Family of Schools: Lynnmour Elementary, Seymour Heights Elementary, and Blueridge Elementary

I am Serena Jefferson, my traditional name is Sótelwhet. I am coast Salish from up-river, my village is called semá:th (located in Abbotsford). I would like to introduce myself as the Indigenous support worker (ISW) for Indigenous students at Windsor's family of schools (FOS). My primary role at the school is to support Indigenous youth with any of their schoolwork, share opportunities for them in the community, as well as share cultural aspects of life. I will also be able to help with Indigenous topics in classes.

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### Emma Koloska (she/her)

Support Teacher, Indigenous Education Team

- Settler person, from a German/Mennonite, immigrant/refugee family, raised on Vancouver Island, now calls East Vancouver home.
- 4th year in this role. She has worked at Windsor Secondary and Norgate Elementary in the past. The best moments in her job are laughing with students or colleagues on the Indigenous Ed. Team and celebrating successes together, while the hardest moments are supporting students or working with school staff who are not able/willing to grow.
- She is passionate about building relationships with students, showing love in practical ways, fostering agency and self-advocacy, and contributing to anti-colonial & anti-racist education practices. She is grateful to know so many school staff who also partner with her in this work and show students their care & attention.
- Her favourite subjects are maths, sciences, and physical & health education.

### Staff at Carson Graham Secondary



# Educational Resource: The Witness Blanket Truth and Reconciliation

### Currently on display at the West Vancouver Memorial Library January 26 - March 10

Inspired by a woven blanket, the Witness Blanket is a large-scale work of art. It contains hundreds of items reclaimed from residential schools, churches, government buildings and traditional and cultural structures from across Canada.

Here <u>(link</u>), you can explore the items and stories carried by the Witness Blanket. They are accompanied by the voices of Survivors who talk about the experience of being forced into residential schools. Their generous and insightful stories convey the reality of anti-Indigenous racism, colonialism and genocide. They reveal the ongoing harms caused by Canada's residential school system.

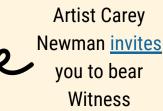
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Truth. Art

and Reconciliation

- Witness Blanket: Teacher Guides <u>(link)</u>
- Canadian Musem for Human Rights Canada's residential schools - Resource Guide <u>(link)</u>





## Métis Courses & Resources: including a Michif language course!

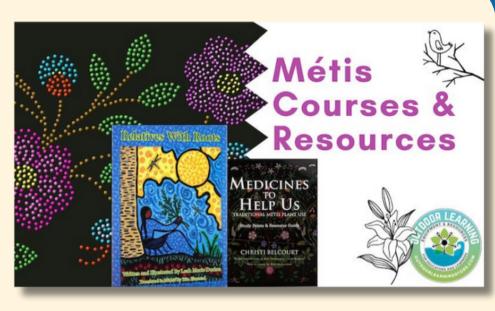
### Métis Courses for Educators: (Click the links to learn more)

- 1. <u>Michif Language Introductory</u> <u>Course</u> - Early Bird Registration Open
- 2. <u>Connecting to the Land, the</u> <u>Métis Way Summer Course</u> -Early Bird Registration Open

### Métis Resources for Learners:

- 1. <u>Medicines to Help Us:</u> Traditional Métis Plant Use
- 2. <u>Metis 'Connecting to the Land'</u> <u>Children's Book Bundle</u>







With 100% of proceeds going back into outdoor learning non-profit initiatives, <u>The Outdoor</u> <u>Learning Store</u> 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.