



**SIWAL SI'WES
(our forefather's teachings)
ABORIGINAL DEPARTMENT
Mission Public Schools**



To work collaboratively with all schools to ensure that Aboriginal Students are successful in Mission Public Schools. While promoting and respecting the traditional territory of the Stó:lo People, we help to foster an awareness and respect of all Aboriginal peoples for all students and staff in Mission Public Schools

Newsletter #2

January 2019

**From the desk of District Principal
Joseph Heslip.....**

Ey Swayel,



This season, Temxeytl', has been a mild one in Stó:lō Territory. It is at this point in the year where we anticipate the renewal of Temkw'ók'wes, (spring) and the potential of success and new experiences that will surely follow.

The Elders, staff and students continue to explore and share the sacred teaching of RESPECT, and are

currently doing this work with 6 of our elementary schools during 2019 "Cultural Days".

Please visit our Siwal Si'wes digital library at swwlibrary.com or visit our Residential School Curriculum website at www.greatspirithand.com for resources.

If you have any questions about our programs and services, please contact me at 604-826-3103.

Kw'as Ho:y

Joe



**From the desk of District Vice-Principal
Vivian Searwar.....**

Ey swayel mekw wat. Good day everyone!

Things are moving along quickly in our department. These past few months have been exciting with our Siya: Ye Yoyes Strengthening the Circle Leadership Conference for our middle school and high school students and Winter Heat food drive at the Friendship Centre. Our Elders-in-Residence, Priscilla & Bill Wells have been busy connecting with our senior students at MSS.

Work at our elementary schools is in full swing. We would like to congratulate Christine Morrison Elementary for winning the *Youth for Salmon* contest, a provincial-wide contest to bring awareness to the plight that our salmon currently face.

Thank you to our hard-working staff who continue to keep our students and families at the front and centre.

District Vice-Principal of Aboriginal
Education - Vivian Searwar



Ps. If you would like to also receive this newsletter by email please forward your email address to our secretary Mrs. Buell at marcy.buell@mpsd.ca or see our website @: <http://aboriginal.mpsd.ca>

SIWAL SI'WES STAFF

DISTRICT PRINCIPAL

Joseph Heslip

DISTRICT VICE-PRINCIPAL

Vivian Searwar

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Marcy Buell

LIAISON WORKERS

Judy Cathers:	École Christine Morrison & Aboriginal Culture
Deanna Dettieh:	École Mission Central
Marne Ferris:	Heritage Park Middle
Holly Gallant:	Windebank
Chris Gawthorn:	Summit & West Heights
Donna Giroux (Malila):	École Christine Morrison, Aboriginal Language & Culture
Kristy Hackel:	Deroche
Leslie Jensen:	Fraserview
Joe Kelly:	Hatzic Elementary & Silverdale
Peter Lindley (Pipte):	Aboriginal Language & Culture
Brittany O'Rourke:	École Mission Secondary
Susan O'Soup:	Cherry Hill & Riverside
Sukhi Pangli:	École Mission Secondary
Rachel Schooner:	Hatzic Middle
Jennifer Sherif:	Albert McMahon & Dewdney
Jennifer Snow:	E. S. Richards & Hatzic Middle
Jasmin Wells:	Heritage Park Middle
Johnny Williams:	Hillside & Aboriginal Culture
Robby Williams:	École Mission Secondary



SIWAL SI'WES TEACHER/LIBRARIAN:

Ann Titford

INDIGENOUS MENTOR TEACHER:

Peggy Janicki

ABORIGINAL MENTOR TEACHERS:

Joanne Davis	Deb Urano
Tianay de Andrade	Bradley Paul
Lorien Osborn	Jo-Ann Lindahl
Jennifer Tench	Jody Shaw
Ann Titford	Lori Caviggia
Rachelle Silver	

PROGRAM AREA LEADERS:

Tracy Snipstead—HPMS
Rachelle Silver—HMS
Jody Shaw—MSS

HALQ'EMEYLEM TEACHER:

Rachelle Silver

ABORIGINAL ALLY:

Shauna Nero



2018—2019 School Year

Year of Respect

ENHANCEMENT AGREEMENT THEMES

Theme 1: Honouring Culture and History: Ensure ALL students are learning about and respecting Aboriginal peoples, culture and history

Theme 2: Positive Learning Experiences: Create high levels of student engagement and success so students are connected and supported in their learning

Theme 3: Meaningful contributions: Create empowering opportunities for students to grow as individuals and prosper as a part of a community

Theme 4: Looking to the Future: Ensure all students are preparing for change and making successful transitions

HALQ'EMÉYLEM—Pipte (Peter Lindley)

It is so rewarding watching the students really trying then succeeding to learn songs, new words and basic phrases in Halq'eméylem. Being a welcomed guest into their classroom on a weekly basis, establishes a mutual positive working relationship. The students quickly learn that I appreciate having as much fun as they do while teaching, if they remain respectful willing participants. I always keep in mind how challenging and intimidating this learning process was for me which helps keep us connected. I don't want to overwhelm them, yet at the same time, I don't want to underestimate their abilities.

Recently I've introduced a couple of new things which they eagerly took to. We were learning to count and once they caught on I included addition and subtraction questions. They couldn't get enough of it. They kept asking for just one more question. When you get responses like that, how could anyone resist not giving them what they ask for? Not me. We also told each other fictitious telephone numbers to see who could come up with the correct number given. This turned out to be a very popular activity which I will certainly be using with all my classes.

What child doesn't like to draw? I have been doing directed drawing with many of the students which will now become an important component of our Halq'eméylem lessons. We've been drawing some of the animals we've learned Halq'eméylem names for. We also discuss where the animal lives, what they eat, are they prey or are they the hunter, family structures, do they hibernate, migrate or remain doing the winter months. To be perfectly honest often our roles reverse when it comes to some of these questions. I quickly become the willing student to learn from a much more knowledgeable student. We are learning together.

Halq'eméylem — Malila (Donna Giroux)

Ey swayel Mekw wat, Hello everyone.

On November 21, I had the privilege of attending the ceremony held at the leadership conference held at Newlands in Langley. The ceremony was held to honor three dedicated people for their work in their schools and communities in Education. They are, Judy Cathers, Sandra Victor, and Mike Morgan.



Judy Cathers is a Liaison and Cultural Worker who works for the Mission School District.

Sandra Victor is from Cheam First Nation and she retired from her position in the Education Department at Cheam. She worked tirelessly for many years bringing programs to the community and helping people get the education they needed to achieve goals.

Mike Morgan is from the Langley School District and was being honored for his work. He was the District Principal of Aboriginal Education but he is now the Director of Student Services of Langley School District,

This was a great night of singing, feasting and celebrating.



Albert McMahon Elementary—Jennifer Sherif—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

It's been a busy time at Albert McMahon!

Since our last newsletter, Siwal Si'wes took part in Winter Heat, a wonderful day of helping give back to the Aboriginal community living in Mission. Some of the Aboriginal students at the school helped prepare lovely giveaways for the event, making beautifully beaded, colourful keychains/zipper pulls. These items were a big hit, very much admired and appreciated. Thank you to all the students who contributed!

According to my teachings, wintertime is the for storytelling, particularly when it comes to our animal stories. While the animals are hibernating, making their way to other locations as part of their winter journeys, etc., we are able to tell stories about them without them overhearing us (they don't like that we know some of their tricks and secrets!). Winter storytelling has been a focus in many classrooms at Albert McMahon, with students supplementing their culturing learnings by producing different forms of beautiful artwork.

Sometime around Spring Break, some of the Aboriginal students at McMahon (as many as we can manage!) will begin visiting artist Peter Gong's studio. Mr. Gong is working on two carvings for the school, to coincide with the Seven Sacred Teachings that the district is using as a framework for Aboriginal education. This will be a wonderful opportunity to see the works in progress, learn more about coastal art work, and have an intergenerational learning experience. We are all looking forward to this very much!



Cherry Hill Elementary School—Susan O'Soup—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

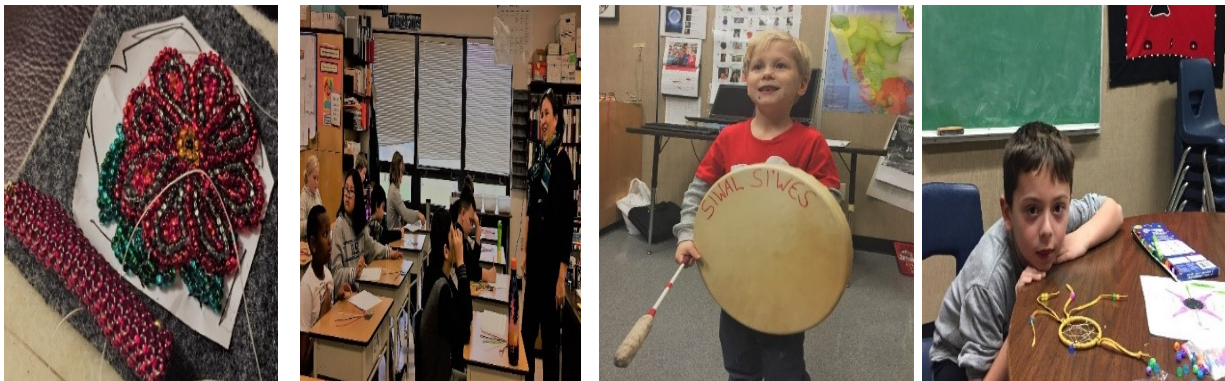
'The Elders are Watching' art project begins in January with Gr. 5/6 divisions. I am very excited to do this art project/grant at Cherry Hill elementary. Ms. Abbot is extraordinary partner and I am proud to work with her.

January 25th at 9:00 am the staff recognized our students of the month (honesty) and 'Five Great Things'

December 21, 2018, we held a pizza party to bid our International Students farewell. The reason being is one student was a huge part of our Aboriginal Art Club held recess and lunch hours. She made an impact on our students with her dedication to studies, manners, respect and attendance at school. She also became an advanced beader and she was so proud to go back and show her parents in Korea.



Students working on beading bracelets for our Winter Heat. I taught Metis Flower Work at ESR to Ms. Jessika Rowley's class. Her class caught fast and did a great job of beading and Ms. Rowley did all the prep for me before I arrived about the Metis people.



Peggy Janicki taught the grade 5/6 Patterns in Math using Indigenous weaving. Aimery Loudon received a drum from Siwal Si'wes. Alister Greenlay made a dream catcher and enjoyed the process.

École Christine Morrison Elementary – Malila (Donna Giroux) Aboriginal Liaison & Halq'eméylem teacher and Judy Cathers, Aboriginal Liaison & Cultural Presenter)

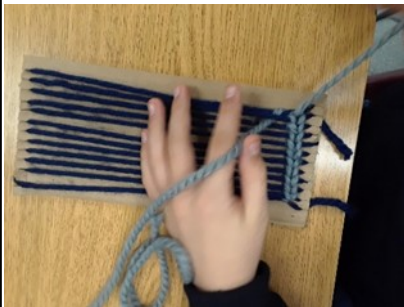
LOUIS RIEL DAY (METIS) / ROC YOUR MOCS



Moccasins are a big part of culture for many Indigenous people around the world. To honour this, every year Roc Your Mocs is celebrated on November 15. Christine Morrison students were given opportunity to learn about moccasins, and to do a mini-moccasins craft. Two student names were drawn to receive free moccasins as part of our celebration. To celebrate Louis Riel Day (November 16) the students were able to learn the Broom Dance with Lisa Shepherd. Lisa always brings excellent teaching and fun with Metis Jigging.



ABORIGINAL CULTURE



Christine Morrison Elementary has been very privileged to have many Aboriginal culture presentations this year. Many students have also gone on field trips with an Aboriginal focus. These field trips were provided by Siwal Si'wes, the Aboriginal Department of MPSD. We would like to thank them for their generous support.



Aboriginal Culture Day was also celebrated by all students on January 16. Students were able to participate in two Aboriginal activity sessions provided by Siwal Si'wes, as well as having bannock which is always a favorite.

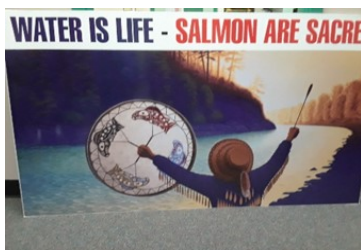
ROOTS OF EMPATHY

Roots of Empathy is being hosted in Mrs. Pam Brooks Kindergarten class once again this year. "Roots of Empathy is an evidence-based classroom program that has shown significant effect in reducing levels of aggression among school children while raising social/emotional competence and increasing empathy. This program teaches children about feelings, their own feelings, and the feelings of others." Once every month, baby Summer and her mom, Marie, visit the classroom. "In observing the baby and reading the cues the baby gives as to how the baby is feeling... discussion is a lever for the children to talk about their own emotions and to understand how their classmates feel... *Being able to understand how other people are feeling is called empathy.* For more than ten years across Canada and internationally, thousands of children are learning respect and care for one another with the lessons started through their ROE baby." www.rootsofempathy.org.



Roots of Empathy
Racines de l'empathie

HOW CAN WE HELP THE SALMON COME HOME



Water is life – salmon are sacred.

Christine Morrison is pleased to have received the winning entry for best Primary School award from the 2018 Youth For Salmon Contest, sponsored by the Adam River Salmon Society.

The winning video which students created can be viewed at: <https://www.salmonsociety.com/events/youth-for-salmon-contest/>

Once again, we would like to thank Dr. Laura Buker (Lolahawk) for her leadership in this project.

Deroche Elementary School—Kristy Hackel—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Welcome Back to an exciting New Year!

Back in the fall we had the pleasure of having Ed Peekeekoot, a Cree Musician, join our school for an outstanding performance. Ed brought in wonderful stories, multiple instruments such as his guitar, Native flute and a great sense of humor. He greatly captured the hearts and full attention of everyone here and we are so thankful to have been in the presence of his talents.



Our classes have also had the privileged of having in some wonderful presenters join us from Si-wal Si'wes. Some of these presentations include Metis Tuppies, Button Blankets, Metis Mitts and story telling. We have quite a few more booked into our New Year and we are so grateful for all the wonderful staff who are able to come in and share their knowledge and talents with us!



Dewdney Elementary—Jennifer Sherif—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

With animal storytelling being a traditional focus for the winter months, some of the classes at Dewdney have been participating in storytelling sessions, learning stories from across Turtle Island.

The Kindergarten class has just received salmonids, which will be cared for until they are later released locally as fry. Salmon teachings and stories will be next for this class, and some others at Dewdney.

As games are also a focus of winter activities, some students have been taking part in traditional games, and as Dewdney has an outdoor education focus, we have been trying to take advantage of the less soggy days to do these games outside.

Leadership is an integral part of any school community, and the Dewdney Elementary community is being enriched by its student leaders, who take on various tasks enthusiastically and diligently.

On November 23, Dewdney hosted Ready, Set, Learn!, providing our prospective kindergarten students with many fun learning activities in the gym. The event was a big hit, due in large part to the student leaders of these activities. Many of these student leaders are our Indigenous students, and those in grades 3-6 were involved. We were very proud of the jobs they did for this event, both in making the activities interactive, but also in the genuine nurturing and kindness they displayed with the little ones.

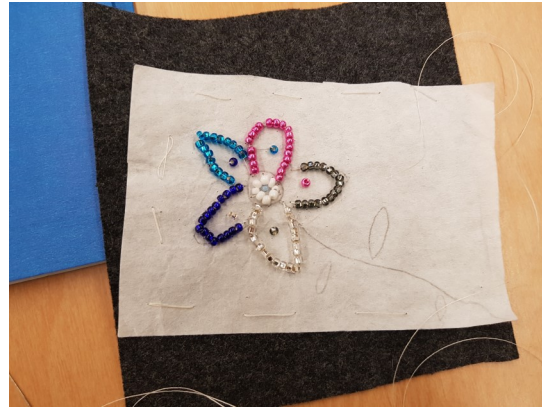
Thank you very much to these wonderful young leaders!



Edwin S. Richards—Jennifer Snow—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey swayel (good day) from E.S. Richards Elementary.

We are now half way through the school year and have many exciting updates. Students have been participating in various cultural activities throughout the year so far. We've been fortunate enough to have Johnny Williams come in and teach plant-based learning and Salish weaving. A favourite has been the Metis beading workshop lead by Susan O'Soup. Students learned how to make a stencil, follow the pattern and now have some basic sewing skills. Their finished product was a beautiful flower pattern done on a piece of melton cloth.



At ESR, we continue to incorporate this year's Grandfather Teaching of respect into all aspects of learning. Local artist Peter Gong has played an integral part in this as he created this year's bison design to represent the teaching. He has put in countless hours of work into schools throughout the district, including ESR. To recognize his latest work on the poles, we held a ceremony to honor him. In preparing for this ceremony students learned a lot about Indigenous protocols surrounding ceremony. Indigenous students played a vital role in preparing for and assisting throughout the event. We were very proud of our students as they showed utmost respect for Indigenous culture and ceremony.



Please Mark Your Calendars:

February 6, 19—Cultural Day @ Hillside
February 13, 19—Cultural Day @ Ecole Mission Central
February 20, 19—Cultural Day @ Silverdale

All days from 8:30 a.m.—11:45 a.m.



Fraserview Learning Centre—Leslie Jensen—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey Swayel!

I hope that everyone had a good holiday.

Fraserview is back into full swing with many upcoming activities in the planning.

Around November, Judy Cathers did an activity with the students in which they learnt one way to decorate a feather (not an Eagle feather) which they worked hard at and took home.

This week in Susan Beeley's class salmon eggs were deposited in their tank. The students will care for them until they are ready to be released.



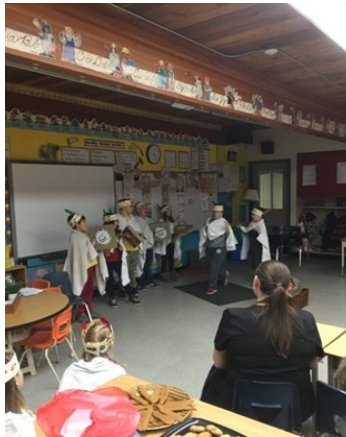
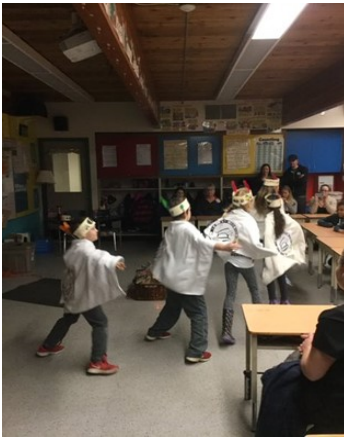
Once a month Johnny Williams is teaching the students and staff Slahal. Thank you, Johnny for teaching us something that brings the students and staff together in a fun way.



Looking forward to continuing working on the Indigenous garden at Fraserview, doing carving with Peter Gong in the Spring, a field trip to UBC to see the Reconciliation Pole and to visit the Indian Residential History and Dialogue Centre.

Hatzic Elementary—Joe Kelly—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Hatzic Elementary is a wonderful school, filled with amazing students as well as capable, passionate teachers. I am thrilled to be part of the team at Hatzic. As an Aboriginal liaison worker, I work alongside many others to engage and educate students about Aboriginal culture and knowledge. Such teaching is done collaboratively in a variety of ways throughout the academic year. One of the annual events held at Hatzic Elementary, put together by Judy MacAulay potlatch ceremony, Marjike Ell First Nation housing, Joanne Davis weaving, and Patti Radons Traditional Fishing were the themes for the day. All Hatzic Elementary students Road through the classrooms to experience these important teachings. This was very well done, and it was memorable and meaningful for teachers and students alike. Heading into 2019, there are a few special activities scheduled that we hope will continue to educate, encourage and inspire youth to understand and embrace their heritage, whether it be Aboriginal or not. For example, educator Lisa Shepherd will present a workshop on Métis culture, traditions and beliefs to our students April 17th – 18th 2019. Our winter Wellness walk is on February 7th and Johnny Williams does the welcome song and Crystal Williams makes bannock for all our students and staff to enjoy. It is a privilege to be employed at Hatzic and to work with such a nice group of children. The rest of the 2019 school year looks to be filled with many exciting learning opportunities!



Resource Elders

Agnes Giesbrecht and William and Priscilla Wells have volunteered their services as Resource Elders for parents who want support meeting with school personnel.

For further information please contact our office.
604-826-3103

HATZIC MIDDLE SECONDARY SCHOOL Rachel Schooner & Jennifer Snow—Aboriginal Liaison Workers

Ey swayel (good day) from Hatzic Middle School.

The year is flying by and we have many exciting updates from Hatzic Middle. To continue with our seven sacred teachings of respect this year we have been actively working on our cedar panel art project with Peter Gong. The bison design is coming along nicely; we have cut out the template, now we are transferring the design to the cedar panel and the painting will begin.



Before winter break began we had worked in collaboration with staff and students from MSS to stuff socks for people in need. Our students assisted in adding toiletries, warm clothing and treats to the socks. This was a great start to reinforce our work we are doing to recognizing the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls of Canada. We now also have back packs filled with similar items to distribute to people in need as well. The next step is to bring information and awareness to students about the issue in an appropriate and meaningful way. We will then have select students participate in the Women's Memorial March in downtown Vancouver in February that recognizes the MMIWG.

Drum group is now happening every Friday at lunch. We are fortunate enough to have a grade 9 student from Scowlitz who is sharing some of his songs with us. We are also collaborating with staff and students from MSS to learn the Women's Warrior song. Our goal is to sing this on the Women's Memorial March in February and bring strength to our sisters, brothers and families affected.



This year we are bringing together a great sense of community through fundraising. Our bannock sale was a great success and we raised half the money for a metal shop project in just one day. It is awesome to have students eager to rise to the challenge and excel. We have no shortage of students to take on that leadership role, our Indigenous students are beaming with pride and are always there to help.

Heritage Park Middle Secondary—Marne Ferris & Jasmin Wells—Aboriginal Liaisons



Ey Swayel and happy new year!

In November, we took a group of grade 9 students to the Aboriginal Youth Leadership Conference where they got a chance to interact with other aboriginal students their age. They got to participate in workshops and discussions about various topics to help empower youth and give a better understanding of aboriginal worldviews.



On the last day of school, before winter break, Marne and I had a Christmas party for the kids. We had pizza and cake with Christmas music playing and everyone singing!

We had our Winter Heat Festivities, where youth from both middle schools and MSS helped prepare a meal for all who came down to the friendship center. All schools in the district also made give away items for those who attended.

We also were in Mr. Marten's Art 9 class teaching beaded ornaments. It took patience but most were completed!



Hillside Elementary—Johnny Williams—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Well it is hard to believe that it has been over a month since Christmas.

Things are going well at Hillside. The kids are back into routine as well as the teachers. Lol

We are getting set for our Cultural Day on Feb. 6th. Parents are welcome to come and observe.

We have also set our date for our First Salmon Ceremony on May 6th.

Have a wonderful day, week and/or month.

Qwa-honn
Johnny Williams



To:lmels ye Kilaksten

to:lmels means “wisdom or knowledge” as offered by Pipe.

Éy Swayel Everyone !

November, December and now part of January has flown by and I have been busy co-teaching, creating, co-planning/organizing, sharing and celebrating.

As part of the Siya ye Yoyes committee and presenter , I got to help plan and Teach at the Siya:m Training day and the conference itself. The 3-day conference is always loaded with cool presenters, staff and students from all over the lower Fraser Valley and this year was no different. We have already started planning for the next conference.

One of my goals is to use the OneNote notebook app. So, I have created 2 notebooks: “First Contact” and “Fishing”. I have shared them as draft documents with the hopes of them being used in classrooms. I have had fun trying them out and many moments of frustration but hopefully they will be useful notebooks to augment Teacher’s lesson. At the moment, the 2 draft notebooks have been shared at the Middle school level.

I was happy to finish a worksheet about the 5 R’s of Indigenous Research in hopes, as a research ethics tool, to guide how projects need to consider 5 things: Respect, Reciprocity, Relevance, Responsibility, and self-location. It is geared, at the moment, to high school and adult level with hopes to be edited for the intermediate level.

As a BCTF Facilitator I was able to share with BCTF administrative staff, co-teach at the FNESC Conference and research curriculum. Also, I have been confirmed to teach at Mission Teacher’s Union conference in February.

December saw the final session to share out a ProD opportunity with a UBC MOOC course: Reconciliation through Indigenous Education. Huge thank you’s to Vivian Searwar to co-present this opportunity.

I also attended, along with others, Mission Teacher Union’s Induction Ceremony! I still feel very new in Mission and it was very cool to share in happy beginnings. Speaking of ceremonies, E.S. Richards Elementary held an Honouring Ceremony for Artist Peter Gong. It was wonderfully heartfelt. I was happy to help Jenny Snow at ESR to co-plan this wonderful opportunity.

As mentioned, time has flown by and I know I am missing more. So, my apologies for needed edits and/or additions but in my defense, this space is so small to share everything. I look forward to the New Year and I know it will keep moving quickly. In a blink it shall be June!

Peggy Janicki
Indigenous Mentor Teacher
M.Ed – UBC Indigenous Knowledges/Indigenous Pedagogies

I acknowledge that I work and learn on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unceded, and shared territories of Matheqwi, Sq’ewlets, Qwó:ltl’el, and Leq’á:mel First Nations



École Mission Central Elementary—Deanna Dettieh—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey swayel Mek w wat; Hello Everyone welcome back and Happy 2019! I hope everyone had a great Holiday and is well rested. Just before our Christmas break, some of our students got to ice and enjoy a gingerbread man. In Mrs. Chung's class all students got to decorate a Christmas ornament.



In January all students in Ms. Greenshields class got to learn about the Button Blankets and then they each got to design their own button blankets. They all done a wonderful job putting them together.



Mme Diane's class went in search of a special stick outdoors for them to learn and make a Talking Stick. In the end they were all very pleased with their Talking Sticks.



Mission Senior Secondary—Robby Williams, Sukhi Pangli & Brittany O'Rourke Aboriginal Liaison Workers

This year at Mission Secondary has been exciting and fast paced. Our students have been able to attend many things in our community as well as field trips. Many of our students were able to go to the Leadership Conference called “Strengthening the Circle” at Newlands Golf and Country Club. Students were given the opportunity to explore public speaking, participate in cultural workshops and speakers such as Ernie Cardinal and Ronnie Dean Harris! Another fun field trip was the ME to WE event at Rogers Arena, where many Indigenous rights advocates were highlighted and spoke encouraging words of their journey. We also enjoyed seeing a few hit pop artists such as “Lights” and “Shawn Hook”. It was a very memorable day for many of our students.

The students were able to serve our community at the Winter Heat celebration at the Mission Friendship Centre. They served Bannock Tacos to the local community. Aboriginal Mentorship students participated in Winter Sock giveaway making at the Middle Schools, socks were filled with essential items and lotions and treats. Mrs. Anderson’s class also included us in her Indigenous Math Games with a few of our students in attendance!

We have been grateful having our Elders in Residence, Priscilla and Bill Wells. They come on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am till 12:00pm weekly. A memorable event that we enjoyed was crafts in the ISP room with students before the holidays with our Elders that included a Holiday movie and music with dancing. It was fun for all!

The students are looking forward to a new semester and opportunities that are coming. A major event coming up is Reframing Relations on January 22nd and 29th. Reframing Relations brings Indigenous and Non-Indigenous artists together in schools to facilitate dialogue about reconciliation in Canada. Participants work together on collaborative, arts-based ‘Statements of Understanding’ to discover awareness of Indigenous issues today and what reconciliation means to them as an indigenous youth.

February 20th field trip to UBC where our students will be able to explore the UBC campus and see what UBC has to offer our Aboriginal students in their area of interest to study.

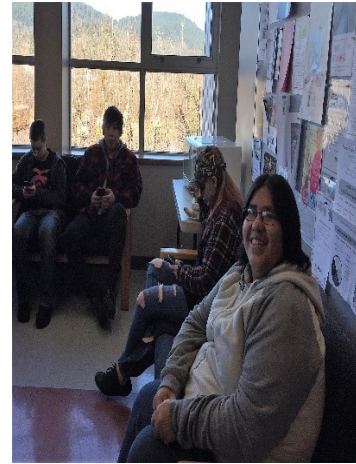
The tiles have arrived! We will be starting our Project of Heart “Olhet” teaching from the Buffalo project as well as our art piece for the school district!

We are excited for the opportunities that our students are receiving, and we look forward to the semester ahead. If you have any question, please feel free to connect with us at MSS.



Riverside College—Susan O'Soup—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Riverside College was nominated for the Educational Leader Award from the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce. Riverside College was informed that we had won the award for 2018.



This is a photo of our Jolt Coffee Shop at Riverside with Mr. Peary & Barb Iverson running the shop.

This is a photo of the Youth Leadership Conference held in Nov. 2018 in Langley.



Riverside College is now accepting applications for the Warehousing Program that starts on Feb. 11, 2019 - June 14, 2019.

Silverdale—Joe Kelly—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Silverdale Elementary is an awesome school, filled with amazing students as well as capable, passionate teachers. I am thrilled to be part of the team at Silverdale.

As an Aboriginal Liaison Worker, I work alongside many others to engage and educate students about Aboriginal culture and knowledge. Such teaching is done collaboratively in a variety of ways throughout the academic year.

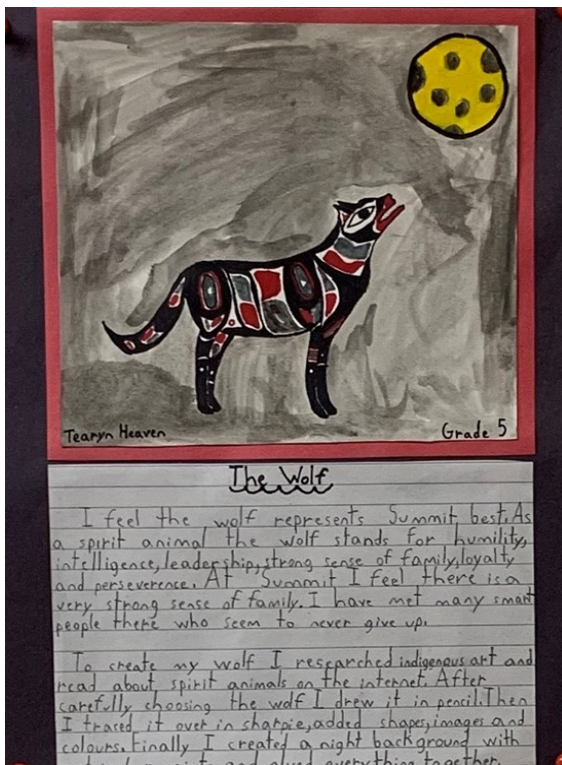
Heading into 2019, there are a few special activities scheduled that we hope will continue to educate, encourage and inspire youth to understand and embrace their heritage, whether it be Aboriginal or not. For example, at Silverdale on February 20th is Aboriginal Cultural Day put on by SIWAL SI'WES staff, teaching the students about Aboriginal culture, traditions and crafts. On April 4th – 11th 2019, educator Lisa Shepherd, will present a workshop on Métis culture, traditions and beliefs to our students.

It is a privilege to be employed at Silverdale and to work with such a nice group of children.

The rest of the 2019 school year looks to be filled with many exciting learning opportunities!

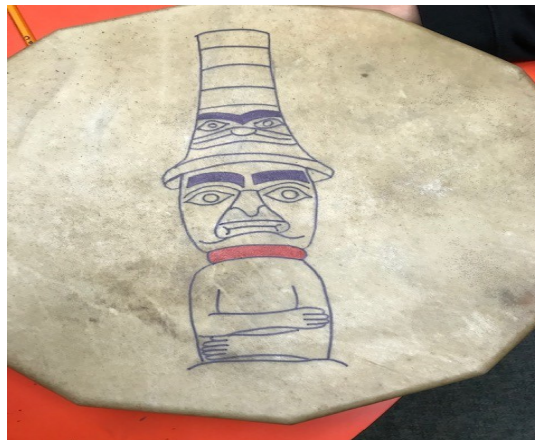
Summit Learning—Chris Gawthorn—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Summit had an Art contest to choose an animal that represents the school. The wolf was the winner. We have been having weekly Aboriginal Art Connections. We have had Spirit stones, Talking sticks and Medicine pouches. Next week will be Metis Tuppies. Skiing has started and will continue through February.



West Heights Elementary– Chris Gawthorn

WEST HEIGHTS COMMUNITY SCHOOL “A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS”



1. Wreaths for Xmas. Fraserview students came to help. Thank you so much
2. Cinch in the library and he has his own reading buddy.
3. Painting the display case
4. and 5. School Drums for every class are finished and displayed proudly.

Windebank—Holly Gallant—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Seven Sacred Teachings

Windebank has begun the Seven Sacred Teachings with our Grade six students. Elder Donna Simon from BC Responsible & Problem Gambling Program is graciously delivering an eight part program, to three of our classes. I am thankful for this opportunity and the feedback from the students has been very positive.

Peter Gong who is carving us the Seven Sacred Teaching plaques, has finished his time in our foyer and is completing the project at home. Along with a welcome piece in Halq'eméylem, the seven teachings will be written in Halq'eméylem, English and French.



Mitakuye Oyasin,

Holly Gallant

I acknowledge that I work and learn on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unceded, and Shared territories of the Stó:lō people, the Matheqwi, Sq'ewlets, Qwó:lt'el, and Leq'á:mel First Nations.



NEED TO REACH US?

Please call:

Phone: 604-826-3103

Fax: 604-820-2850

marcy.buell@mpsd.ca

Website— <http://aboriginal.mpsd.ca>



MISSION YOUTH TRANSITION FAIR 2019

SAVE THE DATE!

Date: February 28th, 2019 **Time:** 3:30-8:30pm

Location: Ecole Mission Senior Secondary
(32939 - 7th Avenue, Mission BC)

Are you a middle or secondary school student, family member, or educator wanting to learn about the transition process from youth to adult programs and services?

Our goal is for our students to gain knowledge and information on topics such as financial security, post-secondary education, employment, safety in the home and community, transportation, health and wellness, and building healthy relationships. We have attending representatives from Metis Nation BC, UFV (Indigenous Programming Office), First Nations Health Authority, Stó:lō Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training, and British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society as well as many non-Aboriginal organizations and service providers. We hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please call Vivian Searwar at 604-826-6286 local 3320 or her cell at 604-751-6864.

Sponsors:





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COURTESY OF MYRNA WILLIAMS