



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 #4

June 2019

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

Ey swayel. This is the time of year when we often hear “where did the time go”? As I think back over this year of RESPECT, I have witnessed countless small and large examples of this sacred teaching across our District, and it is evident that the “time” was well spent.

It is also the time of year where we acknowledge and honour those whom we RESPECT and Love. I raise my hands in thanks to all of the Aboriginal Liaison Workers who tirelessly enhance the lives of our students every day. I have learned so much from you! Kw’as hoy to the teachers and administrators who have woven in Aboriginal Worldviews and Perspectives into their practice in a very meaningful way. Thanks also go to our Trustees and Senior Management for their continued support of the students whom we serve. Much RESPECT and love to Administrative Assistant, Marcy Buell, who has dedicated 17 1/2 years of her career to the betterment of Indigenous students. I give thanks to Vivian Searwar who continues to lead, innovate and collaborate from a place of Letsomat. Lastly and most importantly, I raise my hands in thanks, respect and humility to the Elders and Ancestors for their courage, love and resiliency. Kw’as hoy!

Joe



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

It is Temqoqo, and I have learned that this Halq'eméylem word refers to the time when the rivers are high with snow melt. I recently had the pleasure of cruising on the river on a Cultural Place Name Up River boat tour, starting in Agassiz and ending in Yale (and back down the river). Naxaxalhts’i, Albert “Sonny” McHalsie, local cultural historian, scholar and advisor shared stories that he had learned from the Elders, of this magnificent land, this land of mountains and cedar trees and rivers. For us at Siwal Si’wes, June is brimming with year end activities, graduations and transitions. It is often easy to get lost in the overwhelming flurry of anticipation and excitement. Being out on the land reminded me to slow down, to take in the sights and sounds of nature and enjoy these moments, for they are mere glimpses of our time spent on this earth. Being on the land also reminded me to stay grounded as a human being, to respect the earth and all its gifts, to respect my colleagues, students, friends and family and to respect myself. Finally, being out on the land reminded me to be grateful for this opportunity to have spent this year working with the students, families and staff of Siwal Si’wes. As I reflect on this past year, I am content with the present and look to the future to strengthen these relationships. I wish you a relaxing, yet fun-filled, safe summer!

Xwoyilwelmet te
 Temkw’okw’es!
 Happy Summer!



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
Leslie Jensen:	Fraserview
Joe Kelly:	Hatzic Elementary & Silverdale
Peter Lindley (Pipte):	Aboriginal Language & Culture
Meg MacDonald:	Deroche
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

PROGRAM AREA LEADERS:

Tracy Snipstead—HPMS

Jody Shaw—MSS

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)

The 2018/19 School Year proved to be filled with change. First, there were changes to the actual schools I was charged to teach at. Introducing yourself to a group of people is one thing but allowing new students to become comfortable with you being a frequent visitor to their classroom is not always an easy task. Thankfully, I can depend on the power of the drum and the persuasion of a song or two to break the ice. After all, no one can resist the power of the drum for very long.

Another change for me was, this is the first year I've included my artistic abilities as part of my regular Halq'eméylem classes. It was during one of our Cultural Day presentations when one presenter was unable to participate. I was asked to step in as a presenter. I wasn't familiar with the suggested topic at hand but was offered freedom to select another. I decided on Directed Drawing. The students enjoyed learning and I realized I too thoroughly enjoyed presenting it. It has now become a highlight of my Halq'eméylem program. So far, we've drawn (*sp'óq'es*) the eagle, (*sth'óqwi*) the fish, and (*steqóye*) the wolf. We used the North West Coast style of art form for our drawings.

Learning to become team players with the other Aboriginal Liaison workers at each school is most important. This year we've had our share of new team players or we were provided opportunity to work with someone for the first time. Each demonstrate different approaches and utilize various techniques and skills to accomplish the required task at hand. You listen and quietly observe their ways then quickly adapt to complement their work. The benefits of becoming a good team player are endless.

The last couple of months of this school year proved to hold the most unexpected and significant change of all. Due to the sudden leave of the Halq'eméylem teacher at the two middle schools, Malila and I were seconded to fulfill this role for the remainder of the school year. The major impact being both of us having to leave the elementary schools we were at, effective immediately. No one wanted to have to make this call but sometimes we must make harsh decisions, and this certainly falls in this category. Fortunately, Malila and I have had opportunity to team teach together during our tenure at Coqualeetza Cultural Education Centre. For many years we were team teachers at Chilliwack Landing Preschool, Chehalis Community School, Seabird Island Community School, Little Bear Preschool at Sumas FN and various community driven Halq'eméylem programs. We are very familiar with and respect each other's teaching styles and strengths. We recognize and support the other's gifts and respect their limitations. We become attuned to and have confidence the other will recognize and act upon providing appropriate assistance when required. For us, team teaching is the best way to go.

All-in-all, it was a good year. Looking forward to 2019/20.
XWOYIWELMET TE TEMKW'OKW'ES

Halq'eméylem — Malila (Donna Giroux)

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

I tell the kids in elementary that they will be the ones to make changes to the world for the future.

Ey swayel mekw' wat, Li chap we ey o? Hello everyone, How are you? The last three months have been filled with new and exciting adventures. On May 1st I travelled with a class from Christine Morrison elementary School to the UBC Museum of Anthropology. It was exciting to look into the past of our Aboriginal People. I was there before but it was many years ago.



On May 7, the big change for me was going from teaching Halq'eméylem in Elementary school to Middle school. Pipte and I are teaching at the two middle schools Hatzic and Heritage Park, grade 7 and 8. Ey cha o te' Temkw'okw'es.

Have a great summer.



Albert McMahon Elementary—Jennifer Sherif—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

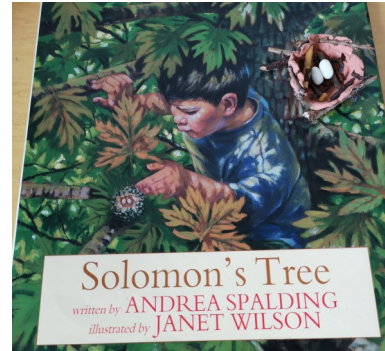
The last couple of months at McMahon have absolutely flown by! The weeks have been filled with great activities and lots of smiles.

Our Tuesday noon-hour Aboriginal Friendship Circle has been growing in numbers each week and is truly multicultural in terms of students that are attending, which is wonderful to see. This past while, we have been focusing on Medicine Wheel teachings and to round those out, we made Medicine Wheel pizzas! The students worked together to choose their ingredients representative of the four colours of red (bell peppers), yellow (pineapple), black (olives) and white (mozzarella cheese). Yum yum!

I was so happy to have been asked by the school’s kindergarten collective (three classes) to join in at Rolley Lake on May 30th for Nature Day. For my part of the goings-on, I took each class on a plant medicine walk and after that, each student then made a nature necklace using the plants, other found objects at the lake and clay. Some chose to make prints and some chose to preserve the plants in their pendants. They turned out beautifully! What a great way to spend a morning.



A few of the classes at the school have been learning about Hummingbird, piggybacking onto the reading of one of my favourite Aboriginal-themed books, “Solomon’s Tree”. Students were able to conceptualize the tiny nests of Hummingbird (the size of a walnut) and its eggs (using Tic Tacs to represent their size accurately). Through the shared teachings and in seeing the size of these things, the students’ appreciation for Mother Earth’s gifts and our need to nurture them grew even more.



Welcome to Kindergarten took place on Friday, May 31. Peggy Janicki, our District Indigenous Mentor Teacher and I facilitated the Siwal Si’wes portion of the event. We had loads of little ones and their families visiting our table to make bracelets and talk about our program. It was a great way to connect with both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children and their families, who will join us in September.

We had a great turn out of students and families for the Aboriginal Student Recognition Awards dinner. Thank you to all families and Albert McMahon staff who attended. Your support is greatly appreciated!

There has been so much happening at Albert McMahon, but these are a few of the highlights.

It has been a great year, and I wish everyone a fantastic summer!

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

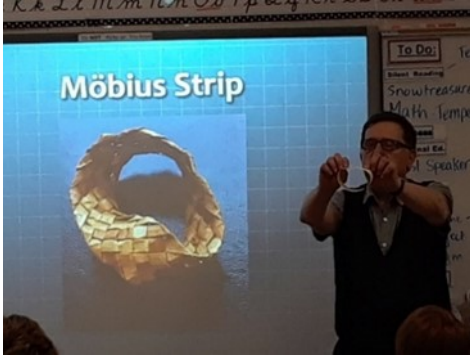
Cherry Hill held its Art Exhibit "The Elders Are Watching" by Roy Henry Vickers on May 23, 2019. The Art Show turned out to be very successful and the Students, Parents, Trustees and the Superintendent enjoyed the work the students painted and the display in the gym. I am grateful for Mr. Sliziak, Ms. Anna Abbott and all the staff of Cherry Hill who stepped up and played a part in the events success. Around thirty of the students' paintings were displayed in the Mission Art Gallery. Katharin Midzain taught students to drum and they did a musical performance. This was truly a labor of love teaching this project. The students took the canvasses home and most families donated a Toonie for charity. I couldn't have done it without Anna Abbott, my hands go up to her. May 22, 2019 was the Student Recognition awards at HMS. It will be sad to say good bye to our grade 6 students and I wish them all a successful year in their new school.

Hip Hop Dance began May 28th in the gym. Grade 5/6 had their Entrepreneur's Fair and Al Sutter oversaw the Sports Day.



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

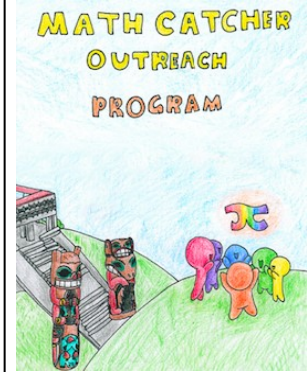
MATH CATCHERS



Dr. Veselin Junic from
Simon Fraser University

Several classes were able to participate in Math Catchers (SFU) which “introduces mathematics and science to students through the use of First Nations imagery and storytelling... The aims of the program are straightforward: to demonstrate that mathematics is part of everyday life and consistent with Indigenous culture; to prove that mathematics can be interesting and even fun; and to emphasize that mathematics can lead to a rewarding future.

” <https://www.sfu.ca/mathcatcher/about.html>



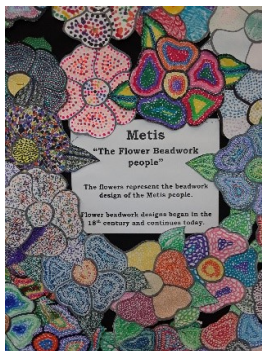
Xwo:mhelem Running Club



Xwo:mhelem means ‘to run’ in Halq'eméylem. Every year Christine Morrison Elementary students participate in the running club, which ends with a celebratory run in June. Most of the students really look forward to participating, and for some, it gives them an opportunity to shine. Approximately 50 students have achieved the 50 km club. So far students have run a cumulative total of 8,924 kilometers. We are currently running through the traditional territories of the Mushuau Innu in Labrador, almost to Iqaluit.



INDIGENOUS DAY



Christine Morrison will be celebrating Indigenous Day on June 21 with food, fun, and traditional games!

Deroche Elementary School—Meg MacDonald—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey Sweyal All!

In May, Deroche Elementary students (K-6) and staff went on an adventurous field trip to Boston Bar to experience Tuckkwiowhum Village. Tuckkwiowhum is an Aboriginal heritage site and village known by the people as "a great berry picking place". Visitors to the village experience historical aspects of the Nlaka'pamux lifestyle. During our visit students and staff engaged in drumming and historical games; as well as, learned about traditional homes, plants and medicines. Deroche Bears put on a BBQ lunch and invited the Tuckkwiowhum staff and Elders to join in. Although it was a long bus trip to and from Boston Bar, the experience of Tuckkwiowhum was well worth it!



On May 22, 2019 the Siwal Si'wes department and Mission School District honoured our grade six Indigenous students at the yearly Recognition Ceremony at Hatzic Middle School. Deroche is both proud and encouraged that 40% of our Indigenous families were represented at the event. This is a considerable improvement from past years.



Ms. Holly Gallant attended Deroche's Culture Club twice this past month to drum with the students and share two new songs with them. Our students' respect for Holly's knowledge and teachings was very encouraging.

The following are ongoing activities that are taking place at Deroche Elementary:

Peggy Janicki has been coming twice a month on Friday afternoons to do weaving with the children

Culture Club meets once a week for drumming & crafts

Girls Group & Leadership Group continues to run weekly

Dewdney Elementary—Jennifer Sherif—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

On Monday, June 3rd, I was lucky enough to be able to facilitate the Siwal Si'wes contribution for Welcome to Kindergarten. I had a wonderful helper, one of our Aboriginal grade six students, Ben, working with me to help our visiting little ones make bracelets, play with our sacred animal stuffies, etc. While there are not many new Aboriginal kindergarten students that will be coming in September, the enthusiasm about the Aboriginal education program at the school was really something! Parents who already have older children attending the school provided great feedback. They reported that they were thrilled that Halq'eméylem is taught to all classes at Dewdney. Parents whose 2019/20 kindergarten children do not already have siblings or relatives at the school, were excited to hear of the offerings of the program and how inclusive it is. It is wonderful to have such support for our program from this great school community.



On May 3rd, a group of grade 5/6's and I had the honour of attending the First Salmon Ceremony out at Kwantlen First Nation. It was a day of cultural learnings, with hundreds in attendance. The Nation's large number of Head Start students drummed and sang and many other youth from the community were involved with the event. It was important for our students to see how active these young people are in their community, and how much value is placed on their involvement. Students connected through play and then an incredible feast, with oolichans, salmon and ribs being the favourites of our students. Our kids took offerings for the feast, which were greatly appreciated.

Dewdney's noon-hour Aboriginal Friendship Circle has been busy and lately, we have been doing experimental, contemporary art using the four sacred colours of the Medicine Wheel. This is a creative bunch, to be sure and seeing their finished products has been fun and inspiring!



Our Aboriginal Student Recognition Awards dinner, hosted at Hatzic Middle on May 22 was great. We had a small turn out of Dewdney students and families, but they were eager and happy to attend. A special Kw'as Hoy to our Principal and staff who attended the event to support our fantastic kids.

Happy Summer all!

Edwin S. Richards—Jennifer Snow—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey swayel mekw'wat, we've had a very successful year! We are into the final weeks of school and we have many exciting events and activities to report. We have been fortunate to spend some time outside to do some learning and playing. Two classes made a trip out to Belcarra Park to learn about the ocean. We had Judy Cathers join us and teach us about the area, types of food found, sustainability and the Aboriginal peoples that utilized that area in the past and present. Another fantastic outdoor trip was to the Silverdale wetlands, where we did our salmon release. Students were involved the whole step of the way raising the salmon and learning about salmon and the environment in which they were released.



Some classes got to visit local artist Peter Gong's workshop. Everyone got to see his work space, investigate the processes he uses to make his art and got to view his collection of finished work. To correlate with that experience, some students made mini carvings out of ivory soap and some made mini versions of a bentwood box out of paper. To reinforce the teaching of respect we had many in class discussions on the seven sacred teachings with a focus on the bison. In one class we made little buffalos out of clay, fired them and glazed them. Through many activities and projects, students have many opportunities to shine in our arts-based school.



Johnny also came to our school to teach Slahal to Aboriginal leadership students. They were eager to learn and be leaders in the school through teaching all the other students how it works and assist them in making their own class sets. The sets turned out great and will be utilized for years to come. Finally, we are very happy to announce our Seven Sacred Teachings fence project has been installed. Thank you to all the parent and student volunteers for your efforts in completing this big job. The bright colors are so welcoming and frame our school stunningly.

Please Mark Your Calendars:

June 27, 2019—Last Day of School for Students

September 3, 2019—Schools Open—1/2 Day for all Students

September 20, 2019—Non Instructional Day



Fraserview Learning Centre—Leslie Jensen—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey Swayel,

In May, Peter Gong spent a few Thursdays, for one hour each, teaching carving to a small group of students. We had five sets of knives made for the school by James Stapleton. These are works of art in themselves, which the students learned how to hold and use. The students really took to the carving and we will continue to carve at the school. In June, the students and I will be visiting Peter's studio.



Mr. Keith Grey is teaching music to the students and a few of the Aboriginal students are recording music together. It's exciting to listen to the students sing and play together and hopefully they will continue to learn and practice together next year!



Kw' as Ho:y Johnny for coming a few times to Fraserview to play Slahal with the students.

I hope that everyone has a fun and safe summer!

Hatzic Elementary—Joe Kelly—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

For the past three years, Hatzic Elementary has participated in a running program. They have a Winter Wellness Walk and a Spring Sprint. The Spring Sprint was on Friday May 31st. It was a great event and the students enjoyed it immensely. They completed a 5km run around the Hatzic community and ended with a cool down and bannock back at the school. The run was started with a Welcome Song & drumming. BC Sports Med., sponsored the event through an Aboriginal Health and Wellness Grant. For this event they came out and completed the warm up with the students at the park across from Hatzic. The students were engaged and pumped for the run. This was a rich experience for all the student at Hatzic and was very heart warming.

I would also like to wish all Hatzic students and parents a wonderful and safe summer.



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 SCHOOL Rachel Schooner & Jennifer Snow—Aboriginal Liaison Workers

Ey swayel from Hatzic Middle School. We are into the home stretch! Over these last few months, we have had many exciting events and activities to report. First of all, we held the Halq'eméylem Bowl (translation contest) at HMS this year. After taking the championship last year at Seabird Island School we had a standard to uphold. We are very happy to report that our student team of four and our adult team of three both took the first-place trophy.



We have also had community members and guests come in to do various activities with the students. Johnny Williams has been working with the grade 9 wood work classes on carving skills in which the students thoroughly enjoyed. Roxanne McCallum came in to make copper bracelets and rings with the metal work classes, which turned out beautifully. Our bison art project is finished thanks to the hard work from our dedicated students and it is ready to be hung up.



Our year end Student Recognition Dinners were a success. It was an honor to see the students be awarded for their achievements. Our dedicated drum group got to perform at the recognition dinner at HMS too. We have been practicing throughout the year and have been participating in community events and will continue to do so as much as possible. You can really see the pride beam from the students as we continue with the group and are performing more and more.

Finally, we held an Elder's luncheon, in which we had a terrific student turn out. We all shared a delicious meal and students spent quality time listening and learning from our Elders. We wish you all the best through the final push of the school year and through the summer.

We look forward to seeing you in September, Kw'as Ho:y.

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

Temqoqo Highwater time (June 2019)

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of the school year and before we know it we will be back for fall.

Since spring break we, the Liaisons, have been extremely busy going to the different schools and helping to host the Recognition Dinner Awards. It is so Heartwarming to see students move up and move forward with smiles and confidence.



This is a picture of School District 75's Aboriginal Graduates!!!



Our Lovely Metis Elder Rene Inkster, thank you for your devotion to our students !



Hillside Elementary—Johnny Williams—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Wow. Another year has flown by. Hillside experienced another First Salmon Ceremony on May 13/19.

I have been elected as Chief of Sq'ewlets and will be taking a leave of absence from Siwal Si'wes.

I wish the best to all the students and staff at Hillside and the District.

Johnny Williams.



To:lmels ye Kilaksten to:lmels means “wisdom or knowledge” as shared by Pipe.

Éy Swayel Everyone!

I have been busy co-teaching, creating, co-planning/organizing, sharing and honouring! I am super happy to share that I have been voted into Mission Teacher's Union (MTU) as the Aboriginal Contact. It is my hope to be in “good relations” with the MTU Executive, and by extension, BCTF and BCTF Aboriginal Advisory.

As a BCTF Facilitator, I have been out to Prince George SD, Chilliwack SD, Ab Ed & Social Justice Conference, and to BCTF. I continue to present and to write curriculum and workshops for Teachers.

More fun was had with the SOGI 123 Salish Weaving (AGAIN!)? We, Saylesh Wesley (Teacher in Chilliwack SD) and I, were 2 of the 3 Keynote presenters at BCTF's Aboriginal & Social Justice Conference on May 25th, (see picture below. Photo credit: Regie PA). Also, because BCTF has the Month of June as “LGBTQ Month” and “Aboriginal Month”, they featured the SOGI 123 Weaving in the May/June “Teacher” Magazine.



I have been able to assemble and give to each Elementary and Middle School Library a Nlaka'pamux Blanket Lesson. It is an elementary-level history lesson for Teachers to sign out of their Library and it comes from BCTF's eBook “Gladys We Never Knew”.



I totally am going to nerd out! I was excited to spend the day with author and friend Nicola Campbell at the Indigenous Literary Studies Association Council (ILSA) conference. We then had a session with Authors (see picture Left to Right) Brittany Johnson, Jeannette Armstrong, Kim Anderson, Me, Maria Campbell, Nicola Campbell, and Armand Garnet Ruffo (photo credit: Nicola Campbell). End of nerd-ing out.

Lastly, it was so great to support schools for ALL of our Student Recognition Dinners and Grad Student night. Celebrating the year is very important!

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

2018 -19 school year is almost coming to an end. With only one week left and little time, it is a time cruncher to get everything we would like to get done sooner than we would like. At Mission Central we have been busy bees here with the continuation of Boy's Group with Johnny Williams. The Boys surely look forward to this time. Mme Anais's class got to make dreamcatchers with beautiful results. The whole school took part and enjoyed making a Huge bowl of Fruit Salad. Mme Anais's class got to make Dreamcatchers that the students made with pride.



Ms. Robinson's class had Mrs. Cather's come into their classroom to talk of Tipis's. The students then got to make a Tipi and they did an amazing job. Ms. Bis-Callihoo's class had Johnny Williams come into the classroom to talk about and show a drawing of Traditional Westcoast Drawings. The students enjoyed having to learn about West Coast drawings and took pride drawing their own Salmon.



Mrs. Hedderson with Mrs. Chung's class went to the Fish Release Hatchery for the release of the small baby Salmon. Its was a very beautiful day to have had the pleasure of watching all those enjoy the release then watch then swim around.



We then had our Aboriginal Cultural Days here at Mission Central, all students enjoyed the Arts and Crafts and the wonderful Presenters.

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

Things at MSS have been moving along quickly as we prepare for the end of another year. This year has been full of activities and stellar performances by our Aboriginal Students. Some of these examples include Sports excellence, Art panels, the Buffalo Respect project and honoring our grade 12's at our recognition dinner.

In sports, our Senior Girls Rugby team took home two Provincial Bronze Medals, with 11 of the players being Aboriginal. They became the leaders of the team and really strived to become the best players they can be. In Track and Field, Harrison Trustham and Bradley Tober represented us at the Provincial Track meet where Harrison was able to come home with two Bronze Medals.



This amazing art panel above was designed by Peter Gong and painted by the Aboriginal students in our department. Students were able to work alongside Peter as they learned the traditional art forms from him. He was able to show them techniques and how the shapes and lines came to represent different old traditions to our people.

We will be unveiling, by the end of the year, a new Buffalo Art Piece that we are all very excited about. We will be showing Respect through diversity in this Live Wall art piece. The students and staff are very excited to see how it comes together to be a living piece.

As we finish the year and wish our Grade 12's the best of luck in their future endeavors, we were able to Honour them by blanketing them or sashing them in Ceremony. In the Ceremony we were also able to honour our grade 10's and 11's for their great work this year. We are very grateful for our grade 12's and what they have been able to do in their educational careers. We cannot wait for them to take on the world and make a huge difference.

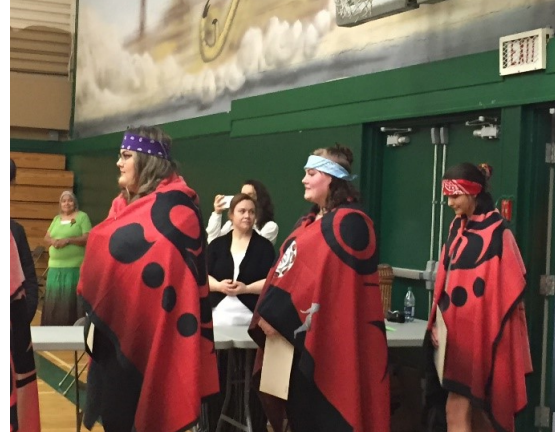
Lastly we like to congratulate the Scholarship and Bursary winners on a job well done.

Riverside College—Susan O'Soup—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Congratulations to all our Grade 12 Graduates of Riverside College!! Some Students not only graduated grade 12 but also obtained a certificate in the Trades.

Five of Riverside students won scholarships and the Circle of Courage Trophy went to Sasha Gladish-Fowler.

Wishing everyone a safe grad and a happy summer.



Silverdale—Joe Kelly—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Wow this year seems to have flown by suddenly.

I would just like to wish all the students and Families of Silverdale a wonderful and safe summer.

I look forward to seeing you in September, have a great summer.

Summit Learning—Chris Gawthorn—Aboriginal Liaison Worker



Summit has had a great year of the Buffalo. Grads have had a Ceremony planned for them. This was held at North View Church on Tuesday June 18/19.

The Cultural day that was planned was beautiful. The day was warm and well attended. Everyone enjoyed Bannock tacos including FLC staff and students.

On the same day we released our Butterflies in celebration. A big thank you to those that helped make it a fun-filled day.

I hope everyone has a fun filled summer. Remember to be safe. Thank -you for a wonderful year

West Heights Elementary– Chris Gawthorn and Cinch—Aboriginal Liaison Worker



Our school year is almost over. We have had a busy year of the Buffalo.

The next school year will bring us the Wolf-Humility. We had our Mask Unveiling Ceremony on the 20th of June at 12:00. We had bannock and then our ceremony at 12:00.

Our canvases are finished and on display in the front cabinet. The students did a wonderful job of creating the habitats of our Seven Sacred teaching animals.

We had our salmon release with Fraserview Learning Centre joining with salmon as well.

We also had Lynn Heyes in our school doing soapstone. It was a nice day, so students got to do the work outside.

Thank you for a wonderful year and have a safe and enjoyable summer



Windebank—Holly Gallant—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

The **Aboriginal Recognition Dinner** was fantastic. Out of sixteen grade six grads that attended, seven were from Windebank! Way to go!

Congratulations to Sarah Deline for winning the I Pad !

Thank you to all my students for looking after the Elders needs for the evening.



Susan Bernard has reestablished our **Elders Connection Program** with the Mission Friendship Center.. Thank you.



Our **Unveiling Ceremony with Peter Gong**. Thank you Peter for making a Welcome sign and putting each of the Seven Sacred teachings signs in Halq'emýlem, 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:ltl'el, and Leq'á:mel First Nations.



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