



**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 #1

November 2018

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

Ey Swayel,

As I write this, the sun is rising over the mountains and reflecting upon the river and the longhouses are opening their doors for the Winter season. It is during this time that we gather with family and friends and share stories, lessons and perspectives.



This year we are highlighting the sacred teaching of "RESPECT" in our District. I have been humbled by the many incredible initiatives which have explored this teaching. On this note, I wish to express my deepest respect and excitement in welcoming Vivian Searwar, SWSW's Vice Principal of Aboriginal Education. I look forward to walking alongside this talented and diligent educator and leader this year!

Please visit our Siwal Si'wes digital library at swwli-brary.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 All!

My name is Vivian Searwar and I am so grateful to be joining the Siwal Si'wes family this year. Since 1999, I have been working as an educator with the Mission Public School District at various elementary schools as a teacher in the French Immersion program, a Learning Support Teacher, an Aboriginal Mentor Teacher and a Vice-Principal.



This year, I am learning alongside Mr. Joe Heslip at the School Board Office. We have had a very busy fall, with the planning of our annual district-wide commemorative Orange Shirt Day March for Reconciliation in September, our Iyaqt Transition Days (for Grade 6-12 Aboriginal youth) in October and the Aboriginal Youth Leadership Conference (for Grades 9-12) in November. In the past few months, I have also had the pleasure of connecting with many of our Elders, School District staff, students and families through meetings, school visits and "hallway walk-about".

We are pleased to welcome Jennifer Sherif to our Siwal Si'wes team this year!

I look forward to continuing this learning journey with all of you!

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)

I am pleased to inform you that the Halq'eméylem program continues to thrive in Mission School District. By having three Halq'eméylem instructors we are now able to provide this service to more students. Malila (*Donna Giroux*) teaches at Windebank, Hillside, Dewdney, Mission Central and Christine Morrison. I, Pipte (*Peter Lindley*) teach at Edwin S. Richards, Hatzic, West Heights, Cherry Hill, Albert McMahon, Deroche and Silverdale. Tselyóséwet (*Rachelle Silver*) teaches the Grade 7 & 8 students at Heritage Park and Hatzic Middle Schools.

To be greeted each morning with a friendly smile and a cheerful “Ey swayel, Pipte” from students, principals, teachers and support staff assures me that we are doing something right. Having students come forward offering to take lead roles by drumming and singing one of our opening songs is another measurement of success. I find the power of the hand drum continues to provide the perfect ambience for most any classroom situation. It can be very calming and relaxing and then quickly become a tool to motivate and energize the little ones. I don't think anyone, young or not so young can resist not responding to the drum exactly how the drum wants you to.

I am always open to new and interesting ways of approaching and presenting Halq'eméylem to the students so this year I will be adding directed drawing sessions throughout the school year. We have been teaching the Seven Sacred Teachings within the district for a few years now, so we decided the animal representing each of the sacred teaching would become the subject of our artwork. Some very artistic and creative students at Hatzic Elementary took this one step further by approaching me with their ideas. One idea is that after we do all seven animals, each student could then design their own totem telling a story. Another idea is to do murals of the animals in their natural setting. I was so proud of these young people and their idea's so I shared it with other students and teachers at their schools who in turn want to do this. So that one idea has become a seven school project. “Seven Sacred Teachings” Seven Schools” Coincidence?

Halq'eméylem — Malila (Donna Giroux)

Ey swayel mekw wat.

This year I am teaching Halq'eméylem at five schools in the Mission School District. On Monday I am at Dewdney and Hillside, Tuesday and Wednesday I am at Christine Morrison, Mission Central on Thursday and Windebank on Friday.

On Friday September 28, I took part in the Orange Shirt Gathering held at Fraser River Heritage Park where students either marched or took a bus to participate. It was a great day with good words spoken by Elders.

On October 2nd and 3rd Peter Lindley, Rachelle and I held a Halq'eméylem workshop as part of the Iyaqt transition Gathering at the Xá:ytem Rock Centre. This was held for the Grade 6-12.



The subjects covered for Halq'eméylem so far have been varied from translating names, names of the Stó:lō months (this month is Xets'o:westel-time to store away canoe paddles for winter). From Orange Shirt Day to colors and words for Remembrance Day and Stó:lō New Year.

Albert McMahan Elementary—Jennifer Sherif—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Osiyo (“Hello” in the Tsalagi language).

My name is Jennifer Sherif (Cherokee) and I am honoured to be working as a new member of the Siwal Si’wes team! I am new to the Mission School District this year but have done Aboriginal Liaison work for a long time. This year I am working at Albert McMahan and Dewdney Elementary schools.

One of the focuses of Albert McMahan this year is to further ‘Indigenize’ the physical space of the school. Very talented local artist Peter Gong, will be creating carvings relating to the Seven Sacred Teachings – a project that will build upon itself each year. With this year’s district-wide theme of respect, represented by Buffalo, Mr. Gong will begin the series of carvings by replicating the Buffalo design found he created for the theme (it is distributed throughout the district in poster form). In addition to this piece, he will be creating a carving in line with last year’s theme of love, represented by Eagle. Mr. Gong has invited me to bring groups of students down to his studio to see the works as they are in progress. The students at Albert McMahan will continue to be given the teachings around Buffalo and respect throughout the year, so when the carving dons the school foyer, they can view it each day knowing its true significance.

I will soon be running an Aboriginal literacy program at Albert McMahan over the noon hour once a week, using various teaching/learning tools with Aboriginal content. The goal of this program is to give our students Aboriginal teachings while using different modalities, both traditional and more modern, that will encourage them to expand on their literacy skills.

I am also launching a healthy eating program. Fresh produce will be available for students each week, so that when they work in the Aboriginal room at the school, or drop by for a visit, they can have a fresh, healthy snack. Some students, who are currently learning life skills, will be creating recipes with ingredients supplied by the program, and learning how to cook delicious, nutritious dishes that they will have the knowledge and independence to create at home, as they continue to grow older.

The Aboriginal students at AME are starting to work on small giveaways for this year’s Winter Heat event. They are excited to be part of giving back to the local community!

We are also working on building our community and one tool that the students and I have been working to further build a sense of belonging is our birthday wall. Each Aboriginal student (we are half way there!) decorates a feather with his/her name and birthday on it. Our dreamcatchers are starting to build up, and can be found in the Aboriginal room at AME.

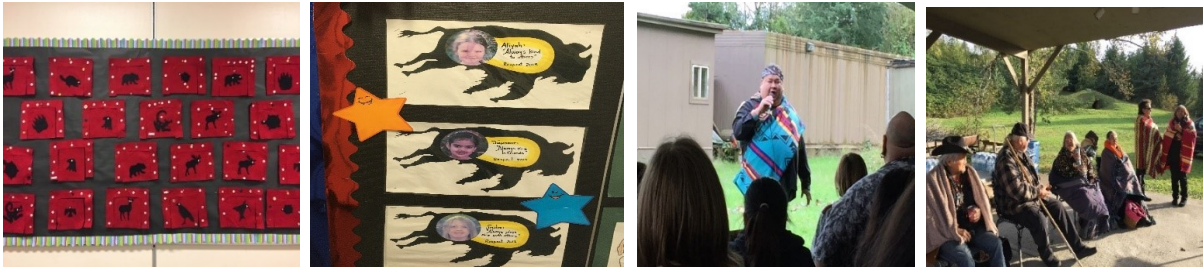


Cherry Hill Elementary School—Susan O'Soup—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

It has been a very busy start up for this school year. In September, we had Orange Shirt Day and some of the student's made orange bracelets and decorated a cut out of the Buffalo for Orange Shirt Day to remember those who attended Indian Residential Schools.



Some classes made Button Blankets and I taught how the Newcomers history of Aboriginal people is different in BC, compared to the East Coast of Canada. This year Cherry Hill Elementary has decided to incorporate the 7 Sacred Teachings into their student recognition program. Each new month, a Sacred Teaching is focused on in the classroom through lessons and teachable moments. Val Leibel, a teacher at Cherry Hill with aboriginal heritage, created some wonderful classroom resources for teachers. Students of the week are chosen from each classroom that exemplify the Sacred Teaching of the month. These students have their picture and a short write up posted on our school wall. In addition, they are honored in our monthly assembly with a certificate tailored to the specific sacred teaching. September and October focused on Respect and November is Courage. So far, our Sacred Teachings recognition program has been a great success! Thanks to Mr. Sliziak & Anna Abbot.



October 2, & 3rd we held the first "YQAQT" (To change – Aboriginal Transition Conference at Xá:ytem.) This was for students from grade 6 – 12 and it was exciting and refreshing to start a new year off with Aboriginal teachings from our Elders & Staff who taught Halq'emeylemqel, mentorship groups, Pit House tours, carving, story telling and many more fun activities. The feedback from the gr. 6 students said it was great and they had fun.

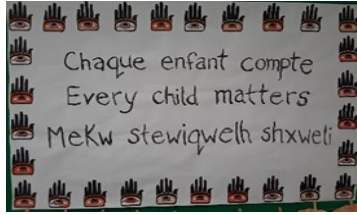


I like to welcome Vivian Searwar & Jennifer Sherif to our Siwal Si'wes family.

Susan O'Soup

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

ORANGE SHIRT DAY – EVERY CHILD MATTERS



Orange Shirt Day coincided with the Terry Fox Run at Christine Morrison this year. Students shared the message of Orange Shirt Day in the morning assembly and explained why we were wearing orange. We would like to thank Siwal Si'wes for the Orange ribbons which were given to students and staff. Christine Morrison teachers taught students regarding Orange Shirt Day and gave their students opportunity to create hands-on activities in response to Phyllis' story.

STO:LO NEW YEAR

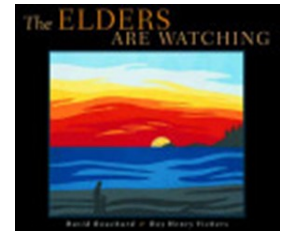
Christine Morrison Elementary celebrated Stó:lō New Year once again. Malila provided teachings to classes which included the Halq'eméylem names of the moon cycles. Teaching was also given regarding why the Stó:lō celebrate the New Year in October. This is "time for things to be finished" - called "temhila'lxw". Because this season is called "time for things to be finished", now something new is going to begin.

Students also learned about Stó:lō Blueberry Management. Part of the celebration included dried blueberries and baked bannock and jam which was enjoyed by all!

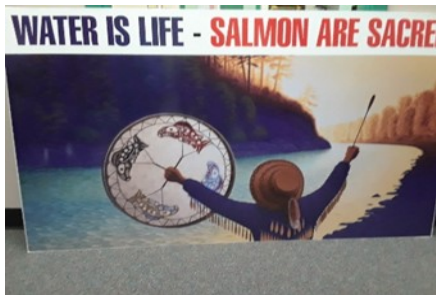


ABORIGINAL VETERANS DAY

Students were taught about Aboriginal Veterans Day: Stories of Honour and Heroism. Ms. Chris Schaufert, CM music teacher, orchestrated a beautiful assembly honouring Veterans. She included First Nations teachings of the four directions, drumming, singing and Halq'eméylem. Students did a wonderful presentation based on "The Elders are Watching" book. We appreciate the tremendous contributions of our Aboriginal Veterans and the hard work and sacrifices made.



HOW CAN WE HELP THE SALMON COME HOME



Water is life – salmon are sacred.

Eddie Gardner brought the message of the importance of clean water for salmon to Division 16, grade 1 and grade 2 students. He also shared drumming and songs which the students danced to. Students also presented their songs and dances, along with masks they had created with their teacher, Mme Gisele Dupuis.

An important part of this visit was the documenting done by the Christine Morrison Aboriginal Kids Society (AKS). In preparation for this visit, these students participated in several IT learning sessions with Frank Chan, MPSD Tech. One of our elders, Lolahawk, along with the students from AKS have worked hard at developing a short video for the Youth For Salmon contest. The video will be presented to Christine Morrison at a later date.

We would like thank our special visitors,Carolynn Schmor and Vivian Searwar for attending this special event.

Deroche Elementary School—Kristy Hackel—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Welcome back to another great school year Deroche! Fall is in full swing and we have already had so many exciting and wonderful learning experiences at our school.

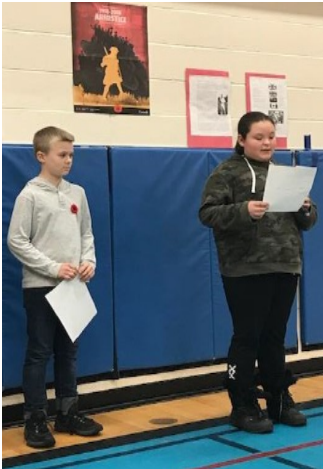
Back in October, our school participated in showing our support of reconciliation and hope on Orange Shirt Day. Each student & staff member wore their orange shirts followed by our grade 6 students attending a march at Heritage Park where they respectfully listened to Elders share their stories.



Our leadership group has started up again meeting each week at lunch to plan School Spirit Days, bake sales & an upcoming food drive. Along with our first spirit week, our leadership group planned and facilitated 6 amazing Halloween themed stations such as Pumpkin bowling, glow in the dark ring toss followed by PJ day with a movie and popcorn for the whole school the following day! These meetings are not only teaching students social responsibility but also showing how effective they can be when they all work together.

Girls group is also meeting each week at lunch where they are focusing on self-esteem, friendships and their success in school. Our goal as a group this year is to help each other focus on positive relationships, their ability to deal with conflicts and increasing a strong overall confidence.

On Friday, November 2nd we had our Remembrance Day & Aboriginal Veterans Day Assembly. A few of our grade 6 students shared stories of fallen Indigenous Soldiers with the hope of putting a face on remembrance. We were also lucky to have Pipe join us in sharing his family's personal story as well as some information of local veterans from in the area. We are so grateful for such a beautiful day in honoring so many brave individuals.



Dewdney Elementary—Jennifer Sherif—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Osiyo (“Hello” in the Tsalagi language).

My name is Jennifer Sherif (Cherokee) and I am honoured to be working as a new member of the Siwal Si'wes team! I am new to the Mission School District this year but have done Aboriginal Liaison work for a long time. This year I am working at Albert McMahon and Dewdney Elementary schools.

Over the past few years, Dewdney has had a tipi raised near its wetlands area, to add an additional outdoor learning space on its property. On October 12, we were very fortunate to have an Ojibwe community member, Tony of Mukwa Teepees, come out to guide the school community in erecting it. Local Elder Herman Dan was there to work with us for the day, in particular to bless the work. After a short welcome and gifting ceremony in the gym, the work began! The kindergarten class worked hard to help prepare the ground with cedar mulch, ferrying buckets upon buckets to the space as our crew of staff and parent volunteers cleared the blackberry bushes from the site. The students then did a grass dance to flatten the surrounding area in which the tipi would be placed. Throughout the day, each class made their way outside to contribute to the various staging of getting the structure up. They did amazing work and were very proud of themselves. The school community will be able to utilize the tipi until May, when more ceremony will take place to take it down and let the poles rest for the summer months. A big thank you to Brittany O'Rourke, the school's previous Aboriginal Liaison Worker, for joining us for the day and helping to make sure the day went smoothly!



This year we are lucky to have secured Peter Gong to work with Dewdney this year. Mr. Gong will be painting his original design of welcome figures on two of the columns at the school. These figures will be in a prominent location so they will greet all students, staff and visitors each day before they reach the main entrance to the school. Mr. Gong will be distributing these designs to each member of the school, along with teachings, so that everyone will be able to share with their communities/families the meaning behind these works of art. In order to tie in with Dewdney's outdoor learning program, the figures will be done in shades of green. This project will begin in the spring, and we can't wait!

In order to commemorate Aboriginal Veterans Day, the grade 1/2 class learned about some of the many invaluable contributions to war and peace efforts that Aboriginal people have made. They then produced beautiful 'feather poppies' as a symbol and a physical reminder of these contributions. Dewdney had Johnny Williams join them to drum in honour of veterans for its Remembrance Day Assembly.

Thanks Johnny!

Edwin S. Richards—Jennifer Snow—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey swayel mekw'wat,

This year is off to a running start here at E.S. Richards. Right off the bat, we had big plans for our grade 6 students to attend a valuable learning experience at Xá:ytem. This piece was great for connecting our students to other peers at different schools to help with smooth transitions for next year. Students also got to participate in various stations in which they had the opportunity to take part in culturally rich activities and lessons. We were fortunate enough to have a session with Peter Gong, a local artist. He demonstrated his carving skills and brought in many tools for us to investigate. The students really enjoyed hearing his stories, seeing his work and the smell of all the cedar in the room.



We also had the opportunity to be a part of the Halq'eméylem station. There were elders sharing their language, Pipte, Malila and Rachelle, our language teachers, guiding our students as well. Each student had their English names translated and got to play a fun game of “rock, paper, scissors” in a Halq'eméylem style of, “grizzly, hunter, girl”. Overall, the students had a very fun and educational day.



This year is the sacred teaching of respect represented by the buffalo. Throughout the year we will continue to instill this teaching on our students within their classes and in the many exciting things we have planned for the year.

Please Mark Your Calendars:

Winter Break—December 22/18—January 6/19

Christmas—December 25, 2018

Boxing Day—December 26, 2018

New Years Day—January 1, 2019

School Opens—January 7, 2019



Fraserview Learning Centre—Leslie Jensen—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Ey Swayel!

Welcome to all the new students and staff at Fraserview.

Fraserview has a furry new staff member by the name of Bruno. Bruno is a Bernese Mountain Dog who is a therapy dog. Bruno provides emotional support to many of the students and staff and he has settled very well into his role at the school. Bruno's schedule is full days on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Many of the students enjoy walking and patting him or having him just sit by their desk. We are thankful to have Bruno!



Three students from Fraserview really enjoyed the first Iyaqt event at Xá:ytem. They braved the cold, stayed positive and connected with students from other Mission schools. One of the sessions they had fun at was the “musical chair” (without the music) game at the end of the day.

Mr. Paul (teacher) gifted the school with two Eagle feathers so the students have been learning about the significance of the Eagle Feather for Indigenous people. Thank you, Judy Cathers for your very powerful Eagle Feather presentation which resonated with many of the students when you shared a story about an Elder and staying strong through the ups and downs of life. We are planning another Eagle Feather activity.

Looking forward to the November upcoming events: Me to We, Mission Friendship Centre's Winter Heat and the Indigenous Leadership Conference in Langley.

Hatzic Elementary—Joe Kelly—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

The Hatzic Elementary team works hard to give the best school experience to our students involving education as well as cultural awareness of Aboriginal people of Canada. We take great pride in learning about Indigenous teachings and ways of life. On Friday September 28th, Hatzic took part in Orange Shirt Day. The intermediate students walked to Heritage Park to be apart of a district wide event to honor all of the Residential school survivors. Hatzic is currently doing our “kindness feather” program as well. This program focuses on the 7 sacred teachings and showing them towards others.



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

Jenny and Rachel are both happy to be back at Hatzic again this year! We would like to wish Jasmin Wells all the best as she has moved over to Heritage Park full time this year. Rachel is here full time Monday through Friday and Jenny is here every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

We have started our school year with some awesome events already:

September 26th we had Peggy Janicki come to our school and speak at a whole school assembly about Residential School and the importance of honouring the survivors and ancestors that didn't make it back. After our assembly students gathered in the cafeteria to write their messages on Buffalo cut outs that will later be displayed in an art piece at the School Board. September 28th all Indigenous students at Hatzic were given an opportunity to participate in the Orange Shirt Day march at Heritage Park. All students that went on the field trip received a brand-new orange shirt.



October 2nd and 3rd were district transition days at Xá:ytem called IYAQT. October 2nd was for the grade 6,7 and 8 students in our district to spend time together and become familiar with one another. October 3rd was a day for the grade 9, 10 and 11 students to do the same. Students attending IYAQT received a healthy lunch as well as teachings from our valuable elders and community members. Presenters taught some traditional Indigenous games such as Nobbies and Mayan handball. The board of Education was there doing some filming and some of our students will be included in a video made for Indigenous education.

Miss Silver is our Halq'eméylem instructor here at Hatzic on every day one. Two of Miss Silver's classes attended a field trip to Seabird Island to celebrate Stó:lō New Year on October 10th. We were treated to an amazing traditional meal of deer stew as well as salmon, rice and veggies. Our students also got to witness guest from Lummi and some of their dances. It was a blessing to see so many young people dancing in a traditional way.



During the month of October, our Aboriginal Department participated in We Scare Hunger as one of our We Day initiatives. Students brought in non-perishable food and traded us for candy! Mr. Vos and his leadership students also hosted a Halloween dance and collected food for our cause as well. All food collected will be brought to the Mission Friendship Center and will be made into care packages for the Elders in our community.

November 21st and 22nd is the Youth Leadership conference in Langley. There students will receive teachings from respected Elders as well as participating in workshops building leadership skills. Jenny will be taking students to We Day in Vancouver on November 22nd to listen to incredible motivational speakers and entertainers at Rogers Arena.

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



Ey swayel, to everyone as we head into the cooler weather. It has been a busy startup to the year and it feels like it is going very quickly as we settle into a routine. We had another very successful Orange shirt day at Heritage Park. What a beautiful sight and feeling it is to head down the hill to Honor the Elders and Survivors of St. Mary's Residential School. It is becoming clearer that all the students and teachers are understanding what it was that happened for many who attended there.



This year we had grade 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 students come to Xá:ytem Rock for IYAQT (means to change) workshops so students will have a familiar face when transitioning to a new school. It also gives them an opportunity to find out who their new Liaison Worker will be. Students had opportunities to try aboriginal traditional games (pictured above), learn about medicines, language, transformation stories and carving.



We are also so lucky to have a new room this year and it has made a huge difference for all of us. Thank you to the powers that be who were diligent in helping us to have a beautiful space. We are now able to have a small snack station with hot soup at lunch. We have a table dedicated to weaving and some games tables with chess and other fun games.



Hillside Elementary—Johnny Williams—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Good day to all our families.

We have had a busy year so far at Hillside Traditional. I have been fortunate in being able to get into a lot of classes for cultural presentations so far this year. We have done Weaving, Bannock (mmmmmm), Cedar, Directed Drawing and Storytelling.

We have been approved for a couple of Siwal Si'wes grants. We are going to have our final art piece put up by the back entrance of the school. All three doors/entrances will have an art piece up.

We also have been approved for our First Salmon Ceremony. Date TBA
Hope you all have a good holiday season.

QWA-HONN
Johnny Williams
Hillside Traditional Aboriginal Liaison District Cultural Worker

To:lmels ye Kilaksten / Knowledge of Peggy Janicki
“knowledge or wisdom” = To:lmels
Éy Swayel /Good Day

I acknowledge that I work and learn on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unceded, and shared territories of the Kwantlen, Leq'á:mel', Matheqwi, and Sq'éwlets First Nations.

Thank you to Pipite for the Halq'eméylem word “To:lmels” to help name my little corner of SD75. Time really does fly! I have been busy teaching, creating, helping, meeting, sharing and supporting folks out in SD75.

I have taught 6 blocks at HPMS and 2 classes at Hatzic Elementary, the Governance Lesson; 1 class at MSS about Indigenous Stories and Indigenous Copyright. I helped teach the GIANT MAP at Silverdale Elementary school.

I have taught Pro-D's: MSS Blanket Lesson with Lori Caviggia and Jody Shaw: BCTF AEA PSA, Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows ProD, Vancouver Island University (VIU), and upcoming at FNESC with the Governance Lesson. Co-taught Pro-D's: UBC MOOC with Vivian Searwar, Helped at Pro-D's: Bad Rock Tours with Sonny McHalsie and Clarke Theatre with Sonny McHalsie. Created: drafted lesson for BCTF's curriculum “Gladys Secondary”, drafted worksheet “4R's of Indigens Research”, and OneNote Notebook for HPMS Teacher Librarian "First Contact in Stó:lō Territory”.

Helped with Kindergarten student support, created safe and comfortable spaces for our Aboriginal students, Iyaqt 2018 Conference, upcoming “Cedar-strip Canoe” project, and Curriculum Challenge Process, and new Staff supporting our Aboriginal students.

Met with Teacher-Librarians, Aboriginal Education Advisory, Siya Ye Yoyes Regional Committee, Curriculum Meetings, Staff Meetings, Indigenous Mentor Teacher Meetings, Report Card Meeting, MSS Friday Meetings,

Shared and supported with my 4 Seasons Posters with primary level Educators, as a public speaking opportunity at Hatzic Middle School for Orange Shirt Day assembly, and SWSW Library Twitter account.

Silverdale was in the Mission newspaper with regards to the Giant Map called “Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada Giant Floor Map” which is 11x8 metres and covered most of the gym floor. It was created by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. BCTF showcased the map at the PSA Aboriginal Education Association (AEA) Conference of which I was a part of. From that conference, I was able to bring the map to SD75.

Talk soon,
Peggy Janicki



École Mission Central Elementary—Deanna Dettieh—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Welcome to another wonderful school year with many things happening and we've only started November. At Central we have had plenty happening within the school gym or in the classrooms. We have had Cops for Cancer come into our school to talk with our students.

Orange Shirt Day was a busy day for some of us. Some of the students in the school made the dough, students got to roll and cut out the cookies to bake and decorate with orange icing. Not all got to do a cookie my apologies.



Our Gr. 6 Aboriginal Students got to attend the Iyaqt gathering at Xá:ytem Interpretive Centre to meet other aboriginal students from other elementary and middle schools. These students got to meet important and talented Elders that had significant and knowledgeable information to share and pass onto our students. All students had a great time.



Mme. Anais's class is learning to play Slahal and sing the song that is sang while playing Slahal with Johnny Williams

Mrs. Dhillon's class had Johnny Williams come in to talk about plant and animals connection to First People of Canada



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

Welcome back to the 2018/2019 school year. This year Robby Williams, Brittany O'Rourke and Sukhi Pangli have the honor of serving the students here at Mission Secondary as the Aboriginal Liaison Workers. It has been a busy start to the year for us and we would like to share the activities we have been involved in.

We started off the year with the Every Child Matters Walk. Over one hundred students attended this event. Our dear Elders shared about their times in Residential Schools and how it has impacted their families and lives today.

We were able to send our students on an amazing field trip with IYAQT for transition days at Xá:ytem. Over the two days grade 10- 12 students enjoyed hearing from our keynote speaker Ernie Cardinal. The students were able to partake in many workshops such as Cedar, Sonny McHalsie sharing about the historical Stó:lō village site, language, carving, leadership presentation with previous mentorship students and Ronnie Dean Harris. We also had the opportunity to go on a bus tour with Sonny McHalsie "Bad Rock Bus Tour". He led his tour with a few of our grade 12 students. We were truly grateful to be with Sonny for the day, an incredible cultural knowledge keeper. We toured transformer sites, shown where pit houses were and an area where Thunderbird lived in the mountain in Sumas area. We also discussed how and why they drained Sumas Lake and where there is an old village site. The tour was filled with many more incredible truths with the history of the Stó:lō people.

At the beginning of October, we attended a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Candle Light Vigil at Heritage Park. Jody Shaw led the vigil with a few of our leadership students. We provided chili, rice and buns for dinner. Wise and heart spoken words were shared by our Elder's advisory team member, Priscilla Wells and a few other community members. Students from MSS sang a women's warrior song that they spent weeks learning and preparing for.

In November we had the honor of hosting our Elders Priscilla and Bill Wells and Herman Dan for our Remembrance Day Assembly where we had Herman Dan open with a beautiful song. We were very honored to have them in our building.

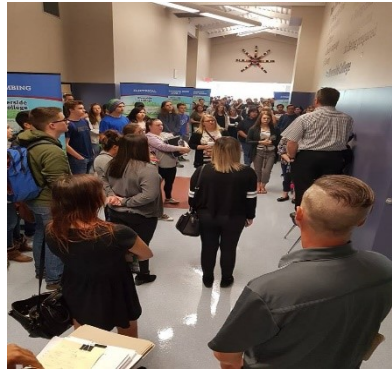
We have several events coming up for our students that we are very excited about. November 20-22 we will be at the Newlands Golf and Country club for the Strengthening the Circle Leadership Conference. Our students had the opportunity to learn about our culture through guest speakers, workshops, and spending time intergenerationally with our Elders and teachers. On November 22, they will be able to attend Me to We day where they talk about giving back to our community and society at large with 15000 other students at Rogers Arena in Vancouver. The last event this month is our Winter heat where we get to go to the Friendship Centre and serve food to our community as well as give back through gifts and prizes. It is an amazing event for our students to connect with our community and learn the importance of giving back and being humble.

We are excited to see what this year will bring and look forward to working with the amazing students at Mission Secondary. If you have any questions, concerns, comments or partnership ideas, please do not hesitate to contact any one of us at anytime.

Kindly,
Robert Williams, Sukhi Pangli & Brittany O'Rourke!

Riverside College—Susan O'Soup—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

A warm welcome back to Riverside College students.



Students in grade 12 can take advantage of dual credits and complete the first year of a college program while still getting credit towards their high school graduation. With smaller class sizes, instructors can support students in their learning. Riverside College also provides, academic support, counselling support as well as Aboriginal support services.

Riverside provides trades technical training and career program certification for BC secondary school students and adults. The program enables students to earn both graduation credits and credit for the first level of technical training associated with the Program or Apprenticeship. This is an opportunity for students to get a head start on earning their credentials in one of the more than 100 trades or industry occupations that are accredited or recognized by the Industry Training Authority or a Career Program.

The trades and training programs at Riverside College are designed to lead graduates directly into employment opportunities. We combine trades training with a high school graduation program.

Students who enroll at Riverside College in an apprenticeship trades program are:

- provided a combination of Entry Level Trades Training and Level One Technical Training specific to their trade of choice.
- registered with the Industry Training Authority and assigned an apprenticeship number.
- where applicable, receive dual credit for their coursework. That is, courses that are successfully completed count towards their B.C. Dogwood Secondary School graduation or towards their Adult Graduation. For school credits, courses must be passed with a minimum of 50% however for Technical Training credits, an average of 70 % must be maintained in all trade related coursework.
- given credit for a portion of their work-based training hours required for Level One completion.
- in most instances, much of the cost of the training is borne by the Ministry of Education so the students avoid the costs associated with post-secondary training institutions. Adult students who have graduated from secondary school may also find the costs more manageable as Riverside College is an operation of the Mission School District public school system.
- **ed2go is the industry leader in online learning for adults**
- ed2go offer the highest-quality online continuing education courses that are affordable and easy to use through a network of more than 2,100 top colleges and universities. As a virtual online college, we offer the latest instructor-led online courses from the top professionals in their field. Choose from over 400 on-line courses.

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604-814-0446 ext. 2326

Silverdale—Joe Kelly—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

September 28th was an amazing day at Silverdale. We honoured Orange Shirt Day with an assembly to talk about Phyllis Webstad and how Orange Shirt Day got started. We were very lucky to have two Elders come in to our school to talk about their experiences at Residential school to each individual class. All the students had an opportunity to spend time with the Elders listening to their story and asking questions.



Summit Learning—Chris Gawthorn—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

We are away to a very busy start. I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful fall weather.

We have started a BOOKS AND BANNOCK program. We meet once a month. Reading books like Nanabosho, Soaring Eagle and Rabbit and Bear Paws that teaches the learning of RESPECT.



Tutorials Grade 8 to 12 – Tuesday 10:00 to 11:00
Thursday 1:30 to 3:00



West Heights Elementary– Chris Gawthorn

West Heights has been busy. Orange Shirt Day had over 60 students attend at Fraser River Heritage Park.

Peter Gong has been our Carver in Residence every Thursday. He is working on a Bear mask for the school. Students have been able to sit and watch Peter at work. Students and teachers have been able to ask questions and have been learning about all the different tools he has and their uses in his work.

A first in the school this year is that Halq'eméylem is being taught to the whole school. All students and staff are getting time with Pipte. Thank you Pipte for helping us make this work for everyone. Pictures of the Respect Buffalo Door , Buffalo Runner Horse, and Peter Gong



Windebank—Holly Gallant—Aboriginal Liaison Worker

Windebank has grown substantially over the last few years. We now have 18 divisions. I'm looking forward to collaborating with all the new staff.

Christine Wozney, V P Windebank and I have been working on many projects and ideas. She has also assisted teachers in many successful grants for our student field trips. Thank you Christine for all your enthusiasm.

This is an exciting time to be working in Aboriginal Education !

This year our enhancement project pays tribute to The Seven Sacred Teachings. Carver, Peter Gong is making plaques with each of the teachings carved in Halq'eméylem, as well as painted in English and French. We are supporting the plaques in the school by having a Metis Elder come in to teach the Seven Sacred Teachings in the intermediate classes. The classes will then work with their buddy classes making spirit boards.



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.



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:



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Wishing everyone a very safe and restful holiday season.

From the Sival Si'wes Family