



Aboriginal. voice

SHARING STORIES TO SUPPORT OUR
CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION OPEN HOUSE

On November 1, families, staff, and community members joined together at Trafalgar Middle School for our first ever Aboriginal Education Open House with the Nelson Family of Schools. Attendees enjoyed yummy food, learned some grass dancing steps, made crafts, and met other families. We had a beautiful artwork showcase with art from students at Hume (featured to the left),



Wildflower, and LVR. This event was a good reminder of how important it is to connect with the families of our students (goal #3 from our Enhancement Agreement). We look forward to hosting more of these events throughout our district.



METIS FLAG RAISED TO HONOUR LOUIS RIEL DAY



November 16 is Louis Riel Day and it “commemorates the anniversary of the execution of Riel on November 16, 1885 at Regina, Saskatchewan by the Canadian Government in the Northwest Resistance” (<http://www.mnbc.ca>). Each year the Metis flag is raised in front of Nelson City Hall to honour our Metis community and their unique culture. Students from LVR joined in with Metis Elders (Gord and Bob pictured to the left) to witness and participate in the flag raising.



*“We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors;
we borrow it from our children”*

CALLS TO ACTION FROM THE TRC



The Truth and Conciliation Commission of Canada issued many “Calls to Action” for education. The following is from #63:

“We call upon the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada to maintain an annual commitment to Aboriginal education issues, including:

- i. Developing and implementing Kindergarten to Grade Twelve curriculum and learning resources on Aboriginal peoples in Canadian history, and the history and legacy of residential schools.*
- ii. Sharing information and best practices on teaching curriculum related to residential schools and Aboriginal history.*
- iii. Building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect.*
- iv. Identifying teacher-training needs relating to the above.”*

As educators committed to honouring this important work, what can we do to help ensure this happens?

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 1-2—Regional FNEC Conference
- December 2—District Aboriginal Education Team Meeting
- December 10—Human Rights Day



Beautiful Button Blanket created by the students at Jewett school

Check out our SD#8 Aboriginal Education website at: <https://sd8learns.sd8.bc.ca/abed/>

HAVING FUN LEARNING LANGUAGE

Students from Erickson Elementary have been having fun learning Ktunaxa language through the “100 days of school” pole (to the left). Each day students add another piece to the pole to create an animal. Students then learn the word for the animal in English and Ktunaxa. It is exciting watching it grow. Thanks to Janet Zarchukoff for sharing your creative project. You can order this at <http://www.nativerellections.com>

CELEBRATING OUR YOUTH

Know of a star athlete? Someone helping out in the community? An artist or musician? A creative soul, an inventor? Please share their stories with us and we will tell them how proud we are! Send any stories/photos to dlee@sd8.bc.ca

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR SCHOOL?



Please send any pictures, stories, or information about upcoming events to Danica at dlee@sd8.bc.ca

Resources of note:

Science First Peoples
Grade 5-9 Teacher resource guide from FNEC
<http://www.fnesc.ca/science-first-peoples/>

Blanket Exercise
A teaching tool to share the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada
<http://kairosblanketexercise.org/>

Truth and Reconciliation Resources
<http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=9>

Legacy of Hope
Resource guide with activities to explore residential schools and their impact
<http://legacyofhope.ca/document/tebatchimowin/>

