



First Nations Education Committee May 2017 Highlighter

The First Nations Education Committee, as a team, advocate for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students, youth and staff to ensure their sense of belonging, physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs are met in a culturally appropriate manner.

Next FNEC Meeting Monday, 12, 2017

Reminder:
Deadline for Proposals
is Monday, May 29,
2017 at 4:30 p.m.



2016 First Nations Role Models
Loretta Jeff-Combs and Pacen Setah

Reminder:

Annual First Nations Role
Model Celebration takes
place 4:00 p.m. Tuesday,
June 6, 2017 at Marie
Sharpe Elementary gym

See Invite on Page 4

Aboriginal Day Poetry Contest 2017 saw 332 entries!



Teacher
Melinda
MacKinnon at
right with her
winning
poetry
students. L-R
Tia Fooks 4th
Place, Hailey
Richards 1st
Place, Taylor
Nolin 2nd
Place, all in
the Grade 10-
12 Category.



Chilcotin Language Teacher, Patsy
Grinder receives a set of books for
her classroom after Makayla
Alphonse took 3rd place in the
Grade 10-12 category from her
class.

Enhancement Agreement Goals:

1. *To increase First Nations Students' Sense of Belonging at School.*
2. *To Increase the quality of academic success for all First Nations students.*
3. *To increase the knowledge and understanding of local First Nations history, culture, governance, languages and communities for all students.*

Please take a look at our
Enhancement Agreement on
SD27 Website under Programs,
First Nations.

Project Proposal Funding

Deadline for proposals is Monday, May 29, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. (always 2 wks prior to FNEC meeting)

Proposal information can be found on the SD27 website under Programs, First Nations then under Target Funding Criteria.

Please ensure that your proposal is signed by the appropriate member of the First Nations Education Committee for your area as well as your Principal.

Schools are reminded to send in a final completion report and photos to First Nations Education Committee once their events have taken place. Digital photos are appreciated so they can be used on the website.

2016-2017 FNEC Meeting Schedule:

Monday, October 3, 2016
Monday, November 14, 2016
Monday, December 12, 2016
January: CANCELLED
Monday, February 6, 2017
Monday, March 13, 2017
Monday, April 10, 2017
Monday, May 8, 2017
Monday, June 12, 2017

FIRST PEOPLE'S PRINCIPLES OF LEARNING #8

Learning Requires Exploration of one's identity

See page 3 for further information on this important [Principle of Learning!](#)

More Poetry Prizes awarded at Columneetza Campus



Teacher Mrs. Hill accepts books for her classroom along with a student recognition for Grade 7 student Xanthin Billy who placed 4th in the Grade 7-9

National Aboriginal Day June 21, 2017

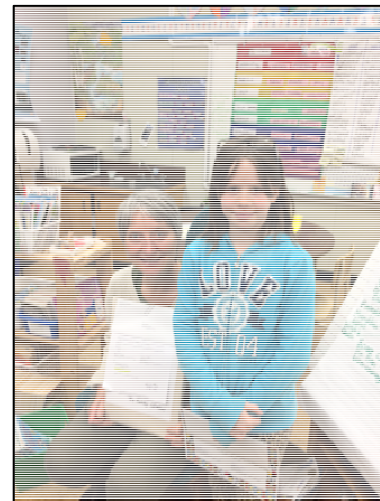
For information regarding entries in the Aboriginal Day Parade here in Williams Lake OR for Park Exhibits at Boitano Park please contact Bonnie Slack at Northern Shuswap Tribal Council at 250-392-7361 or email b.slack@nstq.org

Proposal Funding Project at Marie Sharpe Elementary School



Students from Kirsty Bowers' Grade 5 class at Marie Sharpe Elementary School enjoy beading on looms. With funding from First Nations Education Committee, this classroom has temporarily become a First Nations classroom in this last term of school with the focus on the Aboriginal Principles of Learning and ways of learning. Students will present their learning in all subject areas throughout the term and showcase First Nations culture to the community during the Aboriginal Day Parade. For further information call Calvin Dubray, Principal at Marie Sharpe.

Cataline Elementary Poetry Winner!



Teacher Ms. Fushtey with student Elley Cobb, 1st Place Winner in the K-Grade 3 Category

From the staff at First Nations Education Department

*Jerome Beauchamp,
Director of Instruction, Education Services*

David DeRose, District Principal, First Nations Education

*Tracy Hubner,
First Nations Department Secretary*



First Peoples Principles of Learning (FPPL) #8

This document is designed to help explore the FPPL which were articulated by a group of Indigenous educators, scholars and knowledge-keepers from BC in 2006. This following information is taken from www.firstpeoplesprinciplesoflearning.wordpress.com

Learning requires exploration of one's identity

This principle reflects the importance of identity in relation to learning. Identity is what connects people to each other, to communities, and to the land. The exploration of one's identity includes developing an understanding of one's place in the world in addition to being able to identify all the factors that contribute to how people see themselves. These factors include people's strengths and their challenges, their innate abilities (gifts) and capacity to learn. In addition to using this understanding to help one grow in life, knowing one's own strengths and challenges is a part of the responsibility a person has to his or her family and community, as a people are considered to have a duty to use them to contribute to others (family, community and land).

In First Peoples' communities, the emphasis on identity is overtly reflected in the practice of people traditionally situating themselves in relation to their family, community, and the land.

Relation to Other Educational Theory

This principle touches upon two components of constructivism. Vygotsky proposed that social interaction plays a fundamental role in the development of knowledge and that social learning comes before development (Vygotsky, 1978). The role of social interaction is paramount, and a significant part of that role is the understanding of who one is within his or her social contexts, as an individual's self-concept is often embedded in his or her social contexts (Ladson-Billings, 2000).

Constructivist theory proposes that the learner must make sense of his or her experiences into order to develop knowledge (von Glasersfeld, 2008). If knowledge is created by the individual, knowing one's self can help the learner develop deeper awareness of the process of his or her own knowledge construction. It can be argued that in order to facilitate this process the learner needs to also come to know who he or she is, and develop some awareness of the concepts he or she knows or understands.

Implications for Classroom and School Include

- Understanding that how educators identify themselves impacts their pedagogical choices.
- Understanding the one's identity (both teacher and learner) impacts what is determined as relevant to teach and learn.
- Recognizing that "culture" is a complex construct and that learners usually identify with many cultural contexts (including, but not being limited to, heritage).
- Recognizing that learners may feel that they have multiple identities based on significant differences between what is valued at home, in their communities, and in their schools and classrooms.
- Avoiding generalizing about learners based on cultural stereotypes (i.e. all Indigenous learners don't make eye contact, are shy, follow traditional ways).
- Recognizing that the development of positive personal and cultural identity in many Indigenous learners is made more complex because of the perceptions of First Peoples held by many people in the larger society as well as the legacy of colonial laws in Canada that sought to destroy First Peoples' languages and cultures.
- Creating safe opportunities for learners to articulate and express their developing identities.

INVITATION:

**First Nations Role Models for 2016
Will be honored and recognized, and
The new 2017 Role Models will be crowned.**

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

@ Marie Sharpe Elementary School Gymnasium

4:00 p.m. Ceremony begins

- Honor Song to bring in the Role Model Candidates
- Role Model Candidates for 2017 presented
- Presentation and Speeches

5:00 p.m.

- Feast provided by First Nations Bands & School District No. 27.
- Cutting of the Role Model Cake.

7:30 p.m. Completion and Assistance in Cleanup

**Everyone is Welcome
Sponsored by School District #27
& First Nations Education Committee**

**Please call David DeRose (250-398-3822),
Or Tracy Hubner (250-398-3836) to confirm the number in
your group attending.**