



To: Classroom Teachers

October 22, 2025

Re: School District No. 27 Indigenous Poetry Writing Contest 2026

Last year we received 771 poems. We thank you for encouraging all the young poets out there! Perhaps with Orange Shirt Day having just taken place, this will prompt more students to put pen to paper!

Please take the time to ensure that each of your student's poems have the following information clearly printed. This is necessary to sort the poems into correct categories.

*	Student Name (first & last): _____
*	Grade: _____
*	School: _____
*	Classroom Teacher: _____

In addition, you may wish to photocopy your student's poems prior to sending them in as we usually receive over 700 poems and are not able to do this task.

We remind everyone that all the Poetry Books of Winners volumes (1-8) are on the SD27 Website under the Departments tab, Click on Indigenous, click on Contests. These can help provide ideas. The contest is open to **ALL students Kindergarten to Grade 12** regardless of ethnicity. **They do not have to be Indigenous, Inuit or Métis students!**

Please note. Once we receive the poems, they are categorized and entered on spreadsheets. When the contest closes, the poems are then given to the judges who will read each one. The judges require approximately 3-4 weeks for this process.

As soon as we know the winners, we will notify everyone.

Thank You!

Grant Gustafson, Director of Instruction
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School District No. 27
Cariboo-Chilcotin

