



Aboriginal Education School Plan

School: Chartwell Elementary

School Aboriginal Education Committee:

- Alysha Karsan
- Salimah Fidai
- Chantal Trudeau
- Sue Anne Poh
- Rehana Virjee
- Roland Samson

School Contact Person(s): Chantal Trudeau

Activities, events, speakers, presentations, projects etc. that have occurred at your location over the past two years:

- **Connections to BC Curriculum**
 - Regular reference to the First Nations Curricular Resources and Topic Document created by our Teacher Librarian Kristi Yorke
 - [K-7 Indigenous Peoples Activities Link to Connect to LA/SCI/SS Scope & Sequence](#)

- [K-7 Scope and Sequence of First Nations Learning Outcomes related to Big Ideas](#)
- Website: www.sd45elc.ca

- **First Peoples Principles of Learning (how will you embed these in your work with students this year?)**

- Each classroom teacher has embedded within their annual year plan / scope and sequence a section devoted to the integration of First Nation learning objectives and guiding questions.
- Each classroom has poster displayed
- Several classrooms have the residential schools map
- Whole school First Peoples Principle of Learning for the year: **“Learning involves recognizing the consequences of one’s actions”**
- We are integrating Ab Ed with our Rights Respecting Schools in classrooms and in whole-school events so that this Principle of Learning will be addressed in our whole-school Inquiry unit.
- Activities led by speakers and guests. **Please provide a list of guests we could invite.**
- “Learning involves recognizing the consequences of one’s actions” will also be tied to our Charwell Inquiry Framework that was developed by all staff.

- **Parent Education (Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal)**

- Invitations to First Nations Cultural Performances and Inquiry Exhibitions involving First Nations learning
- Principal Blog informing parents of school activities and Principal’s presentation at Curriculum Night and Welcome Tea
- Students sharing their learning with their parents

- **Community Partnerships**

- Continue liaising with Liz Hill, Director of Instruction (First Nations Portfolio) and liaison with First Nations resources in the field
- Click [here](#) for link to resources shared with teachers

Education Projects/Programs Planned for 2018/2019

- 1) Instruction Pls see the attached Scope & Sequence of instruction by clicking [here](#)
- 2) First Nations Literature and Art Study at every grade level
 - a. An examination of First Nations Cultural Heritage and tradition as well as how heritage is passed along from generation to generation
 - b. An investigation of the role of the environment and how animals play an important role in First Nations traditional stories; this was capped off by a Block Printing project in cooperation with Isaac Vanderhorst from the West Vancouver Museum focused upon aboriginal animal designs.
 - c. Digital Storytelling Project in cooperation with Digital Literacy Instructor Cari Wilson, focusing on First Nations Legends. Students will write their own legend and create an iMovie to portray the legend digitally.
 - d. Students making an art project/craft with buddy classes
- 3) Continued Enhancement of the First Nations collection in our library; inclusion of graphic novels (multiple copies of Raven Tales for literature circles) , multimedia (cds and dvds to accompany stories-some in first language), and more material that is accessible for all students (via both First Nations and Human rights collections). This is being conducted in direct cooperation with our Teacher Librarian, Kristi Yorke. Current relevant links to First Nations Educational activities through www.sd45elc.ca i.e. FNESC, Project of Hope. We have purchased several resources to supplement our collection.
- 4) Monthly First Nations stories during library time. These read-aloud picture books address First Nations issues, myths and cultural connections: Residential School (Shi Shi Etko), sharing/Potlatch (Secret of the Dance), new beginnings (Raven), virtues (Salmon Twins, Eagle Boy, Frog Girl). Focus on building awareness of historical events, cultural practices and contemporary contributions of First Peoples to foster understanding of First Peoples Principles.
- 5) Comparative study of cultural differences between Aboriginal Peoples of Saskatchewan and BC in division 3.

Community Partnerships:

- Ms. Anjeanette Dawson, Home School Counselor for Squamish Nation
- Mr. Bob Baker, School District Liaison with Squamish Nation
- Ms. Faye Halls, School District Liaison with Squamish Nation

- Ms. Wendy Charbonneau, Local storyteller and weaver
- Mr. John Spence, Coast Salish artist
- Isaac Vanderhorst
- **Anyone else we could reach out to?**

Activities, events, speakers, presentations, projects etc. that have been done at your location over the past two years:

1. A **school wide cultural performance**: we are looking for a guest presenter for drumming/dancing or storytelling. I contacted the Dancers of Damelahamid but they are booked for the whole year and informed me that they only book through ArtStarts.
2. Simon James, co-author of Raven Tales Series who discussed creation of these graphic novels and importance of story in First Peoples cultures.
3. Dancers of Damelahamid and Red Sky Productions performances in the last 2 years.

1. Grade 2 Classroom Social Studies Unit

- Focused on community that wove in First Nations history and their history on the North Shore
- Science Unit on animals integrating learning specifically about animals that were an important part of First Nations culture (Wolf, Orca, Hummingbird, Bear, Raven, etc)

2. Grade 3: Classroom Field Trip and Visual Arts Study

- Annual field trip in September to Vancouver Art Gallery for the students to attend the school art programme and workshop on the works and pottery making of Emily Carr.
- Parents are invited to accompany the class so that they can also gain an understanding and of our BC cultural heritage.
- This year the class studied the works of the Northwest Coast master carver Charles Edenshaw as an introduction to the Haida traditions and legacy. For the past 2 years grades 2 and 3 have had a 6 - 8 week Art program to learn the story of weaving and have created their own woven bag with the instruction from First Nations artists.

3. Unit of Inquiry into First Nations Studies at the Grade 4/5 Level (Social Studies)

- Involves 2 Divisions and extensive collaboration amongst classroom teachers in planning and execution
- Planned field trip to Grouse Mountain - Hiwus First Nations Cultural Program and Fort Langley, appreciating and experimenting with First Nations food, dance, and art,

- Inquiry into First Nations issues such as the Enbridge pipeline, residential schools, reservation lands, and First Nation's rights,
 - Reading of First Nations literature across K-4 classes.
 - An exploration of First Nation's potlatches and a staging of a potlatch in classrooms,
 - Role Drama - asking students to act as different stakeholders - First Nations, European settlers, land surveyors, government agents, etc - and solve the program of land ownership through drama, discussion, and a Town Hall Meeting
4. **Twice monthly instructional blocks** with Prep Teacher for all students in Grades K-5. Teacher will be focusing upon Aboriginal themes taken from the BC Curriculum and will build upon existing concepts and contents taught by classroom teachers within their units of study.
5. **First Nations Literature and Art Study at the Grade 3 level**
- a. An examination of First Nations Cultural Heritage and tradition as well as how heritage is passed along from generation to generation
 - b. An investigation of the role of the environment and how animals play an important role in First Nations traditional stories; this was capped off by a Block Printing project in cooperation with **Isaac Vanderhorst** from the West Vancouver Museum focused upon aboriginal animal designs.
6. **In Class Workshops:**
- Visits from in Grade 4/5 combining storytelling and music with Wendy Charbonneau
 - Visits from the First Nations artist **Trinity Bissett** as part of the [Surrey Art Gallery First Nations Contemporary Art Outreach program](#)
 - **Looking for new presenters.**

District Support accessed last year:

- Use of District grant to cover costs associated with Field Trips and library resources
- Use of Krystal Farina in her role as Aboriginal Success Worker as well as Aboriginal Resource Coordinator
- Resource budget to purchase additional resources for the Learning Commons.

Resources needed for this year...

- Access to First Nations Specific Art Instruction
- Would like access to a list of contacts as to groups that are able and willing to visit schools in the Lower Mainland to share the rich history of First Nations culture and traditions.

- Continued interaction with Liz Hill and Mr. Bob Baker, District Liaison, more specifically to embark on a collaborative project that would look into a First Nations carving that would represent the Cougar, Chartwell's mascot. Could be integrated with our Learning Commons redesign which is almost complete.
- Access to Aboriginal Grant support for our school to continue to pursue the agenda shared above
- Storyteller, elder to visit classes, or primary students en masse in a assembly like presentation.
- More resources and books, especially at the primary level