



Aboriginal Education School Plan 2018 - 2019

1. School: Westcot

2. School Aboriginal Education Committee Members: All WE teaching staff

3. School Main Contact Person(s) Cathie Ratz

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

- Isaac Vanderhorst - Artifacts/Kits from West Vancouver Museum
- Faye Halls - Grade 4, 5, 1 First Nations Government/Residential Schools
- Bob Baker - Talking Sticks and Storytelling - Grade 1
- Alice Guss - Cedar Weaving
- Xwalacktun - directed drawing storytelling
- Bob Baker - school assembly - presentation of our school name CH'T'LAAM
- Staff Paddle and storytelling in First Nations Canoe
- Site Unseen Gitga'at and Werst Vancouver Youth - Mural of Merging - student group full day workshop at West Vancouver Museum
- Soap Stone Carving - Grades 2 and 3
- Weaving - Grades 4 and 5
- Medicine Wheels - Loose Parts - Grade 1

5. Action Plan for 2017/2018

- **Connections to BC Curriculum**

Full implementation of BC Curriculum recognizing that FPPL are embedded in all curriculum, attention to the authenticity of resources and materials



6 Cedars - Core Competency Connections as an addition to the reflective student practice currently in place

Focus on the place based connections, continued work with salmon, our gardens

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

Asking questions is the place where learning starts. Our Westcot staff continues to seek guidance about protocols unique to our Squamish learners. We model the openness to learn and reach out to our partners in the Nation to help us with our work. We share as a group and continue to learn through experience.

With the support of our TL we choose stories and resources that authentically reflect First Peoples using materials recommended by the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and First Nations Schools Association (FNSA).

We understand that a deep understanding of the FPPL is first necessary, and this understanding takes time to develop. Continued touchback and shared learning will continue this school year.

- **Parent Education**

Fresh Grade as individual classes share their learning and understanding

Assemblies as we recognize we have the privilege of learning on the territory of the Squamish Nation



Social Media as we share events, presentations, learning

Displays within our school (our name, our Orange Shirt Day reflections)

- **Community Partnerships**

Grade 2, 6 to WVPD to participate in Xwalacktun`s carving

Class set of Looms - Study of Weaving with _____ Grade 2, 4, 6, 7

West Vancouver Museum Partnership - Grade 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Grouse Mountain First Nations Hiwus Program - Grade 4

Janis Campbell - teaching of Squamish Language

Families of our Westcot Aboriginal Students

- **Student Support – Success Teachers/Counsellors**

Early Learning Team providing visual supports to Grade 1 classrooms

Ongoing support of our School Based Team to meet the needs of our Indigenous Learners

6. District support and resources needed this year:

- funding and construction of a large school loom for our Learning Commons

