



West Vancouver First Nations Education Committee

School Plans – 2014/2015

School: Rockridge Secondary School

School FN Committee/Contact Person(s): Jeannette Laursoo, John Crowley,
Chris Sandor

FN Resource Contact Person(s): Jeannette Laursoo, John Crowley, Chris
Sandor, Arlene Anderson (librarian)

FN Education Projects/Programs Planned for 2014/ 2015:

1. Social Studies 9 Curriculum

Components of early Canadian settlement, trading, treaties, etc. taught in various Social Studies classes.

- a. examining Creation Stories and hunting rituals to explore First Nations' connections to the land and animals.
- b. re-telling episodes of First Contact from a First Nations perspective:
 - the Iroquoians of Stadacona and their relationship with Jacques Cartier
 - the Nuu Cha Nulth of Yuquot and their relationship with Captain James Cook and later European visitors
- c. identifying with Cree fur traders in negotiating a fair trade relationship with the Hudson's Bay Company during the early fur trade
- d. analyzing reports on schooling and living conditions in the isolated Cree community of Kashechewan,

2. Social Studies 10 Curriculum

- a. The interactions between Aboriginal peoples and Europeans in shaping the identity, society, and culture of Canada from 1815 to 1914 are studied.
- b. The impact of national policy and the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Aboriginal people are also studied.

3. Social Studies 11 Curriculum

- a. Through classroom instruction and review of historical documents, students learn about the following: challenges faced by aboriginal people in the 20th century in Canada, Aboriginal people's responses to the challenges, the impact of residential schools and the Indian Act on Aboriginal people, and the challenges and benefits of living on and off reserves, for example.

4. English 10 and 11 Curricula

First Nations texts are used in Short Stories (Authors), Poetry (First Nations Narrative Experience in Canada) and integration with novel studies (Residential School Connection).

5. Drama 9/10 Curricula

Cultural Stories are used for Myth as Metaphor assignment

6. Indigenous Nations, First Nations, and Metis post-secondary education mini-fair

Rockridge Youth Worker is taking students to the Indigenous Nations, First Nations, and Metis post-secondary education mini-fair to investigate and see the range of opportunities offered to youth of aboriginal heritage from a variety of post-secondary institutions on December 1, 2014.

Community Partnerships

Squamish Nation – (Bob Baker, and Faye Halls for class presentations and events/activities)

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

- Carving of Raven Totem Pole and Blessing Ceremony for Totem Pole
- Making of the First Nations drums
- Eagle Song Dancers
- Drum Circle
- Raven display and other First Nations art in library and display cases throughout the school.
- Art sessions with Rick Harry regarding the carving of the Raven Totem Pole

- Involvement of students in various district First Nation student activities such as the Circle Feast

District Support accessed last year

- Access and invitations to district events such as student leadership forums and projects
- Community partnerships

Resources needed for this year

- Continued partnership with the Squamish Nation (Bob Baker, and Faye Halls)
- Continued access and invitation to district events such as student leadership forums and projects