



## ***Indigenous Education School Plan 2023-24***

*School: West Vancouver Secondary School*

School Aboriginal Education Committee: Rauh, Cormier, Taylor, Metcalfe, Peterson, Richardson, Destiny Nahanee (student), Norah Holtby (EA)

School Contact Person(s): Steve Rauh, Maria Dawson, Sarah Cormier

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

- Continue to develop and promote English First Peoples 10 and 11
- Continue to develop and promote BC First Nations 12
- Continuing school wide participation in Moosehide Campaign in May 2024
- Introduce a school march component for September Truth and Reconciliation Day
- Annually attend Post -Secondary Week at Carson Graham
- Multiple staff ProD presentations and workshops
- Staff Professional Development Seminars with Desiree Marshall-Peer (x 2)
- Ongoing development of district-centric Cedar Room at WVSS for celebration and understanding of Aboriginal issues and culture

- Support of district-centric Cedar Room at WVSS as space for district Indigenous Success Program
- Creation of dedicated reading room in library highlighting and celebrating Indigenous authors and texts
- Increased promotion of Orange shirt day amongst staff and students, and in the classrooms
- Continue working on dedicated showcase celebrating the Squamish Nation inside our main entrance
- Continue to develop professional development for staff to embed aboriginal education across all curricular areas
- Complete indigenous themed circle seating area in lower West Wing and add a second one on the second floor
- Complete naming and signage of different parts of the school with Sahplek and Becky
- Promotion and teaching of significance of Red Dress Day May 5
- Invite DJ OShew in to play for our students
- Print and laminate Calls to Action and display prominently throughout the year
- Plan school level celebrations for National Indigenous People's Day June 21

#### **Action Plan for 2023/24**

- Connections to BC Curriculum
  - Continue to unpack and develop strategies and understandings
  - Have created opportunities at staff meetings and school based ProD
  - Make Orange Shirt Day a focus/launching point for increased awareness and understanding of Aboriginal issues in all curricular areas
  - Continue to explore addition of Moosehide Campaign initiative
  
- First Peoples Principles of Learning (how will you embed these in your work with students this year?)
  - Posters in every classroom
  - Staff present at each staff meeting what they are doing
  - Make a standing discussion item at each Department Head meeting
  - make as a standing item at each staff meeting
  
- Parent Education
  - Need to increase our parent engagement and understanding this year
  - Ensure inclusion of Territory Acknowledgement at all events

- Community Partnerships
  - Continue to work with Alroy Baker Bob Baker, Xwalacktun, and other members of the Squamish Nation
  - Explore new community connection possibilities
  
- Student Support – Success Teachers/Counsellors
  - Carol Langley continues to connect with students on a regular basis
  - Carol Langley took students on highly successful field trip to Cheakamus Centre last year – planning several similar field trips with our Aboriginal youth again for this year
  - Connecting our students with tutoring services
  - Welcome to Maria Dawson as our school’s Aboriginal Success teacher!
  - leverage support of new Indigenous Success Teacher to support our 29 self-identified Aboriginal youth and their families

District support and resources needed this year:

- Continue financial support of our students for purchases of food, bus passes, clothing etc
- Continue providing professional development opportunities for staff to assist with implementation of new curriculum
- Continue to offer opportunities where youth from all three secondary schools can connect and build friendships and common understandings