



Westcot Elementary School

Indigenous Education School Plan 2024-2025

1. School: Westcot Elementary

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

3. School Main Contact Persons Cathie Ratz Stina Martinez

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
- ∕ Bob Baker - Song and stories – Kindergarten
- ∕ Soap Stone Carving Grade 3
- ∕ Medicine Wheels - Loose Parts - Grade 1
- ∕ Class set of Looms - Study of Weaving
- ∕ Gouse Mountain First Nations Hiwus Program - Grade 4
- ∕ Westcot Gardening Committee - choosing, nurturing and creating a learning space inspired by Indigenous plants, adding the Squamish names for the plants and sharing how these plants were and are being used
- ∕ Meetings with Squamish Nation Education Team and Advocates
- ∕ Learning Through the Canoe – Grade 3 and 7
- ∕ Sharing of our Westcot Orange Shirt created by Inglewood student Shalyn Hastie – Bd Meeting Sharing



- € Eagle Song Dancers - Orange Shirt Day Assembly
- € Remembrance Day Assembly Honouring Indigenous Veterans
- € Grade 7 Book Club (Braiding Sweetgrass – For Youth)

5. Action Plan for 2024/2025

- **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

Grade 7 Band Squamish Anthem

K – 3 **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 courtyard gardens with Indigenous plants

Grade 2 **Museum of Vancouver** Cedar and Sealskin

Grade 7 **Tayaka Tours - paddling**

Grade 3 and 7 **Learning Through the Canoe** with Bob Baker

Grade 3 Canoe Art with West Vancouver Museum Issac Vanderhorst

Grade 3 Blessing of the Salmon released to Brothers Creek

Grade 3 Cheekamous Centre



Grades K, 4 and 6 hiwus Feasthouse Grouse Mountain

Grades 3, 4, 5 Isaac Vanderhorst - Artifacts/Kits from West Vancouver Museum

Grade 2 Community with Sapluck Bob Baker

Grade 4 Squamish Language with Alroy Bucky Baker K'erxmtn

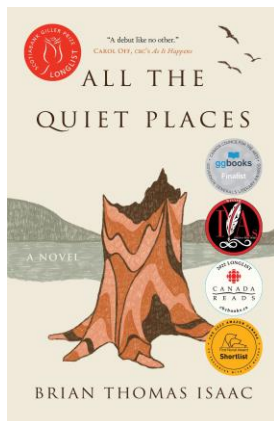
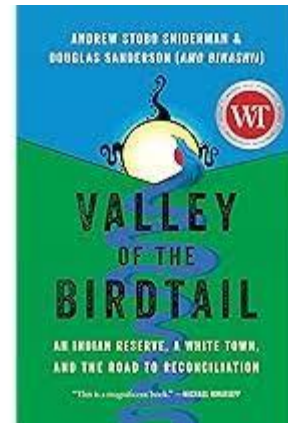
Grade 7 Novel Study Barren Ground

Kindergarten – Land Acknowledgement Creation and sharing at School Assemblies

Large Turtle Island with Indigenous Languages K – 6

- **First Peoples Principles of Learning (how will staff embed these in our work with students this year)**

Staff Book Club



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 TEs 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 (FNSEA).

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

Classroom Land Acknowledgments we recognize we have the privilege of learning on the territory of the Squamish Nation - shared on Gathering Tree, on Bulletin Boards and at Assemblies, within our classrooms

Signage in our Salal Welcome garden and all Indigenous Gardens

Social Media as we share events, presentations, learning

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

Sharing of our work and plans with our WPAC

Westcot Learns Squamish Language Bulletin Board outside the gym

Providing Stories of our Learning with our Garden Initiative

- **Community Partnerships**



Families of our Westcot Indigenous Students

West Vancouver Museum Partnership

North Vancouver Museum Resources

Grouse Mountain First Nations Hiwus Program - Grade 4

Warriors Lacrosse Team

Squamish Nation Education Team

Ayas Menmen

Garden/Plant Connections

District of West Vancouver - Planting Indigenous Plants in areas around our school

Takaya Tours

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

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

Ongoing work with Indigenous Success Teacher Sylvia King



Open dialogue with Advocates from the Education,
Employment and Training Department of the Squamish Nation

6. District support and resources needed this year:

Grade 4 Language with Elroy Baker as a consideration



The infographic features a central title box with the West Vancouver Schools logo, the Squamish Nation logo, and the Indigenous logo. The title is "2020-2025 Indigenous Enhancement Agreement" dated November 24, 2020. To the left is a photo of a traditional Indigenous dish, and to the right is the University of British Columbia logo.

To enhance the educational success of our First Nations, Metis, and Inuit students, and focus on the three main goals to ensure they are supported intellectually, culturally, and emotionally.

To use Indigenous ways of Knowing and Perspectives to inform and empower our teaching, learning and decision making			
To enhance student success by facilitating transitions and pathways throughout the K - 12 Journey.			
To create a sense of space and belonging for Indigenous students that is inclusive to all.			

