

XXX: TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION (P)

First Revision 22 12 06

POLICY

The Board of Education of School District 70 Pacific Rim (the Board) is committed to renewed governance (district to nation) relationship with Indigenous Peoples based on recognition of rights, respect, cooperation, and partnership.

The Board commits to working closely with Nuu-Chah-Nulth First Nations whose ha-houlthees (homelands) the school district is situated upon, and to work alongside all Nuu-Chah-Nulth nations as well as the Métis Nation of British Columbia to serve the children and youth of the Alberni-Clayoquot region.

The Board strives to increase awareness, understanding and integration of Nuu-Chah-Nulth culture, history, and language in all SD70 schools as part of our ongoing commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. Further, the Board strives to increase awareness, understanding and integration of Metis history, culture, and relationship to the land in all SD 70 schools in recognition of Metis contributions to Canada.

The Board acknowledges, honours, and commits to the sacred principles of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth People:

- **ʔiisaak:** Greater Respect. Personal and collective respect for the community and its people, traditional knowledge, the natural world, the metaphysical world and other peoples and communities.
- **ʔuuʔaʔuk:** Taking Care Of... In this context, this is about taking care of present and future generations as well as taking care of the resources provided by the land and the natural world.
- **Hišuk ma cáwak:** Everything is One. A notion of the interconnected, interdependent, and reciprocal relationship between the people, the land and the wider world(s) in a physical, spiritual and social sense.

Further, the Board commits to promoting early engagement and ensuring meaningful consultation with Indigenous partners pertaining to matters that regard Indigenous learners, hence honouring the principle of “Nothing about us, without us.” Us

The Superintendent will establish a Truth and Reconciliation Advisory Committee inclusive of representatives of local Indigenous Rights Holders, representatives of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council, and the Alberni-Clayoquot Metis Nation to provide advice to the Board and Superintendent regarding the District’s efforts in meeting the applicable educational Calls to Action as set forth by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the applicable educational declarations as noted in the BC Declaration on the Rights for Indigenous Peoples’ Act (DRIPA). The membership, terms of reference, and operational procedures of the Committee will be established by the Superintendent through consultation with the committee.

References

BC Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

Department of Justice Canada: Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples

First Nations Education Steering Committee: First Peoples Principles of Learning

Government of Canada: Building Relationships and Advancing Reconciliation through Meaningful Consultation

Metis Nation British Columbia Consultation Guidelines

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Rights of Indigenous Peoples