

**ATEC's mission:**

*"to increase significantly, and as rapidly as educationally possible, the number of qualified Aboriginal teachers available to enter classrooms throughout British Columbia."*



**Aboriginal Circle Group**  
Tracy Healy – Blackfoot (Blood Reserve)  
Aboriginal Education Resource Teacher  
Burnaby SD #41



**ABORIGINAL TEACHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM**

First Nations Education Steering Committee  
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**ABORIGINAL TEACHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM**



**Teaching:**  
*Give back the gift!*



Working together to increase the number of Aboriginal teachers in B.C. schools.

**About the ATEC Members**

On February 2, 1999, education and government bodies, through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding, agreed to work together to improve school success for Aboriginal learners in BC.

The Education Partners include:

- BC Teachers' Federation
- BC Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association
- BC School Trustees Association
- BC School Superintendents Association
- BC College of Teachers
- BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Ministry of Education
- First Nations Schools Association
- First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)

**Aboriginal Teacher Recruitment**

The Education Partners and the Deans of the BC Teacher Education Programs agreed to form and support an Aboriginal Teacher Recruitment Strategy. The Post-Secondary Institution ATEC members include:

- The University of British Columbia
- The University of Victoria
- Simon Fraser University
- UBC—Okanagan
- Thompson Rivers University
- Malaspina University College
- University of Northern British Columbia

By providing administrative support, FNESC helps ATEC fulfill its mandate and to develop and oversee the work plan with the assistance of ATEC members.

FNESC is comprised of First Nations education technicians from across BC who provide direction and advice regarding the promotion and implementation of First Nations control of quality First Nations education.

**Strategy**

ATEC members devised a strategy that has four main components:

1. **Outreach to potential teachers**, to foster an interest on the part of students and community members to pursue a career in teaching.
2. **Academic counselling/in-school support**, to work with counsellors and advisors to develop effective strategies for ensuring First Nations students select courses that will enable them to access post-secondary opportunities, such as teacher education.
3. **Support for students to enter and successfully complete teacher education programs**, including study skills, upgrading, bridging to education and financial support.
4. **Increasing access to teacher education programs**, through Satellite Teacher Education Programs in consultation with First Nations communities and securing spaces in existing programs.

# Giving the Gift of Teaching...

## BC's Teacher Education Programs



### University of British Columbia

#### Native Indian Teacher Education Program, UBC (NITEP)

NITEP is a teacher education program for individuals of First Nations ancestry offered by the University of British Columbia. NITEP field centres are located in Kamloops, Duncan and Vancouver. NITEP is perhaps the best-known First Nations Education program in Canada and has been incredibly successful in preparing First Nations educators.

In NITEP, students learn about First Nations culture, histories and traditional teaching methods, as well as the subject areas that are part of conventional teacher education.

Students often study for two years at local NITEP "field centres" before transferring to the University of British Columbia to complete the program.

After five years of study, NITEP students receive a Bachelor of Education degree and a professional teaching certificate (Elementary or Secondary) to be effective educators for public, band and independent schools in BC.

In addition, the Elementary and Secondary Options are designed to incorporate Aboriginal cultural re-sources and knowledge.

NITEP has trained approximately two-thirds of new First Nations teachers in British Columbia over the past 25 years.

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
Native Indian Teacher Education Program (NITEP) - UBC  
The Longhouse, 1985 West Mall  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2  
Tel: 604.822.5240  
Fax: 604.8228944  
www.longhouse.ubc.ca/nitep



### University of Victoria

The University of Victoria Faculty of Education offers two major programs in teacher education:

Candidates considering becoming teachers in elementary schools (Elementary Program); and those becoming teachers in secondary schools (Secondary Program).

The Faculty also offers middle years adaptations of both programs.

The Faculty of Education is committed to increasing the number of students of Aboriginal ancestry, with seats reserved in teacher education programs. The University of Victoria knows the importance of meaningful including Aboriginal practices and protocols in all areas, in collaboration with Indigenous faculty and students, and the Faculty's Aboriginal Education Advisory Board and Aboriginal communities

The Faculty is committed to creating an environment welcome to Aboriginal ways of knowing and being. Teacher Education in Indigenous Language Revitalization is a ladder program offered in partnership with North Island College and the School District # 72.

Students are eligible for the First Nations Language Certificate; Certificate in Aboriginal Language Revitalization; and the Developmental Standard Term Certificate (DSTC) which enables them to teach in public schools. Students can continue on to complete a Bachelor of Education Degree or pursue a degree in Linguistics.

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
Aboriginal Teacher Education  
Faculty of Education  
MaLauring Building, Room A323,  
University of Victoria  
Box 3010, STN CSC  
Victoria, BC V8W 3N4  
Tel: 250.721.7826  
Fax: 250.721.7767



### Simon Fraser University

The SFU's Aboriginal Teacher Education modules lie within the Faculty of Education's Professional Development Program (PDP).  
www.educ.sfu.ca/pdp

The Professional Development Program has a long history of responding to the interests and needs of Aboriginal students throughout BC. These efforts address the needs:

- 1) of community operated, band-controlled schools,
- 2) of Aboriginal language and cultural revitalization initiatives, and;
- 3) of increasing the number of Aboriginal teachers.

Presently there are two K-12 Aboriginal Teacher Education modules developed to increase the number of Aboriginal teachers in BC and to increase the number of non-Aboriginal teachers who are appropriately trained to teach aboriginal students:

the Northwest Teacher Education Consortium (NWTEC) on Aboriginal Issues in Education and; the Indigenous Peoples Teacher Education Module - Urban Experience (IPTEM)

In September 2006, SFU began a mixed cohort module of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students with focus on Aboriginal issues in education.

All of SFU's Aboriginal Teacher Education modules are community-based with a focus on Aboriginal issues in education. They are each guided by Faculty instructors, Aboriginal community educators, and by schoolteachers, all of whom provide support in addressing Indigenous pedagogies, the provincial curriculum, and social justice issues in education.

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
Kau'i Keliipio NWTEC Professional Programs - SFU  
Indigenous Peoples Programs  
Tel: 604.291.4236  
Fax: 604.291.3203  
keliipio@sfu.ca



### UBC Okanagan

The mission of the Faculty of Education at UBC — Okanagan is to educate teachers who will exemplify those attitudes, abilities and qualities of mind that are requisite for successful teaching.

The Faculty's established goal in achieving this mission is to offer a teacher education program of the highest quality. The UBC—Okanagan Faculty of Education teacher education programs lead to a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) and certification as a teacher in the province of BC.

There are two programs: Elementary Teacher Education Program (ETEP) or Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP).

UBC—Okanagan is dedicated to making its resources more accessible to Aboriginal People.

Aboriginal students may qualify for admission to UBC—Okanagan under the Aboriginal admissions policy, which considers your educational history, cultural knowledge, work experience, educational goals and other achievements that indicate your ability to succeed at university.

If you do not meet the current academic standing set by the individual faculties and schools, but you meet the university-wide academic minimum of 67% for first-year programs, your application will be considered on an individual basis by the UBC First Nations House of Learning.

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
Judy Moroz  
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3333 University Way  
Kelowna, B.C.  
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judy.moroz@ubc.ca  
Tel: 250.807.8117



### Thompson River University

Thompson Rivers University, located in Kamloops, offers a Bachelor of Education (elementary) program that integrates two years of theoretical and pedagogical study with supervised experiences in schools in each of the four semesters.

Students who successfully complete all the program requirements receive a Bachelor of Education degree and qualify for a Professional Teaching Certificate issued by the British Columbia College of Teachers.

Two academic, curriculum and professional electives will be chosen from: children's literature, elementary physical education, environmental education, global education, information technology across the curriculum, music curriculum and instruction (elementary), problem solving in science and mathematics, social foundations of education: gender and education, special education: specific learning disabilities, visual and performing arts in the media and the environment.

Elective offerings may vary from year to year.

The teacher education program includes four teaching practica. In Year 1, Terms II, and I the practica occur in Kamloops schools.

The remaining two practica (Year 2, Terms I and II) are held in school districts in the TRU region

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
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900 McGill Rd  
Kamloops, BC  
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Fax: 250.371.5510  
edadvising@tru.ca



### Malaspina University College

Malaspina University-College is nestled on a scenic hilltop setting overlooking the city of Nanaimo, BC, the Strait of Georgia and the Coast Mountains. Malaspina is proud to provide a unique learning environment—combining a graceful balance of nature, culture and academic excellence.

**Developmental Standard Term Certificate in First Nations Language and Culture (Hul'qumi'num) from Chemainus First Nation and Malaspina University College.**

This Teacher Education Program is an independent program. In addition, Malaspina offers two other teacher education opportunities in response to the need for more Aboriginal teachers in our schools.

In collaboration with Chemainus First Nation, Malaspina offers the three-year, Developmental Standard Term Certificate Teacher Education Program, which certifies teachers of language and culture.

In addition, students are able to "ladder" into the teaching profession by completing a Standard Teaching Certificate and then completing a professional certificate while employed as a teacher.

Graduates find teaching placements in local, provincial, national and international schools.

Students interested in studying at Malaspina should investigate the Pathways to Learning course. This is a one-year bridging program to support students in their first year of study.

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
Faculty of Education,  
Malaspina University-College,  
900 Fifth Street,  
Nanaimo, BC  
V9R 5S5  
Tel: 250.740.6221  
Fax: 250.740.6463



### University of Northern BC

Developmental Standard from the Siwiixos'oxwim Wilnatahl Gitksan Society and the UNBC.

The University of Northern BC's two-year post degree program has five allocated First Nations seats in both the Elementary and Secondary Streams for First Nations students that meet admission requirements.

The UNBC program has a thematic, cross-curricular approach and includes two courses, which focus on Aboriginal content.

The Education Program is committed to eliminating barriers and encouraging the free flow of ideas from diverse cultures, disciplines and fields of study.

The University of Northern British Columbia Education Program celebrates diversity and recognizes the need to encourage historically under-represented groups, such as Aboriginal people, to enter the teaching profession.

Beginning teachers will build the confidence and expertise to develop curriculum and to adapt instruction to meet the needs of all learners.

For further information and to check out the admission requirements please go to our website at: [www.unbc.ca/education](http://www.unbc.ca/education) or email Academic Advising at:

advising@unbc.ca

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