



8th Annual Provincial Conference on Aboriginal Education

Nov. 2-4, 2002, Best Western Richmond Inn, Richmond, BC

Transitions and School Counselling

**How can Educators, Counsellors and
Communities better support Aboriginal
students and help them to make choices
that will open the door to a
bright future?**

Join us at the 8th Annual Provincial Conference on
Aboriginal Education to consider the above questions, as
part of the theme "Transitions and School Counselling."

Highlights:

- ▶ 20 interactive workshops, including:

*Instead of Suspensions
Counselling Aboriginal Students
Northern Aboriginal Peer Support Network
Approaches to FAS
Parental Involvement in Schools*

- ▶ hosted banquet with youth theatrical performance
- ▶ address by Minister of Education, Christy Clark
- ▶ role model panel
- ▶ launch of Anti-Racism Toolkit

Early registration: \$275 (by October 11)
Regular registration: \$325 (after Oct. 11)

*Hosted by the
First Nations Education
Steering Committee Society
and the BC Ministry of Education*





conference at a glance

Saturday, Nov. 2 (evening only)

7:30 pm- 9:00 am Registration & Poster Gallery Viewing

Sunday, Nov. 3

7:30 - 9:00 am Registration & Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 9:45 am Welcoming Prayer – Emily Stogan

Opening Remarks – Deborah Jeffrey

9:45 - 10:30 am Keynote Address – Dr. Eber Hampton, President, Saskatchewan Indian Federated College

10:30 - 11:00 am Nutrition Break

11:00 - 12:00 pm Launch of Anti-Racism Toolkit – Eric Wong and Nora Greenway

12:00 - 1:15 pm Hosted Lunch

1:15 - 2:45 pm Workshops - Session 1

2:45 - 3:00 pm Nutrition Break

3:00 - 4:30 pm Workshops - Session 2

4:30 - 5:30 pm Networking Break

5:30 - 8:00 pm Conference Banquet and Theatrical Performance

Monday, Nov. 4

7:45 - 8:45 am Continental Breakfast

8:45 - 9:00 am Opening Remarks – Lorna Williams

9:00 - 9:30 am Keynote Address – Cindy Blackstock (tbc)

9:30 - 10:30 am Youth Role Model Panel

10:30 - 10:45 am Nutrition Break

10:45 - 12:15 pm Workshops - Session 3

12:15 - 1:30 pm Hosted Lunch

1:30 - 3:00 pm Workshops - Session 4

3:00 - 3:15 pm Closing Comments – Minister of Education, Christy Clark

& Door Prize Draws

Poster Gallery

During the evening registration session on November 2, there will be an opportunity to view some of the beautiful posters, brochures and t-shirts used by schools across Canada to promote Aboriginal education and to enhance classrooms for a greater sense of inclusiveness.

We hope to offer free samples of selected posters during the gallery showing, and inside your conference kit you'll find ordering information for each of the items on display.

Please feel free to bring samples of the posters used in your school or in your organization so that we can display them – or send them to us in advance (see our address on registration page).

Red Roots Theatre

At the Sunday night banquet, we are pleased to present Red Roots Theatre, a multi-age theatre troupe from the BC Interior.

The troupe's organizer, poet and storyteller, Dennis Saddleman, says, " At first the group didn't have a title until they earned the name 'Red Roots.' The colour red symbolizes our Red People and 'Roots' symbolizes our stories, our songs, and the dances of our ancestors."

Red Roots Theatre has performed at the BC Festival of the Arts, The Talking Stick Festival, schools, community gatherings and other venues. The troupe continues to grow and learn, as they use theatre to explore challenging subjects like residential school experiences, drug and alcohol abuse, and cultural rebirth.



Session 1 Sunday, Nov. 3, 1:15 - 2:45 p.m.

1-A Cowichan Valley Aboriginal Education Improvement Agreement	1-B First Nations Parental Involvement in Schools – Action Plans and Research	1-C Longhouse Student Leadership Program	1-D First Nations Family Counsellor Program
1-E Northern Aboriginal Peer Support Network	1-F Counselling Aboriginal Students	1-G Strengthening Métis Children / Youth in Schools	1-H Making a Smooth Transition from Preschool to Gr. 1 – Literacy
1-I First Nations Education and School Boards	1-J FNs' Approaches to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	1-K First Nations Counsellors – What is Best?	1L Effective Education Enhancement Agreements

Session 2 Sunday, Nov. 3, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

2-A Cowichan Valley Aboriginal Education Improvement Agreement	2-B First Nations Parental Involvement in Schools – Action Plans and Research	2-C Longhouse Student Leadership Program	2-D First Nations Family Counsellor Program
2-E Northern Aboriginal Peer Support Network	2-F Counselling Aboriginal Students	2-G Strengthening Métis Children	2-H Making a Smooth Transition from Preschool to Gr. 1 – Literacy
2-I First Nations Leadership in BC Education	2-J FNs' Approaches to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	2-K First Nations Counsellors – What is Best?	2L Effective Education Enhancement Agreements

Session 3 Monday, Nov. 4, 10:45 - 12:15 p.m.

3-A FNESC Special Education Team Update	3-B Making Informed Choices About School and Health	3-C Increasing the Number of Aboriginal Teachers - ATEC	3-D Increasing the Number of Students in Math/Science
3-E MoE Student Performance Data and School Transitions	3-F Instead of Suspensions	3-G Anti-Racism Activities for the Classroom	3-H Aboriginal Students and Depression
3-I First Nations Studies 12 Digital Video Project	3-J What Should Counsellors Do Differently?		

Session 4 Monday, Nov. 4, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

4-A FNESC Special Education Team Update	4-B Making Informed Choices About School and Health	4-C First Nations Studies 12 Digital Video Project	4-D Increasing the Number of Students in Math/Science
4-E Parents and Education Engagement Partnership Project	4-F Instead of Suspensions	4-G School Counsellors Manual	4-H Aboriginal Students and Depression



Workshop Descriptions

First Nations Studies 12 Digital Video Project

The presentation will be a multimedia experience and an excellent opportunity to learn about this annual digital video project, which integrates cutting edge technology with First Nations Studies 12. We hope to offer opportunities for hand-on testing of the video technology. Presented by Liam Arthurs, MOE.

Cowichan Valley Aboriginal Education Improvement Agreement

The School District and Aboriginal communities of the Cowichan Valley have created a strong relationship that led to the signing of an Improvement Agreement. Find out how they did it and the initial results that the schools and communities have experienced. Presented by Eric McMahon and Ted Cadwallader.

First Nations Parental Involvement in Schools: Action Plans and Research

The Quesnel School District has experienced positive results by using "gatherings" to bring together First Nations parents, school administrators, and teachers to discuss education issues of mutual concern. Find out more about this exciting initiative and the ripple effects it is having. Presented by Colin Chasteauneuf and Doris Kemp.

First Nations Counsellors – What is Best?

Who is responsible for the counselling services delivered to First Nations students and what are the appropriate counselling skills, tools and relationships needed to address First Nations students' needs? Elementary school principal, DeDe Derose, discusses responsibility, accountability, communications and expectations of counsellors in this engaging workshop.

Longhouse Student Leadership Program

Learn about this unique program, in which First Nations post-secondary students and staff link with community to support each other and prepare for future leadership roles. This model, which is adaptable to a variety of settings, eases the transition between the university experience and students' future roles. Presented by Alannah Young and Madeleine MacIvor, UBC.

Making a Smooth Transition from Preschool to Grade 1

Victoria educator, Barb Pringle, introduces a computer program that promotes literacy through stories in which each letter has a distinct personality and behaviour that children can relate to and remember. Learn about the ALPHaTunes program and how it can help to smooth the transition from preschool to Grade 1. Presented by Dr. Anne Forester and Barb Pringle.

First Nations Education and School Boards

Explore effective and easy to apply methods of building and strengthening your communities' connections to your school board. Teresa Hebert of the BCSTA leads this discussion.

Aboriginal Students and Depression

This presentation will focus on understanding and recognizing currently accepted signs and symptoms of depression in K-12 students from a multi-cultural, environmental perspective. In addition, a brief overview of strategies and elements to consider when designing school-based intervention programs will be provided. Presented by Katherine Ives.

Increasing the Number of Aboriginal Students in Math and Science

In this workshop, find out how a highly successful program at the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College is increasing the number of Aboriginal students in math and science-based professions in education. Presented by Dr. Rahael Jalan.

Northern Aboriginal Peer Support Network

This workshop explores an effective program of peer counselling and mentoring that is being used at UNBC. This new program offers bicultural peer counselling and services and also teaches lay counsellors and their clients to practice counselling from a medicine wheel perspective, as well as from Western approaches. Presented by Sandra MacDonald, Cathy Denby and a UNBC Student.

FNESC Special Education Team Update

Representatives from First Nations schools will enjoy this opportunity to learn about the latest developments in special education funding, record keeping, IEPs and professional development opportunities. It's also a great chance to meet the FNESC special education team. Presented by Kelly Kitchen, Karen Horner, Madeleine Pohlman and Larissa Schrader.

Counselling Aboriginal Students

What are the essential elements of a successful counselling experience for Aboriginal students? This workshop will use real life examples to explore models for counselling Aboriginal students. It will also be a chance to discuss what Aboriginal students like in a counsellor, abuse in Aboriginal communities, and the elements of cross-cultural counselling. Presented by David Rattray.

Instead of Suspensions

Learn why suspensions do not work for most Aboriginal students from a historical perspective and with reference to Aboriginal parenting styles and values, and then explore some of the positive alternatives to suspensions at the school level and also a broader level that involves communities and parents. Presented by David Rattray.

Strengthening Métis Children

This workshop aims to assist counsellors in providing youth with a map and vehicle to reach a sense of belonging in the school community. The workshop will identify issues of mixed race identity and suggest practical strategies for strengthening Metis youth and enhancing their sense of well-being. Presented by Catherine Richardson.

First Nations Family Counsellor Program

School District 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) and its First Nations Education Council have implemented a unique program of counselling and cultural support to students and families. Learn about the work of Family Counsellors who provide on-on-one counselling, advocacy, school-based planning, crisis response, and educational workshops for youth and families. Presented by Joanne Willard, Andy Stevens, Peter Michel, and Marilee Draney.

First Nations Approaches to Addressing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

The Community Healing and Intervention Program (CHIP) is one of the pioneers in terms of communities addressing FAS. Find out how, by working in partnership with First Nations communities, school counsellors can become more effective in addressing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. Presented by Lynnette Wray, John Barnes and Jason Louie.

MoE Student Performance Data and School Transitions

How are we doing? Take this opportunity explore the trends and statistics relating to Aboriginal education in BC, with particular focus on the challenges First Nations students are facing in the transition into high school and the transition into post-secondary education. Presented by Heather Morin of the Aboriginal Education Branch.

Enhancement Agreements

Enhancement Agreements are comprehensive plans made by school districts, education partners, and local Aboriginal communities to improve Aboriginal student achievement. Learn about the six agreements that have been established in BC and the role of these agreements have in affirming how integral traditional cultures and languages are to students' development and success. Presented by Lorna Williams, Heather Morin, and Trish Rosborough

Parents and Education Engagement Partnership Project

This joint project between the Aboriginal Education Branch and the Student Assessment and Program Evaluation Branch has created useful strategies to better engage Aboriginal parents, families and education communities in supporting their children's education. It also includes strategies to assist schools and districts in meeting Ministry requirements related to targeted funds. Presented by Lorna Williams, Heather Morin, Ann Garside and Trish Rosborough.

School Counsellors Manual

The School Counsellors' PSA has recently created a practical and comprehensive manual for school counsellors. Learn about the new manual and discuss the topics it covers, which include role descriptions and resources for School Counsellors in the areas of assessment, abuse, gender identity issues, suicide, and critical incident response.

What Should Counsellors do Differently?

This interactive workshop is an opportunity for you to talk with representatives of the School Counsellors' PSA about how counsellors can better serve Aboriginal students. Bring your ideas!

Anti-Racism Activities for the Classroom

Find out more about the new Anti-Racism toolkit that is designed to for use in classroom and workshop settings. Role playing activities and games will be demonstrated and effective strategies will be discussed. Presented by Eric Wong and Nora Greenway, FNEESC.

Increasing the Number of Aboriginal Teachers in BC

Why are there only 400 Aboriginal teachers in British Columbia and what are we doing about it? Learn more about the Aboriginal Teacher Education Consortium (ATEC) and have the opportunity to discuss this critical issue. Presented by Mike Grant.

First Nations Leadership in BC Education

A panel of First Nations educational leaders will discuss opportunities available to support First Nations who are interested in pursuing careers in education. The panel will also discuss barriers for First Nations who want to become education leaders in BC and strategies to overcome those barriers. Presented by BCSSA.

Making Informed Choices About School and Health

What do we need to know to help youth who are at risk of dropping out and of developing delinquent behaviours? Examine the results of a study of 131 First Nations youth, which explores how school and family connectedness are associated with delinquent behaviours, health promoting behaviours, and school attendance. Presented by Kim van der Woerd.



Registration

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Nov. 2-4, 2002, Best Western Richmond Inn, Richmond
Transitions and School Counselling

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

E-mail: _____

Please select four workshops, **using the workshop chart.**

Workshop – Session 1 i.e. 1-B _____ **Workshop – Session 3** i.e. 3-A _____

Workshop – Session 2 i.e. 2-G _____ **Workshop – Session 4** i.e. 4-E _____

STEP 1

Fill out the above registration form and be sure to include your four workshop choices.

STEP 2

Fax your registration form to **F: 604-925-6097.**

STEP 3

Mail your registration fee **and** original registration form to:

**First Nations Education Steering Committee
113-100 Park Royal South, West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2**

STEP 4

Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodations). The **Best Western Richmond Inn, 7551 Westminster Hwy, Richmond** is offering special room rates of \$99+ tax for a single or double to participants who let them know that they are attending the 8th Annual Provincial Aboriginal Education Conference. **To book a room, contact the hotel directly at 1-800-663-0299**, F: 604-273-0188 or email richinn@smarrt.com. After Thursday, October 3, 2002 reservations are on an availability basis and at the best available rate. Check in time is 3 pm and checkout time is noon (a room will be available for storing items on the afternoon of Nov. 4).

Registration Fees and Policies

Early registration fee: \$275 (fee and registration form must be **RECEIVED** by FNEESC no later than 4:30 pm October 11, 2002) **Regular registration fee** (after October 11, 2002): **\$325** Registration fees can be paid via **VISA, cheque or money order**. Please make registration cheque or money order payable to First Nations Education Steering Committee. To pay by VISA, contact April Smith at 604-925-6087. Credit card payments (VISA only) are available at the conference.

Cancellation policy: before Oct. 15, 2002 – 50% refund. October 16, 2002 and after – no refund

Important:

To be officially registered, we must receive your completed registration form (including your workshop choices) **and** your registration fee. **Questions?** Call FNEESC at 1-877-422-3672