

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
The Association of British Columbia Deans of Education (ABCDE)
The Indigenous Adult Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) and
The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)**

WHEREAS ...

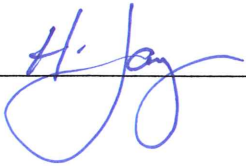
1. The Association of British Columbia Deans of Education (ABCDE) advocates for the provision of high quality education programs, including the effective transition of Aboriginal learners to their respective institutions and the successful completion of Academic Programs;
2. The Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association (IAHLA) is an independent society formed to address and further the mutual interests of Indigenous-controlled higher learning institutes in British Columbia; and
3. The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) is an independent society that works to advance the provision of quality educational opportunities and increased success for all First Nations learners in British Columbia.

THEREFORE, in the spirit of mutual respect, recognition and collaboration, the Association of British Columbia Deans of Education, the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association and the First Nations Education Steering Committee (the Parties) agree to the following.


1. The Parties agree to work together within their respective mandates and at the direction of their respective memberships in a relationship based on mutual trust and respect.
2. The Parties agree to recognize and advance an understanding that Aboriginal languages and cultures are clearly the domain of First Nations, and therefore agree to adhere to the principles of First Nations ownership, control, access, and possession for Indigenous knowledge, resources and materials.
3. The Parties agree to share information and collaboratively discuss issues, policies, and programming that promotes effective and appropriate Indigenous Language Teacher Education programs in BC.
4. The Parties agree to share information and collaboratively discuss issues, policies, and programming that promotes Teacher Education programs in BC to more effectively address Aboriginal education.
5. The Parties agree to develop, implement and evaluate an annual Action Plan that identifies innovative approaches and collaborative strategies to achieve our mutual goals.

The parties by the signatures affixed below do hereby signify their understanding and acceptance of the provisions of this MOU on this _____ day of _____ 2011.

On behalf of the Association of British Columbia Deans of Education*



On behalf of the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association



On behalf of the First Nations Education Steering Committee



*Note: The Association of British Columbia Deans of Education (ABCDE) includes the following teacher education institutions: **Vancouver Island University** (Harry Janzen, Dean & Chair of ABCDE); **University of British Columbia** (Blye Frank, Dean); **Simon Fraser University** (Kris Magnusson, Dean); **University of Victoria** (Ted Riecken, Dean); **Trinity Western University** (Kim Franklin, Dean); **University of Northern British Columbia** (Colin Chasteauneuf/Peter MacMillan, Co-Chairs); **Thompson Rivers University** (Charles Webber, Dean); **University of the Fraser Valley** (Rosetta Khalideen, Dean); **University of British Columbia Okanagan** (Lynn Bosetti, Dean).