

From: [Karen Matthews](#)
To: [Karen Matthews](#)
Subject: FW: Learning with Syeyutsus TRC #57 speaker series - very disturbing
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 3:13:11 PM

From: Ray G

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 2:34 AM

To: Communications <Communications@sd68.bc.ca>; District Administration Centre Manager <DistrictAdministrationCentreManager@sd68.bc.ca>; Lisa Marie Barron <LisaMarie.Barron@sd68.bc.ca>; Charlene Mckay <Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca>; Jessica Stanley <Jessica.Stanley@sd68.bc.ca>; Tania Brzovic <Tania.Brzovic@sd68.bc.ca>; Stephanie Johnson <stephanie.johnson@sd68.bc.ca>; frontdesk@ubcpres.ca; pitts@ubcpres.ca; schottelius@ubcpres.ca; cullen@ubcpres.ca; Patti McCarthy <pmccarthy@sd68.bc.ca>; Tannis Calder <Tannis.Calder@sd68.bc.ca>; Indigenous Education Director Of Instruction <DirectorOfInstructionIndigenousLearning@sd68.bc.ca>; Ted Cadwallader <Ted.Cadwallader@sd68.bc.ca>; Superintendent <Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca>; Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Programs <AsstSupSecondary@sd68.bc.ca>; Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Programs <AsstSupElementary@sd68.bc.ca>; Deputy Superintendent <DeputySuperintendent@sd68.bc.ca>; Secretary-Treasurer <SecretaryTreasurer@sd68.bc.ca>; Lisa Marie Barron <LisaMarie.Barron@sd68.bc.ca>

Cc: Ted Cadwallader <Ted.Cadwallader@sd68.bc.ca>

Subject: Learning with Syeyutsus TRC #57 speaker series - very disturbing

CAUTION: External Message

Tansi,

I'm emailing to express my anger and disappointment the **Learning with Syeyutsus** TRC #57 speaker series being presented to Nanaimo Ladysmith public school children on May 26th, 2021. This series will be presented with misinformation by Sébastien Malette, a self-declared, non-Nation-accepted, white "eastern-métis" man that does not belong to the Métis Nation, and is not Indigenous. And it is unacceptable and insulting to Métis people, myself included, that this is the voice speaker on behalf of what the people in charge must believe to be someone who is Métis - when he is not.

Sébastien Malette is a self-identifying "eastern-métis" person which does not exist -never has and never will. The difference between these so-called "eastern métis" is that they weren't born of an ethnogenesis and instead cling onto an extremely distant (sometimes) Indigenous ancestor to claim Indigeneity. They presently usually have no living connection to Indigenous family or customs, and are never part of a living culture; they tend to just be part of a social media group that consists of other white folks longing for some kind of culture, and that's about the extent of it. They then purchase their non-recognized (by the government of Canada) citizenships from relatively new and fake "organizations" or "federations", and then proceed to take up space, opportunities and funding (in some cases) from actual Indigenous peoples. Métis from the Métis Nation (Red River) on the other hand, continued for generations with our culture, language, and traditions, etc, are government recognized with government recognized citizenships, in addition to being supported by

our neighbouring Nations that have known, worked and lived with our people since our Nation's beginnings.

There are however people throughout so-called Canada, many "Eastern Métis" as a matter of fact, that had a native ancestor(s), usually from over 300+ years ago, that integrated and began marrying white throughout all the next generations. Or if they didn't, then they kept the culture of whatever Nation their Indigenous ancestry/ancestor(s) is/are from which is not ours. And yet because they are mixed, (or a ton in reality are actually predominantly white with one ancestor way back when, as I said), they continue to use the word and term 'Métis' when really that is its own proper nation that has nothing to do with them or their families. Many also appropriate our flag, and customs because they are so confused and delusional and somehow figure because the word métis means mixed in French that it must be all the same thing, and that what is ours is fair game; the cultural appropriation and white settler-colonial violence is never ending with these "eastern métis". It's become a widespread problem across Canada, and other academics, the government, and other Nations know of this and how to recognize the fakes.

What irks me the most about this speaker series set to happen is that these students have most likely barely been taught of the actual legitimate Métis Nation or the many nations across Canada, yet they will now be introduced to Sébastien Malette's notorious fables. This man can't get a citizenship to any nation to save his life and is on a mission to misinform anyone who will give him the time of day. Young minds should not be taught fables before being taught facts and actual history that have been confirmed and supported by all Indigenous Nations across Canada, as well as the Government of Canada. Sébastien Malette is known across Indigenous communities (the real ones), as being a lying white man that only bring/ colonial harm to true native people here in Canada. To give him a platform to speak to children is truly reprehensible! I implore you all to listen to the many Indigenous people of the actual Métis Nation that have taken the time to educate you all of how harmful this is to us, to our kin and our relations.

This is not what truth or reconciliation looks like.

Kinanâskomitinawaw for your time.

Pᓇᓇᓄᓐᓂᓐ

Mireille K.

Citizen of the (government recognized) Métis Nation of British Columbia

This e-mail is privileged, confidential, subject to copyright, not intended for distribution, and may not be reproduced without the authority of the sender. Along with privileged information of the organization, this email may contain confidential personal information about students, their families or employees of NLPS. Receivers of this email are reminded that they must not forward confidential personal information to anyone who is not authorized to receive it. If you are not the intended message recipient, please contact the sender as soon as possible and do not disseminate, distribute or copy this email. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited.