

NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC MEETING  
INFORMATION SHEET

DATE: September 8, 2021  
TO: Education Committee  
FROM: Director of Instruction Indigenous Learning, Ricki Bartlett  
SUBJECT: Truth and Reconciliation

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***Board of Education Strategic Plan – Board Goal: Truth and Reconciliation***

**Bill 41 UNDRIP – United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

In 2007, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Declaration is a “universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous peoples of the world and it elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of Indigenous peoples.” It includes 46 articles covering all facets of human rights of Indigenous peoples such as:

- culture
- identity
- religion
- language
- health
- education
- community

The provincial government is committed to implementing these human rights in its institutions, laws, policies and practices to advance reconciliation and address the legacy and harms of colonialism on Indigenous peoples.

**How has Bill 41 changed the outlook of the NLPS?**

- Truth and Reconciliation becoming part of our organizational framework
- Syeyutsus Policy Framework
- Local Education Agreements
- Snuneymuxw-NLPS partnership with QQS
- Support for Hul’qumi’num language

## **BCTEA – British Columbia Tripartite Education Agreement: Supporting First Nation Student Success**

The BCTEA was developed in collaboration by the Minister of Indigenous Services of Canada, the BC Minister of Education and the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC). The agreement took effect on July 1, 2018 and gave the right for Indigenous peoples to establish and control their educational systems and institutions as set forth by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. The purpose of this Agreement is to set out how the parties will work together in their respective roles to accomplish the shared responsibility and commitment in supporting improved and successful educational outcomes of First Nations Students, and in supporting First Nations control of First Nations education. The BCTEA was first introduced to NLPS Education Committee on April 3, 2019.

### **What is being implemented in NLPS because of it?**

- Bilateral decision making between FN and NLPS focused on quality education, equitable learning environments and successful student outcomes for Indigenous learners.
- NLPS District Goals that prioritize Indigenous language, cultures, values and traditions.
- Transportation Agreements to make sure all status First Nations students can get to school and participate in extra curricular activities.

### **Indigenous Language within NLPS**

- We have hired and continue to provide training to 7 language teachers within NLPS
- We are working diligently with Snuneymuxw First Nation and Simon Fraser University to train more teachers
- Principals and Indigenous Support teachers at secondary schools are creating opportunities for staff to learn Hul'qumi'num language
- NLPS committed \$200,000 for building [Hul'qumi'num learning resources](#) and supporting language development.

### **BCSTA Indigenous Education Committee – Knowledge Series**

The Knowledge Series has been created and produced by the Indigenous Education Committee within the BC School Trustees Association. This includes a five-part reader series featuring the history, language and culture of Indigenous peoples. Of this five-part Knowledge Series, three articles have been published.

### **Appendix A: BCSTA Knowledge Series**