

According to our school records, you have identified your child as having Indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit) ancestry.

The School District 63 (Saanich) Indigenous Education Department provides a variety of services to enhance Indigenous Student classroom learning. Services and funding are provided by the Ministry of Education and the Saanich School District to enhance inclusive academic and cultural learning in schools.

### Example of Services:

- Cultural and academic instruction by Indigenous Education teachers and education assistants.
- Reading intervention, tutorial and academic assistance.
- Cultural/history awareness opportunities.
- Indigenous Education cultural resources including picture books, novels and resource kits.
- Indigenous Education Newsletter showcasing student artwork, activities and successes.

### In order to access Indigenous Education programs and services for your child please complete the following:

I have identified my child as having Indigenous ancestry and give informed consent for my child to access Indigenous Education Support programs in the school where he/she attends. I understand this form will follow my child through to graduation, when moving to any School District 63 (Saanich) school. I am aware that I can change my declaration of Indigenous Ancestry or consent for Indigenous Education support upon my request.

I also give consent to have my child's image and first name published in the Indigenous Education newsletter.

**Student Name** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS FORM IS DUE IN YOUR SCHOOL OFFICE BY THE THIRD FRIDAY OF SEPTEMBER**

### Please Note:

- If we do not receive a response we will continue to provide your child with Indigenous Education support.
- If you do **NOT** wish for your child to be involved in any of the Indigenous programs listed in this form or if you do not give consent to have your child's image and first name published in the Indigenous Education newsletter, we require a written letter from you requesting that your child not participate. Please forward your letter to your child's school office before the end of September.



<p><b>Indigenous Education Support Teacher</b></p> <p>Some schools have a school based Indigenous Education (IE) Support Teacher that provides cultural and academic support to students. IE Support teachers also work with teachers to connect Indigenous content to classroom learning in support of culturally relevant and meaningful learning opportunities for Indigenous students. IE teachers monitor student progress throughout elementary, middle, and focus on successful transitions and graduation at the secondary level in collaboration with the Indigenous Education Assistant.</p>	<p><b>Indigenous Education Assistant</b></p> <p>All schools have an Indigenous Education Assistant (IEA). Some schools have a school-based staff member while other schools have an Itinerant IEA that travels to several schools throughout the district. IEAs support students directly in the classroom and help facilitate cultural activities within the school and classroom. Indigenous EAs often liaise with the local First Nations communities on behalf of the school and district in support of students, families, and district initiatives.</p>
<p><b>W̱SÁNEĆ, other First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Enhancement Agreement</b></p> <p>The Education Enhancement Agreement between the W̱SÁNEĆ, other First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities in the Saanich School District and the Saanich School Board is designed to enhance the learning opportunities and successes for all Indigenous learners. This Agreement operates within the notion of respecting the rights of Indigenous learners to ensure that they receive a quality education in the public school system and a meaningful graduation that leads to future options with increased opportunities.</p>	<p><b>W̱SÁNEĆ, other First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Enhancement Agreement Goals</b></p> <p><b>Goal 1</b> All students and staff will strengthen connections between Indigenous Peoples, Saanich Schools and the Saanich School District in support of Indigenous student success.</p> <p><b>Goal 2</b> W̱SÁNEĆ, other First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students will strengthen their knowledge and understanding of mental and emotional wellness.</p> <p><b>Goal 3</b> W̱SÁNEĆ, other First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students will experience academic success, while maintaining strong cultural identity.</p> <p><b>Goal 4</b> Through increased student leadership opportunities W̱SÁNEĆ, other First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students will enhance their sense of empowerment and responsibility.</p>
<p><b>Indigenous Education Gazette</b></p> <p>The Indigenous Education Program circulates a bi-annual gazette highlighting student and school successes, events, and news. The gazette features student work, photos from school events, and graduates. The gazette is published electronically in January and June each year.</p>	<p><b>Indigenous Education Resource People</b></p> <p>The Indigenous Education staff facilitates guest speaker opportunities with Traditional Knowledge keepers and speakers from the W̱SÁNEĆ, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit community. Resource people are invited into schools to speak to and work with students and staff to build their capacity and understanding of Indigenous history and culture.</p>