# INDIGENOUS PATHWAYS

Indigenous Pathways Newsletter



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## Indigenous Pathways 2021-2022 Areas of Focus:

- Encourage school staff and students to demonstrate knowledge and respect for diverse cultures.
- Build awareness/understanding around traditional territories and how they can be learned about and acknowledged appropriately.



## The Apology by Pope Francis, April 1, 2022

- Pope Francis has apologized for the conduct of some members of the Roman Catholic Church in Canada's residential school system, following a week of talks with First Nations, Inuit and Métis delegations. Link: <u>CBC Article</u>.
- Pope Francis apologizes for abuses in residential schools in a 13-minute video.
  Link: Pope Francis Apology Video
- Senator Murray Sinclair weighs in on Pope Francis' Apology. Link: **News Article**

## Resilient - The Aseniwuche Winewak Story

- "In 1910 the local Indigenous people of the Jasper Valley were pushed out of their homes and some of the families relocated to the northwest corner of Alberta Canada to an area that is now known as Grande Cache. They lived as expert guides and trackers while under constant watch living a traditional lifestyle until the late 60s when the coal mine was established and the town was built. Resilient is the story of the Aseniwuche Winewak nation who have struggled to maintain their identity, culture and land in a world that constantly changes the rules. All while refusing to officially acknowledge them as being Indigenous."
- Curriculum applicability: grades 5-12
- View the 90-minute film. Link: Resilient The Aseniwuche Winewak Story

#### CAP National Youth Council

- "The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples' (CAP) National Youth Council (NYC) is a group of Provincial Youth Representatives from across Canada who advocate on behalf of off-reserve Aboriginal Youth at the national level. The Youth Council communicates on a regular basis and discusses issues and solutions to socioeconomic factors affecting the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada."
- To learn more about this advocacy group and the work they are doing on behalf of offreserve Aboriginal youth, visit their website: **<u>CAP National Youth Council</u>**

#### **ATCO Indigenous Education Awards Program**

- The ATCO Indigenous Education Awards Program supports First Nation, Inuit and Métis students across Canada by providing financial assistance to help them pursue higher education. These awards, bursaries and scholarships are given to students who demonstrate leadership capabilities and strive to be role models in their schools and communities.
- ATCO is accepting applications until August 15, 2022.
- Website link to apply: ATCO Indigenous Awards 2022

#### **Classroom Resources**

- Métis Five Foundational Knowledge Themes Lesson Plans produced by Ruperstland Institue, c for K-12 contain teacher plans and student presentations. Curriculum intersections are vast! Check it out today: Link: Foundational Knowledge Themes Lesson Plans
- Métis Foundational Knowledge Themes Master Vocabulary List: Link **Vocab List**
- EcoSchools represents environmental excellence for K-12 schools in Canada. Participation in the program allows the school and community stakeholders to see a clear picture of current environmental practices and take action to reduce their ecological footprint: Link –
   <u>EcoSchools Canada</u> & Contact the Alberta Team: Link – <u>Contact EcoSchools Alberta</u>
- Are you looking for land-based educational resources? Check out the Regeneration site: "The heating planet is our commons. It holds us all. To address and reverse warming requires connection and reciprocity. It calls for moving out of our comfort zones to find a depth of courage we may have never known. It calls for action that is bold and fearless."
- The Six Priorities or Regeneration are Equity. Reduce, Protect, Sequester, Influence, & Support. Link to resources and the interactive website: <u>Regeneration</u>



#### **Professional Development Opportunities**

- Empowering Educators: Rupertsland Centre for Teaching & Learning (RCTL) is committed to supporting educators in developing their personal and professional understandings of Métis identity, culture, and history. Visit the RCTL website to access resources that have been developed by Métis not only to help educators learn about our Nation but also how to begin planning lessons for use in K-12 classrooms. Website link: **Empowering Educators @ RCTL**
- Aboriginal Worldviews and Education: this University of Toronto course is intended for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal learners. It explores indigenous ways of knowing and how they can benefit all students. Topics include historical, social, and political issues in Aboriginal education; terminology; cultural, spiritual and philosophical themes in Aboriginal worldviews; and how Aboriginal worldviews can inform professional programs and practices, including but not limited to the field of education. Link: <u>Aboriginal Worldviews & Education Course</u>
- First Voices: this organization supports Indigenous community language champions by providing an online space for Indigenous communities to share and promote language, oral culture and linguistic history. Language teams work with elders to curate and upload audio recordings, dictionaries, songs and stories. Website: **First Voices Website**



# Links to Guide Professional Practice

#### **ALBERTA & CANADIAN RESOURCE LINKS**

- Teaching Quality Standard
- Leadership Quality Standard
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action - English
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action - French
- Teacher Guide Beyond 94 Truth and Reconciliation in Canda
- Acknowledging Land & People
- Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC) April 2022 Professional Development Opportunites with an Indigenous Focus

#### GYPSD RESOURCE LINKS

- GYPSD Board Approved Land Acknowledgement, Administrative Procedure 204
- Indigenous Family & Student Resources

"As these milestones occur, and as we uncover more graves and records, I hope that all Canadians take these moments to learn and reflect. Ask yourself: What are you doing to support the work of reconciliation?" Senator Murray Sinclair April 2, 2022

