



**ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2010**



WAYI WAH

Mission Statement

Our partnership is a shared responsibility dedicated to creating a community which values, respects and appreciates Aboriginal languages, cultures, histories, knowledge, skills and people as integral to the education system and life-long learning process.

PREAMBLE

Aboriginal People are integral to the social and cultural fabric of Canada. Educational opportunities and success for Aboriginal learners are of vital concern for all education stakeholders.

In February 1999 the Provincial Education Partners signed a Memorandum of Understanding stating, "We the undersigned acknowledge that Aboriginal learners are not experiencing school success in British Columbia. We state our intention to work together within the mandates of our respective organizations to improve school success for Aboriginal learners in British Columbia." This agreement was signed by the Ministry of Education, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the B.C. Teachers Federation, the B.C. College of Teachers, the B.C. School Trustees Association, the B.C. Principals and Vice Principals Association, the Chief's Action Committee and the First Nations Schools Association. Aboriginal Education is a priority for all School District 52 education partners.

To increase educational opportunities and academic achievement for Aboriginal learners, on October 29, 2001 the Education Partners of School District 52 agreed to enter into a Partnership Agreement aimed at improving academic success for Aboriginal learners. The Performance Goals of the Partnership Agreement were monitored through an Annual Report from 2002-2007.

Since 2007 a community consultation process has occurred among partners to consider the mission, goals and indicators for Aboriginal Education over the next five years. This renewed Partnership Agreement reflects the mutual respect and responsibility of all those involved in educating Aboriginal children and youth in the school district.

PRINCIPLES

1. We, the undersigned of this Partnership Agreement, confirm our commitment to improve the life opportunities of all Aboriginal learners in Prince Rupert School District No. 52.
2. We recognize the need for a long-term, sustained commitment to improve the education and school success of Aboriginal learners by providing engaging, relevant curriculum.
3. We will respect Aboriginal cultures, histories and languages, including the tradition of respecting the primacy of the culture and language of the First Nation within its traditional territory.
4. We commit to working in partnership in an open, flexible, respectful and transparent manner.
5. We agree to work individually and collectively within the mandates of our respective organizations to improve the performance of Aboriginal learners as outlined in the Partnership Agreement.

6. An Aboriginal Education Report will be published and shared annually to monitor the Performance Goals over the subsequent years.
7. We collectively commit to reviewing the Aboriginal Education Partnership Agreement on an annual basis.

PERFORMANCE GOALS

1. Increase Aboriginal learners' knowledge of Aboriginal language, culture and history
2. Increase Aboriginal learners' achievement in reading and writing
3. Increase Aboriginal learners' achievement in mathematics
4. Increase Aboriginal learners' successful transitions, school completion rates and graduation rates

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

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| 1. Kindergarten Assessment | 8. Grade to Grade Transitions |
| 2. Reading Literature | 9. Graduation Rates and School Completion Rates |
| 3. Reading for Understanding | 10. Sm'algyax Language: Enrollment and Achievement |
| 4. Writing: Grades 4 and 7 | 11. Principles of Mathematics 11: Enrollment and Achievement |
| 5. English 12: Enrollment and Achievement | |
| 6. Mathematics: Grades 4 and 7 | |
| 7. Attendance: K -12 | |

Aboriginal Education Council acknowledges that some data is a snapshot on a particular day. This data provides additional information to inform what supports Aboriginal students need. Aboriginal Education Council commits to exploring other performance indicators that will provide data that will inform how Aboriginal students are achieving in our district.

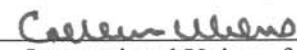
CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS

The Aboriginal Education Council develops and implements a range of programs that support the mission and goals of the Partnership Agreement and that increase—

- the success and strength of Aboriginal learners,
- the engagement of families in their children's education and
- greater community understanding of Aboriginal culture and history.


Board of Education


Prince Rupert District Teachers
Union


International Union of
Operating Engineers


Hartley Bay First Nation


Metlakatla First Nation


Aboriginal Education Council


Ministry of Education


Prince Rupert Administrative
Association


Superintendent of Schools