



## *Celebrating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Langley Schools*

June 21, 2023

Dear Students, Staff, and Parents/Guardians,

The Langley School District's mission is to "inspire all learners to reach their full potential and create a positive legacy for the future". We collectively, as representatives of all District staff, are taking this opportunity to highlight celebrations in the month of June as they help in continuing our work in ensuring that every child/staff matters and feels like they belong. In our District, our staff are exceptional in their respective roles, whether it be in the classroom or beyond; what we value most is compassion and care for our students and each other.

The month of June is a time of acknowledgment and celebration of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our community. Every June, the District celebrates Pride Month and National Indigenous History Month. Although we highlight these opportunities in June, we recognize and support this work in our schools throughout the year.

Pride Month is a way to acknowledge and celebrate our students, staff, and community members who identify as 2SLGBTQ+. In 2016, the BC Human Rights Code was amended to ensure that gender identity and expression are protected. We are committed to upholding human rights, supporting our students and staff, and providing a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all. We continue to work together to ensure that no one feels excluded or bullied because of their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

Throughout the year, teachers deliver SOGI-inclusive lessons in alignment with the BC curriculum. SOGI-inclusive education (SOGI stands for sexual orientation and gender identity) helps students understand and respect differences, and creates schools that are free from discrimination, bullying, harassment, intimidation, and violence. We support our staff in helping embrace diversity and promote understanding.

National Indigenous History Month is a time to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis Peoples. It is an opportunity to honour their stories and celebrate achievements. During this month and especially on June 21st, which is National Indigenous Peoples Day, teachers and staff will be providing students with learning opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Metis experiences, traditions, and cultures in alignment with BC curriculum. This is one of the many ways we are moving forward in our journey of Reconciliation and helping amplify the voices of Indigenous members of our community.

Throughout the month, staff and students will be engaging in a wide variety of learning opportunities that focus on people, the land and environment, sports, culture, and language. These opportunities are intended to be celebratory in nature. Some examples of the learning opportunities are:

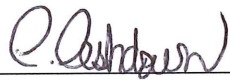
- Presentations from the Aboriginal Program Cultural Presenters;
- Honouring Indigenous culture through the sharing of teachings, stories, foods, and activities;

- Discovering the importance of sport in local Indigenous communities and participating in traditional First Nations, Inuit, and Metis games;
- Researching famous Indigenous People;
- Supporting the revitalization of Indigenous languages through opportunities to learn both local land-based languages as well as those from other areas;
- Engaging in activities on the land and water that provide a greater understand of this area.

These learning opportunities are designed to develop a deeper understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Metis Peoples and celebrate the richness of culture and knowledge. We encourage families to take part in the learning where and when they can.

Diversity and respect are valued in all our schools. We appreciate the support from everyone in the community for doing their part in helping students and staff feel like they belong.

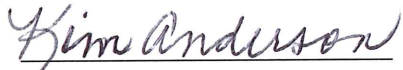
Sincerely,



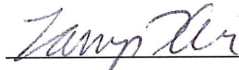
Candy Ashdown, Chair  
Board of Education



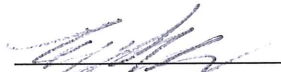
Mal Gill  
Superintendent of Schools



Kim Anderson, President  
Langley Principals' and  
Vice-Principals' Association



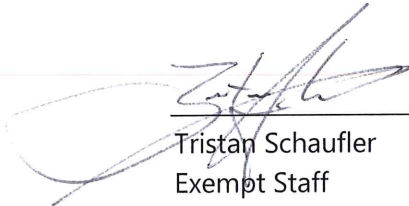
Tanya Kerr, President  
Langley Teachers' Association



Taylor Holoboff, President  
CUPE 1260



Carey Schafer, President  
CUPE 1851



Tristan Schaufler  
Exempt Staff

Cette notification est importante. S'il vous plaît demandez à quelqu'un pour la traduire afin d'être bien informé(e) à propos de l'école.

هذه الرسالة مهمة، الرجاء ان تطلب من احد الأشخاص ترجمتها لك لأنها تحتوي على معلومات مهمة من المدرسة

这是一个很重要的通知。请找人翻译它的内容，这样你就可以及时知道学校的情况。

ਇਹ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੈ। ਕੀਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕੁਸੀ ਵਿਸ਼ਵਾਸੀ ਨੂੰ ਮੰਨ ਕੇ ਪੜ੍ਹਾਈ ਕਰਵਾ ਕੇ ਸਹੀ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਸਕੂਲ ਬਾਰੇ ਸਹੀ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਮੰਗੋ। ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕੀ ਸਕੋ।

이것은 중요한 공지사항입니다. 이것을 번역할 수 있는 분에게 부탁해서 여러분이 학교에서 공지하는 것에 대하여 정확하게 인지할 수 있기 바랍니다.

Đây là một thông báo quan trọng. Xin vui lòng nhờ người dịch để bạn có thể biết thêm những thông tin về trường học.

Este es un aviso importante. Por favor consiga que alguien se lo traduzca para que usted pueda mantenerse bien informado sobre la información de su escuela.

Ito ay isang mahalagang notisya. Mangyari po lamang ay magkaroon ng taong tagasalin ng wika upang ikaw ay maging batid tungkol sa impormasyon ng paaralan.