

# Aboriginal Education

School District #71 (Comox Valley)



Grade 4  
Annual Big  
House  
Experience

June 2011

Fall Edition  
September 2011

## Upcoming Events

- **Aboriginal Education Council (AEC) Annual General Meeting** –  
Wednesday, October  
26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – 5:30pm

## Supporting Aboriginal Students

*Aboriginal Education Services provides 14 support staff in our local schools.*

*Support Staff titles are:*

*Aboriginal Support Workers (ASWs)*

*Aboriginal Home Support Workers (AHSWs)*

## A fresh new start!

Welcome back! It is a pleasure to welcome our students, their families and our staff to the 2011-12 school year.

Each fall brings a special excitement into our schools. While we celebrated the graduation of over 80 Aboriginal students from our secondary schools last spring, we now welcome a new cohort of Aboriginal Kindergarten students to our education community. Welcome!

I also send a special welcome to the many families who have recently made the Comox Valley your new home...including my own. It truly lives up to being called "the land of plenty."

The Aboriginal Education Services staff in School District 71 provide support for over 900 Aboriginal students in 22 school sites stretching from Hornby Island to Miracle Beach.

This seasonal newsletter is one of the means we are using to communicate and connect with Aboriginal students and their families in the Comox Valley School District. As our staff continues to explore new means to reach out to our families, we encourage you to stay tuned through our website located at [www.sd71.bc.ca/abed](http://www.sd71.bc.ca/abed)

On behalf of the Aboriginal Education Services staff, I wish you all a year of success, achievement and pride.

*Bruce Carlos,*

District Principal of Aboriginal Education  
School District #71 (Comox Valley)



# Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement

October 2007 to June 2012



School District No. 71 – Comox Valley

**ABORIGINAL EDUCATION  
ENHANCEMENT AGREEMENT**  
October 2007 to June 2012

*"Our vision for Aboriginal students is to have a balance between academic performance and Aboriginal culture and identity that will foster the value of lifelong learning."*

Aboriginal Education Council

## From the agreement:

The Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement (AEEA) will contribute to and influence the Achievement Contract of School District No. 71 (Comox Valley), the District Literacy Plan and school growth plans. The Aboriginal Education Council acknowledges the collective responsibility of the Aboriginal community and School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) for the success of all Aboriginal learners.

**Goal 1** To increase Aboriginal students' sense of belonging, including sense of place, identity and self-esteem, in a nurturing and inclusive environment.

**Goal 2** To improve the achievement of all Aboriginal students

**Goal 3** To increase the awareness and understanding of First Nation, Metis and Inuit history, traditions and culture for all students

**Goal 4** To enhance skills, qualities and confidence in leadership for Aboriginal students

## Aboriginal Education Council (AEC)

The Aboriginal Education Council (AEC) is made up of delegated representatives of the K'ómoks First Nation, the Wachiay Friendship Centre, the MIKI'SIW Metis Association, Upper Island Women of Native Ancestry, Comox Valley Aboriginal Head Start, North Island College, School District No. 71 (Comox Valley), elected parents/guardians of Aboriginal students, an elected parent/guardian of an Aboriginal child 0-5 years and Elders.

For more information, please see our website [www.sd71.bc.ca/abed](http://www.sd71.bc.ca/abed)

### ----- ANNOUNCEMENT -----

#### AEC Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Come out and have your voice heard. Parent representative council positions open. All parents / guardians welcome to attend. Dinner and childcare provided. Evening begins at 5:30pm at the Aboriginal Education Centre (located in green building behind Courtenay Elementary School). For more information and to reserve daycare for the AGM, please contact Bruce at 250-331-4040.

#### How to contact us:

#### Aboriginal Education Centre

665 16th Street, Courtenay, BC

Phone: 250-331-4040

FAX: 250-331-4041

e-mail: [Bruce.carlos@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:Bruce.carlos@sd71.bc.ca)

mail c/o School Board Office 607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay, BC V9N 7G5



Suzanne Camp,  
School District #71 Cultural Resource Worker  
shares a legend with Elementary students