



The logo for the Aboriginal program was created by a former Walnut Grove Secondary School student, Brandon Gabriel, who is a member of Kwantlen First Nation. His design is intended to represent all Aboriginal Peoples:

- The Ocean** - Coastal First Nations
- The Pipe** - First Nations of the Plains
- The Evergreens** - Woodlands First Nations
- The Inukshuk** - Inuit
- The Infinity Symbol** - Metis



## Who is an Aboriginal Student?

The Ministry of Education defines an Aboriginal Student as:

- A student who is identified by their family as having Metis, Inuit or First Nations Ancestry.

*(The federal terms, status and non-status, do not apply to this definition.)*

## Enhancement Agreement Goals for the Langley Aboriginal Program:

**Goal 1:** To establish trusting, respectful partnerships between schools, the School District, and the Aboriginal community, acknowledging shared responsibility to implement the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement.

**Goal 2:** To work together as a team to create strength-based, personalized, student-centered learning that respects Aboriginal history, cultural values, and nurtures a sense of belonging for the success of all Aboriginal students.

## Aboriginal Advisory Committee

The Ministry of Education requires that School Districts administer their Aboriginal Program with the guidance of an Aboriginal Advisory Committee. This committee must have representation from the local Aboriginal Community.

Langley's Aboriginal Advisory Committee (ya:ȷəstəɫ) meets monthly, and has the following membership:

### Representatives from:

- Kwantlen First Nation
- Katzie First Nation
- Matsqui First Nation
- Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society
- Waceya Metis Society

### Representatives from the School District:

- Board of Education
- District Leadership Team
- Aboriginal Program

The Ministry of Education will provide school districts with funds to offer an Aboriginal Program. The funding amount is directly related to the number of students who self-identify as having Aboriginal Ancestry.

# SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ABORIGINAL PROGRAM

## Student Support

- Aboriginal Support Workers are available to provide social-emotional, academic, cultural and other supports to Aboriginal students. They may also organize cultural activities and events as well as offering home/school liaison.

## Cultural Awareness

- Cultural awareness activities are offered in two different formats:

### Inclusive Cultural Programs

A District-wide program brings Aboriginal Presenters into the classroom to share their culture with all students, through a variety of hands-on experiences. Specific presentations are available at each grade level, and teachers are invited to book these activities for their entire class to enjoy.

### Cultural Enrichment Programs

Programs are available which provide students of Aboriginal ancestry with an opportunity to come together to learn about their culture and history.

## Curriculum Resources

- Our program provides support in the areas of curriculum and professional development. We also provide training and in-service for our Aboriginal Support Workers to support and enhance early literacy skills of our students.

## Professional Development

- Workshop sessions are offered for teachers and District support staff to provide information regarding Aboriginal culture and history, and to introduce new Aboriginal resource materials.



# ABORIGINAL INITIATIVES

Each year Aboriginal Support Workers are invited to submit proposals for cultural awareness activities. These proposals must be connected to Goal #2 of the Enhancement Agreement and are reviewed and approved by a subcommittee of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee. Past Initiatives have included:

- Drum & Rattle Making
- Snowshoeing
- Canoeing
- Cultural Centre Visits
- Land-Based Activities
- Connections to Elders, knowledge keepers and storytellers
- Cultural Enrichment Activities
- Teachings through Art and Drama
- Small group programs focused on connection and belonging

## TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SERVICES PLEASE CONTACT:

Colleen Hannah - Director of Instruction, Indigenous Education

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Janet Stromquist - District Coordinator - Aboriginal

Phone: 778-724-4793

Brian Coleman - District Coordinator - Aboriginal

Phone: 778-724-4794

Julie Allen - Administrative Support

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For a full list of Learning Support Teachers and Aboriginal Support Workers visit:

[sd35.bc.ca/programs-initiatives/aboriginal-program/aboriginal-program-staff/](https://sd35.bc.ca/programs-initiatives/aboriginal-program/aboriginal-program-staff/)



For more information,  
visit our website:

[sd35.bc.ca/programs-initiatives/aboriginal-program/](https://sd35.bc.ca/programs-initiatives/aboriginal-program/)

