

Coffee and Conversation

Supporting Indigenous Learners



LEN PIERRE
CONSULTING

Coffee and Conversations
with Nadine and Twyla

Session 2 – Building Relationships

Len Pierre Consulting

- LPC Website:
<https://www.lenpierreconsulting.com/>
- LPC YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/@lenpierreconsulting>
- LCP Podcast on Spotify:
<https://open.spotify.com/show/58QRdHYguAqUS6wl7oiljk?si=b7e9148fcb544186&nd=1&dlsi=ae0a115be14a4ec8>



Territorial Acknowledgement

- I am broadcasting from Walnut Grove in Langley.
- We invite you to share your location and the name of the land-based nation whose territory you are on.
- Want to know more about transformative territorial acknowledgements?





Four sessions:

Introduction – Who are we and what do we bring to conversations related to supporting Indigenous learners and their families. *How Are We Doing Report. 1701 Funding.*

Building relationships - with Indigenous learners, their families, land-based Nations, and Indigenous organizations that support families

Culturally safety – what is it? How can schools incorporate it to improve communications with all stake holders.

Culturally safe, Indigenous pedagogy – what are authentic Indigenous resources? How do we invite knowledge keepers into our classrooms? What is two-eyed seeing?



Intention Setting

Our intention is to create a *safe space* for the exchange of knowledge, to have honest conversations, and to support one another so that we can support Indigenous learners.

We come with an open heart and open mind.

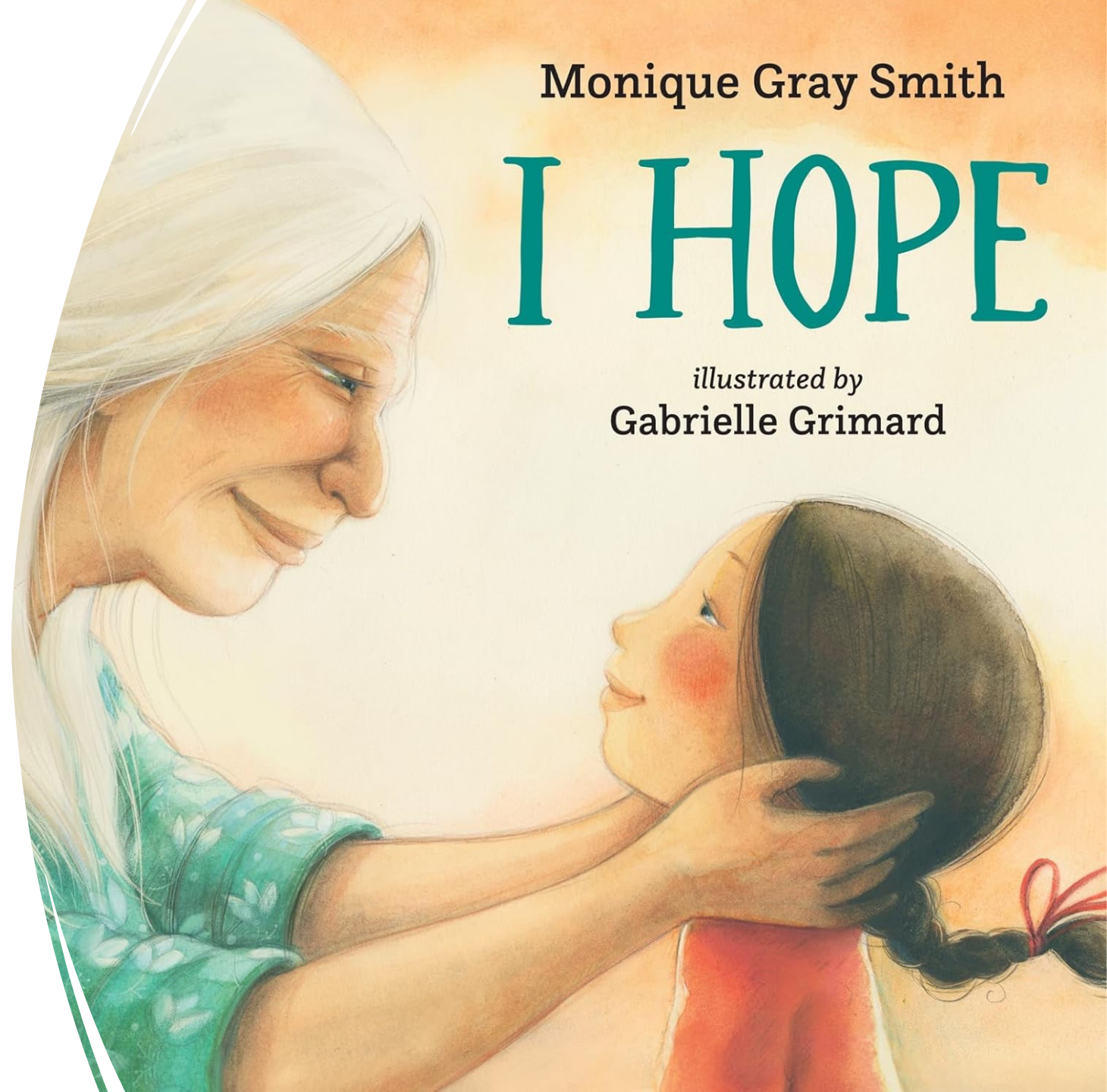
We ask that we respect the confidentiality of students and families in any conversations. No names please.

Group Norms

When participating in conversations, please:

- be mindful of your word choice and tone. Ever had something blow up because of a misunderstood text message?
- be respectful.
- be present.
- Use the raise hand button if you have a question or type it into the chat box. Len, our moderator will bring your question to our attention.

No blaming/shaming allowed.





Building Relationships: with who?

Indigenous students and families

Indigenous staff in your school

Indigenous staff in your district

Land Based Nations that connect you to elders, knowledge keepers

Outside Indigenous agencies

Building Relationships – Why It Matters

<https://wagamesewriter.wordpress.com/2012/04/16/upside-down-and-backwards/>



Discussion:

- This story resonated for me on so many fronts but I want to hear what you think.
- How do you think it connects to our theme of building relationships?

Creating a safe and inviting space for Indigenous **students and families.**

- **Front office staff** – first point of contact for our students and their families. Do they know who the Indigenous staff are in the school? Do they know their schedule in case parents want to reach out to them?
- **Bulletin board** dedicated to Indigenous students/families in a prominent location. Remember the QR code idea shared last week? BB could include the Indigenous supports in the school, information about Indigenous resources in the community (FRAFCA, Métis Nation BC), and upcoming cultural events.
- **Territorial land acknowledgement** posted in a prominent space.
- **Indigenous artwork from local Indigenous artists** with information about the artist and the project. QR code – student describing the project, artist name, how it came to be.
- Indigenous Department website - one of many ways to communicate with families but what is on it? SD36 had 2 pages – one for staff in the district and one for families.



Suggestions for connecting with Parent/Guardian Support

- Classroom teacher can initiate positive contact in September. Don't rely on Indigenous staff to be the only communicator to parents/guardians.
- Maintain positive communications regarding child's progress (write notes in planners, make occasional phone call).
- Meet and greet before and after school if possible. Helps foster positive relationships.
- Personally invite Indigenous parents/guardians on fieldtrips and to special assemblies.
- Be mindful of the role of extended families.
- Building positive relationships with your Indigenous students' families could result in opportunities.





Poll time:

Does your school have a dedicated bulletin board for Indigenous students and families in a prominent location?

Does your front office staff have a copy of schedules for the Indigenous staff in the school?

Has your front office staff received professional development related to supporting Indigenous families?

Does your Indigenous Department have a website?

Making school a safe place for **Indigenous staff** in your school



- Do they have a dedicated space to work and to have confidential conversations in person and by phone?
- Are they introduced at September staff meeting (over and above support, name, role, nation, schedule)
- Are they invited to I.E.P., S.B.T., I.C.M. and do they receive professional development related to these meetings?
- Do admin and SBT connect with them on a regular basis?
- Are they invited to school based professional development opportunities?
- Are they invited to social events?

Indigenous Department

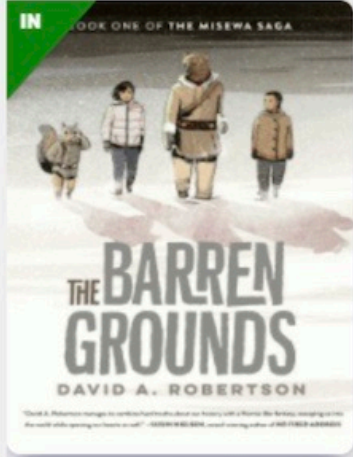
- Familiarize yourself with your district's Indigenous Department.
- What initiatives, resources, programs, special funding projects do they make available?
- Do they have a resource library?
- Do they have a vetted list of Indigenous knowledge keepers and elders?
- Do they offer professional development?

LINK TO LIBRARY CATALOGUE

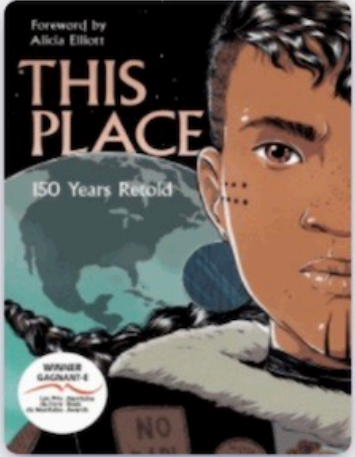
Destiny Discover | Home | Search

Welcome to Siwal Si'wes Library

Popular Titles



The barren grounds



This place : 150 years retold

Poll time:



If your school district has an Indigenous resource library, do you use it?



If your district's Indigenous Department hosts professional development, you do attend?



Have you attended an Indigenous themed professional development workshop in the 2023/2024 school year?



March 8, 9, 10

EARL MARRIOTT SEMIAHMOO FIRST NATION POW WOW

15751-16TH AVE, SURREY, BC.

FRIDAY MARCH 8: DOORS OPEN 6PM
MARCH 9 AND 10: DOORS OPEN NOON

GRAND ENTRY SCHEDULE
FRIDAY: 7PM
SATURDAY 1PM & 7PM
SUNDAY 1PM

Host Drum
Northern Tribes

FEATURED SPECIALS

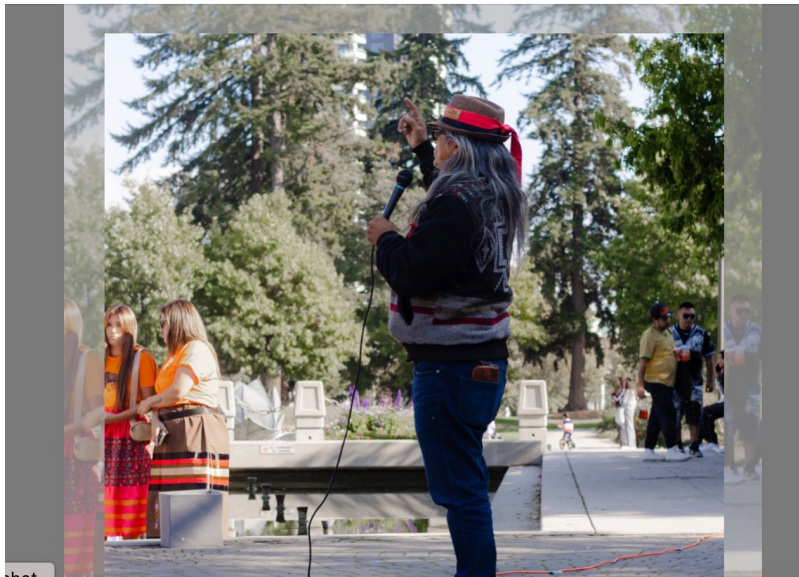
- WOMENS TRADITIONAL
- MEN'S TRADITIONAL
- OLD STYLE FANCY SHAWL
- TEEN
- COUNTRY KARAOKE
- AND MORE

Follow our Facebook for updates : <https://www.facebook.com/EarlMarriottFirstNationsProgram>
 or email:
figueira_m@surreyschools.ca

Skookum Surrey is in Surrey.
 January 25 at 1:27 PM · 🌐

♥ We are so fortunate to have many amazing community members, elders and future leaders surrounding us. Our goal with Skookum Surrey is to always be supporting the Urban Indigenous Community in Surrey and we would love to know if you have any questions about skookum, or recommendations?

Let us know in the comments! 🙌👇



stalo'w
 ARTS & CULTURAL SOCIETY

10
 YEARS

Anniversary

 A circular inset image shows a group of people, including a woman and a man, looking at a document together.

Build relationships with land-based nations.

How?

- Participate in Indigenous community events (Truth and Reconciliation events, Pow Wows, National Indigenous Peoples Day events, workshops, artist events)
- Know where the land based communities are located (Katzie, Kwantlen, Semiahmoo). Visit their website.
- Ask the Indigenous department for the name of the cultural coordinator for the land based
- Follow land based nations social media pages.

Pitt Meadows Art Gallery - Rain's World – Whispers of the Ancestors: Echoes of Timeless Art will run until April 5.



Connecting with land-based nations and community members.

- Attend community events (pow wows, workshops by local Indigenous artisans, Surrey Fusion Festival – has an Indigenous Village)
- Museum of Vancouver often hosts Indigenous workshops by local artisans
- National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations are a great way to connect.
- Follow me on FB and Instagram. I always post upcoming workshops.



are so fortunate to have many amazing community members, elders and future leaders joining us. Our goal with Skookum Surrey is to always be supporting the Urban Indigenous Community in Surrey and we would love to know if you have any questions about Skookum, or recommendations? Let us know in the comments! 🙌📢



Build relationships with Indigenous Agencies

Many of these agencies offer programs for Indigenous families but also for the community too.



Orange Shirts FRAFCA Membership

me to the Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association

Every Child Matters T-Shirts

FRAFCA Membership

Indigenous Agencies

Know that Indigenous agencies provide programs, resources and services for Indigenous families.



Fraser Region
Aboriginal Friendship Center
Association (FRAFCA)
www.frafca.org

Metis Family Services
www.metisfamilyservices.ca

Metis Nation
BC <https://www.mnbc.ca/>

Indigenous Child and Youth
Mental Health **604-586-4200**

Why building relationships matter?

- Best prod I attended was hosted by a land based nation.

What we know:



Building positive connections with our students and families will:

Ensure students feel school is a safe place to learn and thrive

Indigenous students will see that both family and school are rooting for their success

Indigenous students will feel their identity matters and that school is a safe place where their culture is valued and respected.

Building connections with Indigenous staff in your school and district:

Ensures we can access all the supports our students and families need.

Ensures there is a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Indigenous staff and that it is understood that they are only part of the support for Indigenous students.

What we know:

Connecting with land-based nations and Indigenous agencies

Is a respectful thing to do. It is part of the work in relation to truth and reconciliation.

May help schools access local elders and knowledge keepers.

Attending land-based nations events connects us with local artists, writers and knowledge keepers

Helps schools refer families for additional supports (programming for children but also adults – job training, education, wellness)



Introducing “Aansaamb aen kiskayhtaamaahk - Learning Together”

MNBC Ministry of Education is pleased to introduce “Aansaamb aen kiskayhtaamaahk - Learning Together” (Southern/Heritage Michif, translated by Norman Fleury). This learning guide and the accompanying resources are intended to support both Métis and non-Métis early learning and child care professionals to integrate Métis content and pedagogy into their work with young children. Our intent is to promote learning environments in which Métis culture is recognized and celebrated.

Any
burning
questions?



Museum and Archives of North Vancouver

Yesterday at 9:00 AM · 🌐

Join us on Monday, February 19 at 6:30 pm for a Virtual Family Day Coast Salish Wool Weaving session with Tsawaysia Spukwus.

Learn to weave a simple yet beautiful wool bracelet while learning about Coast Salish teachings around wool weaving.

Register here: <https://ow.ly/lfl250Qw6nJ>

Kukwstsétsemc

Maarsii



LEN
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Meaningful Consultation

*At its heart, meaningful consultation is about interactive, two-way communication and dialogue. Such consultation is undertaken to seek information, advice and/or informed opinion for consideration **prior** to decision making."*

~Lower Mainland Directors of Student Support Services, 1998

Insert Link?