

Indigenous Leadership Series

The British Columbia School Superintendents Association (BCSSA) is committed to improving success and achievement rates for Indigenous learners in BC. Improving the outcomes for Indigenous learners is a strategic goal priority for the association. Encouraging structural change and supporting strategies to increase Indigenous participation in senior leadership, decision making and capacity building will further support Indigenous learners in BC. Additionally, BCSSA is a strong supporter of Truth and Reconciliation and realizes the important role the organization can play in implementing the recommendations contained in the Truth and Reconciliation report.

Purpose

The Indigenous Leadership Series is designed to provide a professional learning opportunity tailored to the needs of the participants to further their growth and leadership capacity. This program will also provide an opportunity and venue for school and district level Aboriginal leaders to explore the challenges and rewards of becoming a senior leader in the K to 12 education system.

Ultimately, the Indigenous Leadership Series is an opportunity to develop a network of Indigenous educators to facilitate the sharing, creating and implementing of projects and strategies that enact the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action. Additionally, the series will highlight practices and approaches that effectively address the disparity in achievement between Indigenous and non-Indigenous learners and serve as models to be shared throughout the province.

Cohort Composition

The cohort will be comprised of Indigenous educators (max. 12) who are currently principals, vice-principals, district principals and/or vice-principals, directors of instruction and/or assistant superintendents.

Program Length

The program will be hosted by the BCSSA at the Vancouver office over three sessions. The first two-day session will be held in November. The second session will be in March and the final session will be in May.

Program Content

This series will be held over three two-day sessions.

First session (2 days): Identify a focus that reflects the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action; improves student achievement and leads to equity for Indigenous learners. By the end of the second day, participants will have identified a focus for a project to be implemented over the course of the year. This may involve an existing initiative or an opportunity to explore a question the district is contemplating.

Second session (2 days): Participants report on the progress of their implementation and engage in further collaboration and co-construction. Additionally, support will be provided that aligns with the goals of the participants and their projects.

Third session (2 days): Report on the findings and impact of each project in relation to equity and the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action. Support will be available to each participant to identify next steps.

Culminating Showcase: Projects will be presented at the BCSSA conference to showcase the positive impact of effective practices on student outcomes and the realization of living Truth and Reconciliation.

Cost

BCSSA will provide a facilitator, materials and lunch for participants. Participants will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation.

Application Requirements

1. A brief summary outlining your education background and work in schools and/or the school district
2. Support from your Superintendent and/or Assistant Superintendent's to participate.
3. Please send your expression of interest to cguy@bcssa.org **by October 31st.**

