

## Indigenous Leadership Series

The British Columbia School Superintendents Association (BCSSA) is committed to improving success and achievement rates for Indigenous learners in BC. 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 Bill 41 DRIPPA and realizes the important role the organization can play in implementing the recommendations contained in both documents.

### Purpose

The Indigenous Leadership Series is designed to provide a professional learning cohort 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 Indigenous 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 creation and implementation 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 sixteen-month long program will be hosted by BCSSA at the Vancouver office and will include five (two-day) face-to-face sessions. Additionally, there will be four one-hour virtual meetings. The first two-day session will be held on **January 5th and 6th, 2023 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

#### Face-to Face

Session 1: January 2023  
Session 3: October 2023  
Session 5: April 2024

Session 2: April 2023  
Session 4: January 2024

#### Virtual Meetings

Virtual 1: March 2023  
Virtual 3: December 2023

Virtual 2: June 2023  
Virtual 4: March 2024

### Program Content

**Session One** (2 days): Connecting and building relationships and unpacking the Spirit of Leadership.

First zoom: Spirit of Leadership in practice: locate the competencies in the leadership practices of self and others. Reflect on your own practice and begin to explore ways to expand upon embodying the Indigenous perspectives and considerations.

**Session Two** (2 days): Continue unpacking the Spirit of Leadership and explore the organizational structures of the BC public school system.

Second zoom: This hour-long virtual meeting will be an opportunity to share observations and learnings. It is designed to keep participants connected in order to build community and a safe space for sharing.

**Session Three** (2 days): Identify a focus that reflects the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action, Bill 41, improves student achievement and leads to equity for Indigenous learners. Develop an impact statement that will guide your work. 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.

Third zoom: This hour-long virtual meeting will be an opportunity to share, pose questions and support each other.

**Session Four** (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.

Fourth zoom: This hour-long virtual meeting will be an opportunity to share, pose questions and support each other.

**Session Five** (2 days): Report on the findings and impact of each project in relation to equity, Truth and Reconciliation calls to action and Bill 41.

Culminating Showcase: Projects will be shared 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 all in-person sessions 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 in writing from your Superintendent and/or Assistant Superintendent's to participate.
3. Please send your expression of interest to [cguy@bcssa.org](mailto:cguy@bcssa.org) **by November 30th, 2022.**