



Ni'NOXSOLA

Elders in Residence Program
Indigenous Education Comox Valley Schools

Sheila Buchanan
'Grandchildren'



Recently my grandson's wife, (who is Irish), has introduced her children to the Metis culture. She is determined to expose them to this culture as much as possible. They are currently waiting to get their British Columbia Metis card.

My grand daughter in law is profoundly serious about this and has reached out to me for information and I am working with her to try and pass as much knowledge as I can.

My great grandson presented the Metis sash and a story about it to his grade 2 class. He was proud to display the sash and I sent him the information to use for his presentation. He even learned some Michif words to go along with his presentation. He sent me a video of his presentation and I was really impressed with the way his mother assisted in making it a success.

Since I was feeling guilty due to my failure in passing my own children by and not teaching them their culture, this made me feel rejuvenated. It made me feel great to know some of my family is interested in learning the Metis culture and will become knowledge keepers and they will be able to pass it on to their children. I trust my grand daughter will continue this path and will ensure her children live this life and follow their culture.

The children are also interested in learning the Red River jig and I will do whatever I can to teach them. They live in Kelowna and did come to visit often. Due to the pandemic visits have been limited, but time will allow this once the pandemic is over. It only takes one or two people to show interest and then learn enough to be able to pass on the knowledge.

There are three boys in this family, and they are all in the learning stages. They have joined a Metis group in Kelowna and this group has family programs online and teaches them a Cree word a day and Metis crafts.

I do have someone who will pass on my culture when I am gone and my knowledge will live on.

Sheila Buchanan (Kookum)