Fall 2026

Indigenous Education Online Newsletter



From the Indigenous Education Online Support Team:

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250-898-1264

Our Website: https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/indigenous-education/online-learning/

Welcome

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year at Navigate Nides. The Indigenous Education Online Support Team wishes you success in all of your educational pursuits. Our community of learners come from across British Columbia and we hope to foster a sense of community and connection with the information and contents included in this package and with our digital offerings throughout the school year.



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:MaleFemaleSockeyeSpawning.jpg

Items in this Newsletter

- Upcoming online events
- Indigenous Veterans Day
- Indigenous Disability awareness month
- Imagine a Canada Reconciliation project
- Fall colouring sheets (with permission to share) by Ditidaht, Nuu-chah-nulth artist Deanna Samuel Deanna Samuel and Gitxsan artist Michelle Stoney
- Resources to Support Online Learners



November 8th is Indigenous Veterans Day. Indigenous peoples have made significant contributions to Canada's military history despite facing many barriers. Many volunteers had to overcome challenges such as language differences, cultural adjustments, and long journeys from remote communities to enlist. After their service, many Indigenous Veterans continued to face unfair treatment and did not receive the same benefits and recognition as other Canadian Veterans.

One Poem Many Voices

Explore the poem, In Flanders Fields by Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae in 1915 recorded in Indigenous languages

Link to Video

https://www.veterans.gc.ca/en/remembrance/get-involved/ways-remember/flanders-fields/one-poem-many-voices

Indigenous Veterans Stories



Contributed by Mel Norris, Online Support
(Written by Curtis Wilson about our grandfather)

In the beginning of 1944, my Grandfather-James Arthur Wilson gave up his identity as a First Nations person to volunteer and join the Canadian Armed Forces. They were stationed in Canmore Alberta for their basic training before they were shipped to England. My Grandfather was assigned to the Regina Rifles Regiment. The Regina Rifles Regiment was described as one of the fiercest and strongest Canadian regiments in the Second World War and were instrumental in the liberation of Holland, a victory that every Canadian should be proud of.

November is Indigenous Disability Awareness Month



This November, we recognize Indigenous Disability Awareness Month (IDAM) in British Columbia. It is a time to honour the strength, resilience, and contributions of Indigenous Peoples living with disabilities. First proclaimed in 2015 by Indigenous Disability Canada/BCANDS, IDAM brings attention to the unique challenges faced by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis individuals with disabilities, and calls for greater inclusion, equity, and accessibility. As we observe this important month, we are reminded of the need to uphold the values of reconciliation and to build communities where everyone can thrive.

For more information:

Indigenous Disability Awareness Month

Indigenous Disability Canada's (IDC) 2026 Indigenous Disability and Wellness Gathering is happening November 17th, 18th, 19th, 2026 at Mary Winspear Centre - Sidney, British Columbia, Canada

More information: https://www.indigenousdisabilitygathering.com/

The 2026-2027 Imagine a Canada program has launched. Submit your entry today!



Imagine a Canada asks students across the country to envision a reconciled Canada and make something that reflects their vision. To enter, students may create artwork, write an essay, or plan a community project to promote reconciliation.

More information:

https://nctr.ca/education/imagine-a-canada/

Submissions are due by January 22nd, 2027

Students interested in this project? We would be happy to support your participation. Please email NIDESIndigenousSupport@sd71.bc.ca or a member of the support team to discuss.



NOVEMBER 2026

Upcoming ***events***

LINK FOR WEDNESDAY ZOOMS

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER
4

1:00-1:30 Chat and Chew
Indigenous Veteran's Day
Share a photo or story

Subheading Zoom link Meeting ID: 412 182 4521

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER
18

1:00-1:30 Chat and Chew
Open support time
Come with your questions or come to connect with our staff

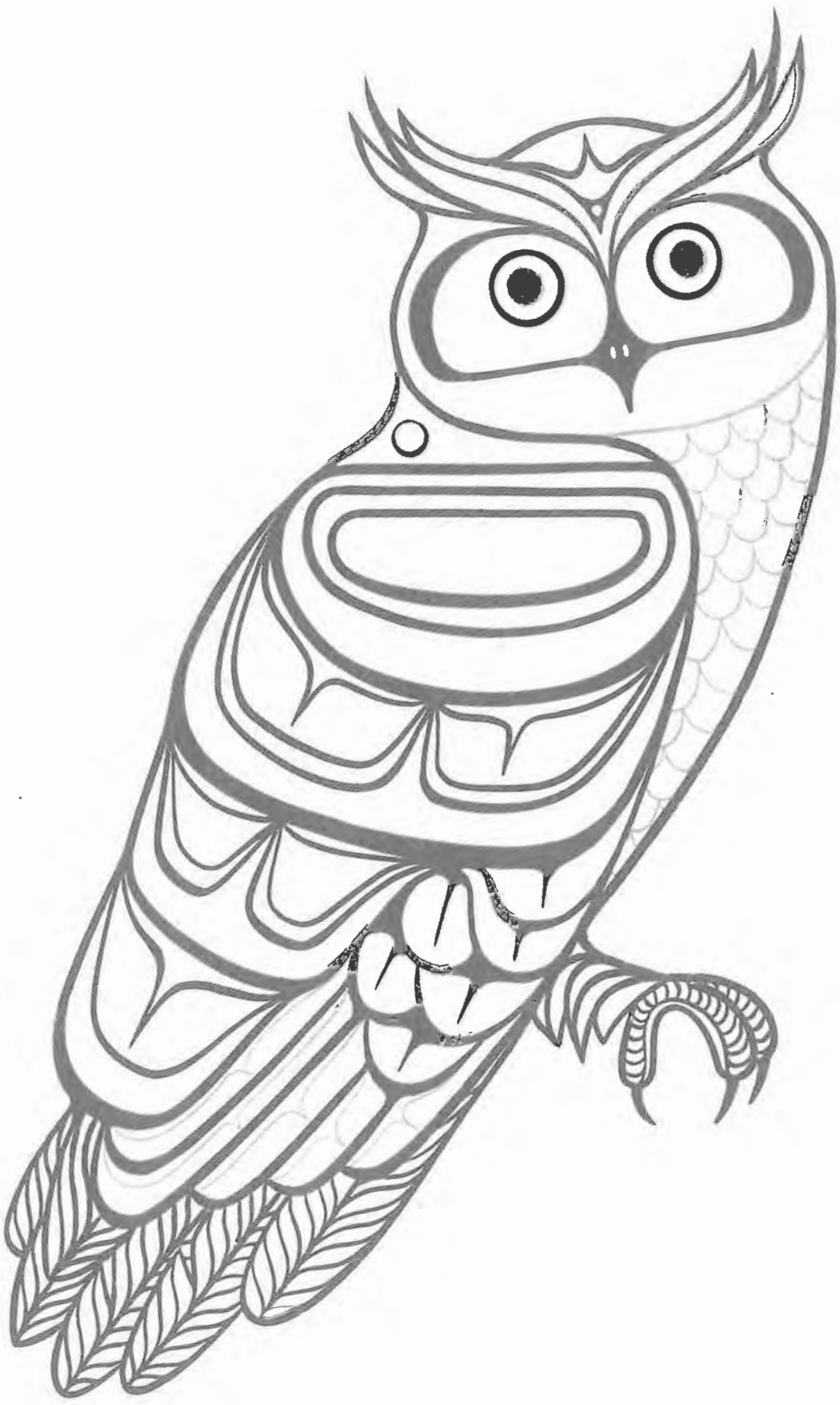
Zoom link Meeting ID: 412 182 4521

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER
25

1:00-1:30 Chat and Chew
Get to Know you game

Zoom link Meeting ID: 412 182 4521

NO ZOOM ON NOVEMBER 11TH



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Resources for Online Learners

Our Indigenous Education Online Support team can connect you with a variety of resources including academic tutors, mentors, mental health supports, and food security supports. Please reach out to a team member at any time.

Food support: If your family is in need or you know of another NIDES family that is facing food insecurity, please reach out to our Indigenous Support team or another NIDES staff member. We will help to connect you with support.

Academic Support:

Reach out to a member of the Indigenous Support team for personal academic support or goal-setting.

Indigenous Tutoring and Mentoring Program is available for free for all Indigenous students in British Columbia. This program is a volunteer-run organization and connects volunteer tutors with students. Visit https://www.itmp.ca/ for more information.



Mental Health supports:

KUU-US Crisis Line Society provides crisis services for Indigenous people across BC. Phone (adults and Elders): 250-723-4050 Phone (Youth): 250-723-2040 Phone (toll-free): 1-800-588-8717 Website: www.kuu-uscrisisline.com.

Hope for Wellness Help Line offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention by phone or online chat. Phone (toll-free): 1-855-242-3310 Website: hopeforwellness.ca.

Métis Crisis Line is a service of Métis Nation British Columbia. Phone: 1-833-MétisBC (1-833-638-4722)

Foundry virtual access provincewide virtual services for youth under 24 and their caregivers. All services are free and confidential, and may be accessed through the Foundry BC app or chat. Phone: (1 833 308-6379) or video calls. https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/

Kids Help Phone Get 24/7, immediate counselling, support, information and referrals. Phone: 1 800 668-6868 or Text: TALK to 686868 Texting support for adults available by texting TALK to 741741

General Resources:

Métis Nation B.C. https://www.mnbc.ca/

First Nations Health Authority:

https://www.fnha.ca/

B.C. 211: https://bc.211.ca/

2-1-1 connects individuals to non-emergency community programs and social services in their areas.

INDIGENOUS TUTORING & MENTORING PROGRAM





Providing FREE tutoring in all K-12 subjects, engaging students in finding their passions, and sharing our own experiences and stories

AVAILABLE FREE TO ALL INDIGENOUS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

For more information visit:

https://www.itmp.ca/

Email:

indigenoustutoring@gmail.com

Scan me!