



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Valley Education Professionals finalists for Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education**

For immediate release

30 August 2018

**COMOX VALLEY, B.C.** – Two outstanding education professionals from the Comox Valley have been named as finalists in the inaugural Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education.

The announcement was made today from the Office of the Premier of British Columbia.

The two nominees from Comox Valley Schools (SD71) are Kirsten Tancon, Highland Secondary teacher, for the Outstanding New Teacher Award; and Jeannine Lindsay, Indigenous support worker, Lake Trail Middle school for Outstanding Support Award.

“We are incredibly thrilled for our two education professionals. This is a testimony to their dedication and commitment to public education and is truly a reflection of the vision and values for which we all stand by,” expressed Dean Lindquist Superintendent of Schools. “The recognition is an honour and we are quite proud of Jeannine, Kirsten and all district staff who continue to support and deliver excellence in education for our students.”

The awards were launched April 23, 2018, during B.C.'s Education Week to honour the efforts of those who go above and beyond to make life better for students in the province.

In total, 188 nominations were received in nine categories: seven honouring the dedication of teachers; one recognizing principals, vice-principals and administrators; and another celebrating support staff.

Tancon and Lindsay will be invited with all other finalists to an awards ceremony at Government House in Victoria on World Teachers' Day, 5 October. Premier John Horgan, Rob Fleming, Minister of Education, and Lt. Gov. Janet Austin will be in attendance.

Finalists who successfully win in their respective category will receive a \$3,000 personal bursary for professional learning, and a \$2,000 contribution to their school community for professional learning.

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For more information about the awards, visit: [www.gov.bc.ca/excellenceineducation](http://www.gov.bc.ca/excellenceineducation)

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