



ASD-N Annual First Nation Education Report

2021-2022

Prepared by: ASD-N First Nation Education Team

Overview

- Professional Learning
- Enhancement Agreement
- DWF Legacy District for Reconciliation Partnership
- Truth and Reconciliation Week
- Elders in Schools
- Mawi'omi's (Pow Wow's)
- Blanket Exercises
- Am"bear"isters
- Partnerships
- Tell Them From me
- Challenges & Areas For Growth





Professional Learning

- 2 paid professional learning opportunities (February/March 2022)
 - ***Deepened Understanding of Mi'kmaq Culture*** (16 participants)
 - ***Elders in Schools*** (8 participants)
- 2 sessions of voluntary professional learning offered at Bathurst High School for Parkwood Elementary School, Terry Fox School, Superior Middle School, and Bathurst High School staff
 - **Deepened Understanding of Mi'kmaq Culture**
- 1 school initiated full-staff session at Miramichi Rural School
 - **Deepened Understanding of Mi'kmaq Culture**

ARC Training

- Over 100 ASD-N staff and enhancement employees received Attachment, Regulation and Competency training
- 12 credit hour certificate course facilitated asynchronously by Dr. Margaret Blaustein.
- ASD-N will be offering this course again in 2022-2023

Treating Traumatic Stress in Children and Adolescents

SECOND EDITION

How to Foster Resilience through Attachment,
Self-Regulation, and Competency





Enhanced First Nation Education Programs & Services Agreement

- ASD-N and First Nation Communities have continued to meet as required by the agreement.
- Positive growth in academics, school environment and relationships continue in First Nation Education



DWF Legacy District for Reconciliation

- Supported by the Downey Wenjack Fund, one or more Champions were identified at each school in ASD-N
- Kickoff to the year - two days of professional learning for all Champions
 - Day I: Welcome, resource distribution, goal setting
 - Day II: Climbing the Mountain: Educating for Reconciliation in Canada with Dr. Niigaan Sinclair

Q: How can the First Nations Education team support you in this project?

Continue to offer first rate professional learning like this to help build my confidence."

I feel supported and ready to start my project ideas within my school."

Stress the importance of Indigenous Education to the admin, and help to provide this PL for all staff to feel more comfortable with implementing in their classrooms.



DWF Partnership – Champion & School Support

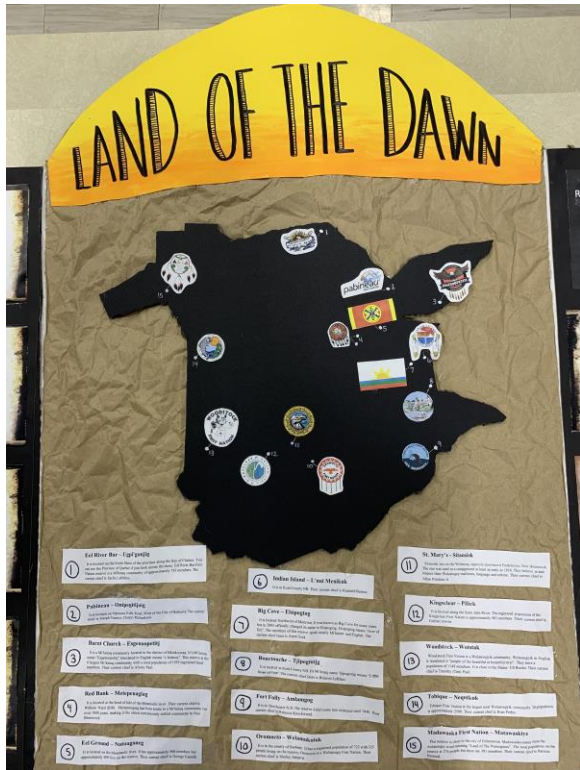
In response to Champion feedback, the following supports were made available:

- Two release days per school champion
- \$500 *Do Something* grants to each school to implement projects
- Resource delivery to schools through champions to empower their leadership among staff and to ensure they are familiar with available resources

A word cloud of feedback text in various shades of teal and blue. The words are arranged in a non-linear fashion, with some words appearing larger than others. The words include: help and suggestions, available, professional learning, Resources are huge, ideas, help, team, help scheduling, school level, school, resources, staff, Middle school, questions, project, share, email for help, knowledge and any resources, and students in our school.

help and suggestions
Resources are huge ideas
school level school
email for help
Education to the admin
available professional learning
resources help team help scheduling
staff Middle school
questions project share
knowledge and any resources students in our school

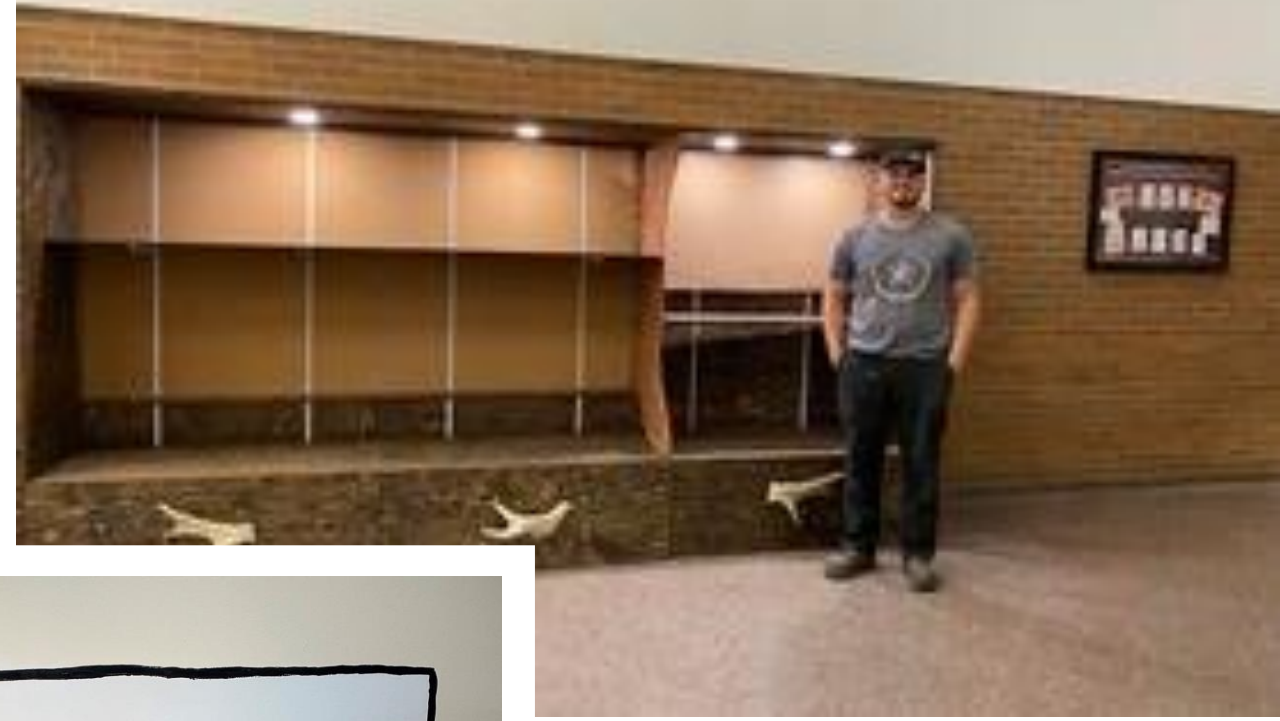
Do Something Grant: Evidence of Success

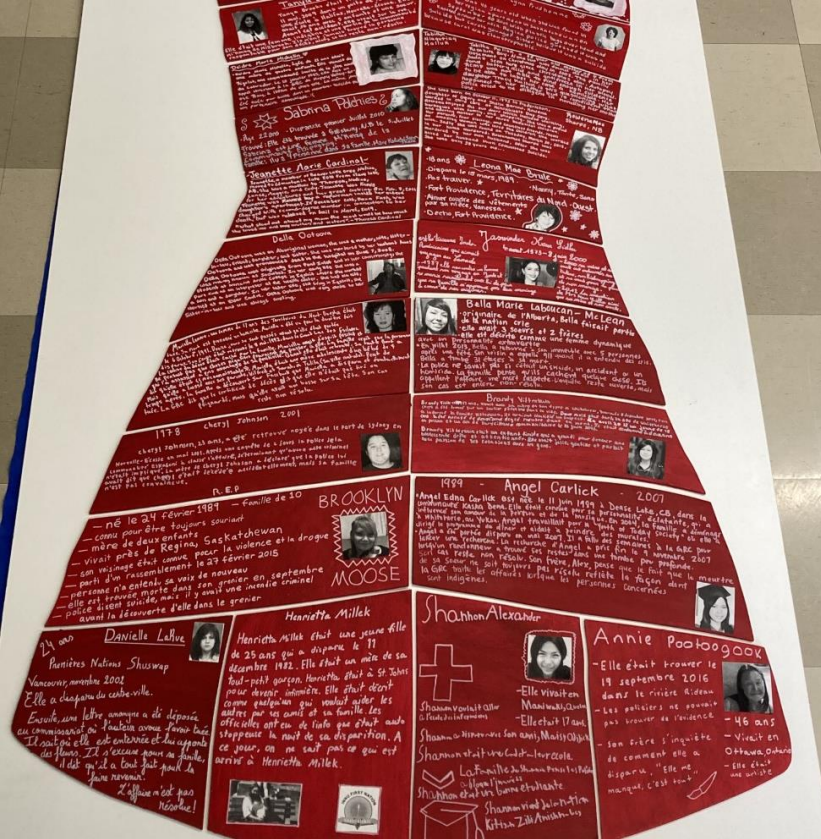


- Student-written land acknowledgements
 - Lord Beaverbrook School
 - Blackville School
- Library upgrades
 - Dr. Losier Middle School
 - James M. Hill Memorial High School
 - Napan Elementary School

- School displays
 - Bathurst High School
 - Bonar Law Memorial High School
 - Dr. Losier Middle School
 - James M Hill
 - King Street Elementary
 - Lord Beaverbrook School
 - Napan Elementary
 - Rexton Elementary



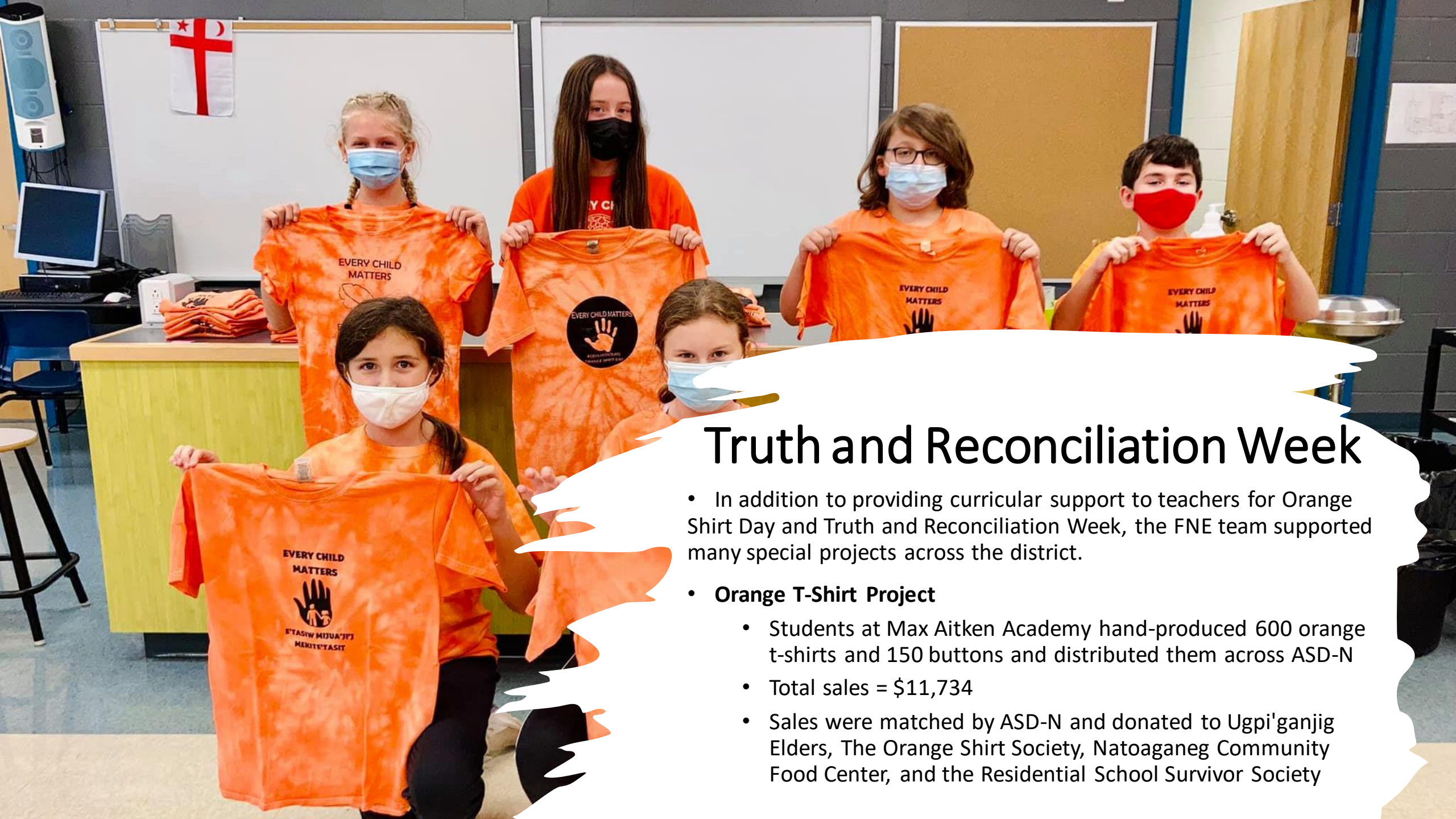




DWF Outcomes continued

- **Arts and Culture Projects**
 - Bathurst High School
 - Bonar Law Memorial
 - Eleanor W. Graham
 - Max Aitken Academy

- NSER
- Parkwood Elementary School
- Rexton Elementary
- Superior Middle School
- Terry Fox Elementary



Truth and Reconciliation Week

- In addition to providing curricular support to teachers for Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation Week, the FNE team supported many special projects across the district.
- **Orange T-Shirt Project**
 - Students at Max Aitken Academy hand-produced 600 orange t-shirts and 150 buttons and distributed them across ASD-N
 - Total sales = \$11,734
 - Sales were matched by ASD-N and donated to Ugpi'ganjig Elders, The Orange Shirt Society, Natoaganeg Community Food Center, and the Residential School Survivor Society



Elders in Schools

- Professional Learning
 - Unanimous positive feedback from educators
 - Led to a rise in requests for Elders in Schools
 - Fostered a baseline relationship between educators and Elders before classroom visits, which led to more positive visits for students, educators and Elders alike
- Elders' gathering
 - Provided an opportunity for Elders to engage with one another
 - Reflection on experiences in classrooms – successes and challenges
 - Planning: Elders provided feedback on needs and goals for the future of the program





Elders in Schools

- Classroom visits
 - Over half of ASD-N schools participated in the program
 - Notable successes:
 - Weekly visits at L.E. Reinsborough School with Elder Roseann Martin resulting in a song recording by kindergarten students
 - Weekly visits with First Nations Visual Arts 110 students with Elder Joseph Leonard Ward and Sarah Ward resulting in completed moccasins
 - Weekly visits with Superior Middle School, Terry Fox and Parkwood Elementary by Marie Kryszko to learn about the Seven Sacred Teachings, ending with a trip to Pabineau First Nation





Take Me Outside

- The middle school students of DRHS spent a full day at the Aboriginal Heritage Gardens in Eel River Bar in June. They learned how the ash tree is connected to Mi'kmaq creation, scraped and pounded ash for baskets, helped weave a basket of their own, went on a medicine walk, and played games before indulging in a feast of moose stew and luskinigan.



From sharing important lessons, to sharing their craft, to being featured in and giving feedback on student projects, Elders in Schools play many roles in the classroom.



Blanket Exercises

- Conducted for grade 8 students at Superior Middle School as the culmination of their Heritage Fair projects
- Conducted for middle and high school students at NSER



Mawi'omi's- Pow Wows

- Hosted at NSER, organized by Liam Watson
- Hosted at EWG, organized by Rosalie Barlow
- ASD-N supported both planning committees and provided funding for drum groups



Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flags

- 6 schools in ASD-N have raised the MGC flag permanently
 - Rexton Elementary
 - Eleanor W. Graham
 - Bonar Law Memorial
 - Nelson Rural
 - North & South Esk Regional High
 - Sugarloaf Senior High School
- 3 more in progress
 - Dalhousie Regional High School
 - Millerton School
 - Tabusintac School



Partnerships

- Early Childhood
 - Professional learning provided for early childhood educators
- University of New Brunswick
 - Seminar session provided for First Nations Education cohort
- Elsipogtog School
 - Provided support for educators piloting PowerPlay Young Entrepreneurs
- MAWIW
 - Partnered for event at Queen Elizabeth Park on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Community Approach to Education
- Enhanced First Nation Education & Services Agreement



Community Approach to Education

- Esgenoopetitj Site
 - 10 students were enrolled semester 1 for Electrical Course
 - Students built a shed and warming shelter for the community rink which they helped assemble.
 - Received training and certification in First Aid through St. John Ambulance
- Natoaganeg Site
 - 8 students were enrolled semester 1 for Welding Course
 - One student was successful in receiving a welding ticket from Canadian Welding Bureau.
 - Utility trailer constructed for community
 - Received training and certification in First Aid training through St. John Ambulance
- Semester 2-
 - Sites were combined and students were enrolled in Fisheries, Forestry & Community Leadership Course at the Gitpo Lodge in Natoaganeg First Nation
 - Students were given leadership opportunities and completed community project



Launch in Elsipogtog

- Welding Course
 - Elsipogtog, ASD-N, OFNE, and BLMS launched the Community Approach to Education model for second semester
 - A new facility was constructed and 10 students enrolled in the Welding Course
 - Students completed community projects



2022-23 School Year Plans

- Elsipogtog will offer Electrical Course semester 1 and Welding Course semester 2.
- Natoaganeg/Esgenooetitj will offer Welding/Electrical Course Semester 1 and Fisheries, Forestry & Community Leadership semester 2.



Anglophone
North and
First Nation
Communities
are sending
32 participants to
this international
conference
in September.

World Indigenous Peoples'
Conference on Education

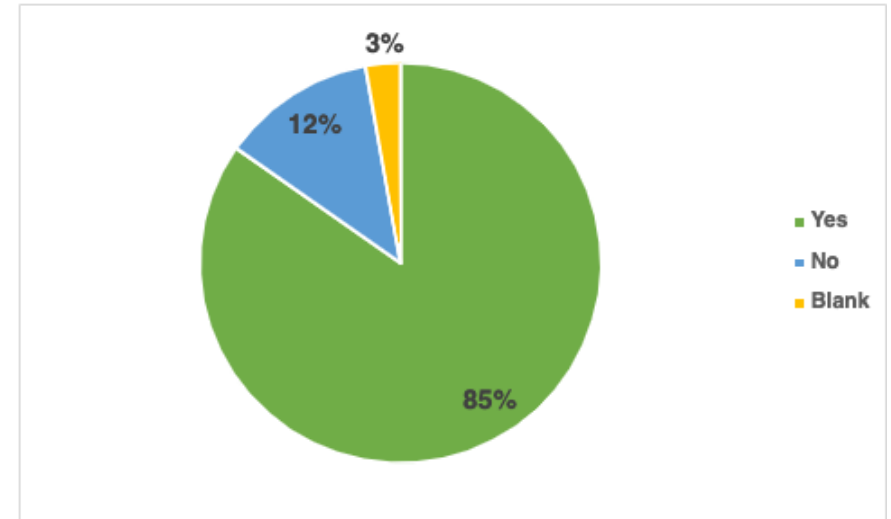


ADELAIDE SOUTH AUSTRALIA: 26-30 SEPTEMBER 2022

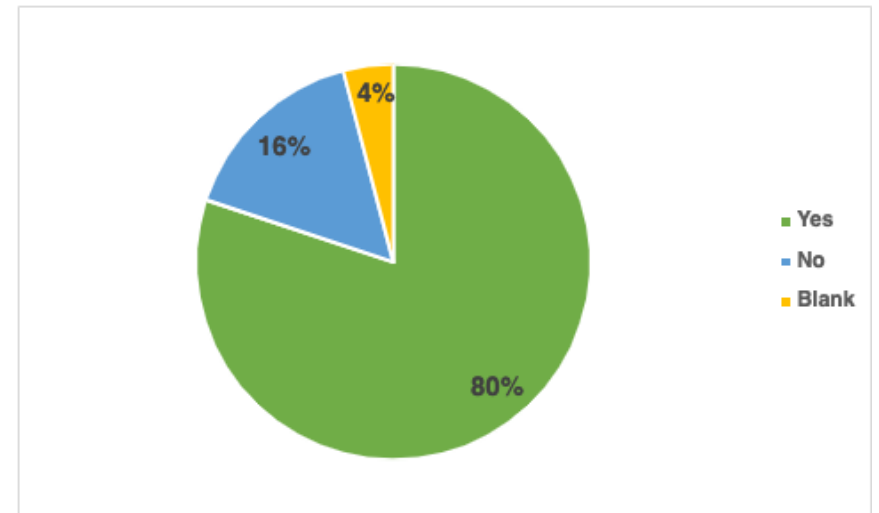
Tell Them From Me

- Have you learned about First Nations (ex. Culture, history, traditions) in your classroom lessons in the last year?
- ASD-N has observed steady growth in students learning about First Nations people in their classroom lessons each year since first recording this information in 2017-18.

Elementary (Gr. 4-5)



Secondary (Gr. 6-12)



Challenges and Areas for Growth

Teachers and administrators have identified the need for professional learning among administrators to support First Nations Education within their schools

Funding for land-based learning and cultural activities available to all schools

Continued work is needed to embed the Elders in Schools program in curriculum and school environment

When new social studies curricula are released, there is going to be a big need for support for teachers to embed First Nations knowledges into lessons

Mi'kmaw language instructors

Elders and knowledge keepers

First Nations focused ESS needs

