



Coquitlam School District 43
Indigenous Education Department
1432 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam, BC V3K 1G5
604-945-7386
abedinfo@sd43.bc.ca
<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/AbEd>

For All Coquitlam School District Parents and Students

Coquitlam School District 43 is committed to the academic success, cultural connections, and socio-emotional development of all Indigenous Learners K to 12.

The revised curriculum now being implemented across the province as per the Ministry of Education, includes integrated material related to Indigenous culture, history, and ways of knowing in each grade, K-12. The best summary of why this is important for *all* students is embedded in the First Peoples Principles of Learning. For more information on this topic, please access the Ministry website at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/abed/documents.htm#curriculum>

Self-Identification

What does “self-identification” mean?

It means any individual can self-identify as an Indigenous person: First Nation (status or non-status), Métis or Inuit Ancestry if they believe they have Indigenous ancestry in their family tree. No matter how far back in generations, you can “self-identify” as having ancestry. Official documentation or paperwork is not required.

Why self-identify yourself or your child?

Knowing who you are and where you come from is an essential aspect within an Indigenous worldview. Knowing your identity can lead to an increased positive self-image.

By self-identifying as an Indigenous student you may have access to a wide variety of academic, cultural, and social/emotional supports, programs, and activities (see examples below). By acknowledging your Indigenous ancestry, you can help contribute to the provision of high-quality learning opportunities that are responsive, flexible, and accessible to Indigenous students and contribute to strategic goals, strategies, and policies set up by the Indigenous Advisory Council.

How Do We Self-Identify?

Elementary, middle, and high school lists of Indigenous students are carried forward from the previous year. The ‘self-identification’ forms have been completed and authorized by parent/guardian or student. A new form is required when the students transition from elementary to middle, or middle to high school. Each school has an Indigenous Youth Worker assigned to the school. Please call the school youth worker or Indigenous Department if you have any questions or concerns.

Common Questions

What types of support are available?

Indigenous Education support may include such things as:

- Field trips
- Cultural programs & activities in some schools
- Support from one of our staff members to “check in” with, make a connection and be available to talk or assist with personal issues
- Breakfast and lunch programs at some schools
- Aboriginal Youth Leadership Council (AYLC) for secondary students
- Invitation to Indigenous Education community events
- Annual Honouring Ceremony for completion of grade 12. Grade 9-11 students will receive recognition for achievements. These are over and above school-based awards.
- Awareness of and applying for Indigenous scholarships and bursaries for post-secondary.

Will my child be pulled out of classes for extra support?

No. We are working with a new integrated model of delivering Indigenous curriculum, therefore, all students will have access.

Is there a choice to self-identify and NOT receive extra supports?

Yes. There are cases where parents and students choose to self-identify but do not want any additional supports. Due to funding regulations, we need to provide regular contact with all students (parent/guardians) who have self-identified, but the type of support can vary.

How do I find and contact the Indigenous Education staff member assigned to student's school?

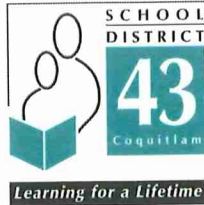
Your school office can provide you with this information or call our Indigenous Education office directly at 604-945-7386.

Continuation of Indigenous Education Services

We will continue to provide service to all children with Indigenous Ancestry for this school year. If you do not wish support from our department, please let us know by email. Unless we hear otherwise from you, we will assume that your child/children will continue with our program, and we look forward to celebrating school successes with your son/daughter.

Department Contact

Should you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, we encourage you to contact our office at 604-945-7386 to arrange a conversation or meeting with our District Principal, Stephanie Maki.



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Self-Identification of Indigenous Ancestry (First Nation, Métis or Inuit)

****Please fill out only if student has Indigenous Ancestry – one form per child****

Indigenous Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (status/Non-Status), Métis or Inuit Ancestry. **No documentation other than this self-identification is required and the ancestry can go back several generations.**

Student Name: _____ Indigenous Ancestry: _____ (Yes)

Specify Ancestry if known: _____ (e.g. Coast Salish, Sto:lo, Cree, Métis, Inuit, etc.)

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

D. O. B.: _____ (Month/day/year) Gender: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Cell #: _____ Email: _____

Siblings: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____
 (with ancestry)

Parent / Guardian Consultation and Consent to Services

Indigenous Education Enhanced Support Services

(some services may be limited by site)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic / Social / Emotional Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Enrichment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home-School communication (letters, phone calls, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring of academic progress and attendance | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership / Conference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduation/Scholarship/Bursary/Post-Secondary Info | <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast / Lunch Program / Snacks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rites of Passage (transition) | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips |

Comments:

*By signing below, I acknowledge that my son/daughter is of Indigenous Ancestry (First Nations, Métis, Inuit)
 *I give consent for my child to access the programs and services available through the Indigenous Program.
 *This signature is considered consent for the duration of the student's enrollment in their current school.
 *Consent can also be given verbally by phone or by email to your Indigenous Youth Worker. To revoke the consent, you must contact the Indigenous Program office at 604-945-7386 or email abedinfo@sd43.bc.ca.

 (Parent/Guardian Signature or Youth Worker Communication Consult)

 (Date Signed)

***Please return this form to your child's school ASAP. If you have any questions, please call 604-945-7386.**