# KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION LIFE LONG LEARNING

# MARCH 1, 2024 ISSUE

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# Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin: Cultivating Language and Legacy at First Nation Collegiate

Kapawe'no First Nation - Nêhiyawêwin Isihcikewin at First Nation Collegiate, involving Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School, Buffalo Bay Academy and FNVLC, stands as a pioneering learning model. It deeply integrates Nêhiyawêwin Isihcikewin with the Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin. Guiding principles, rooted in ancestral teachings, drive the curriculum, intertwining language mastery with cultural immersion.

Daily activities, under the guidance of our Nêhiyawêwin keepers and educators, foster a profound respect for the richness of Nêhiyawêwin and Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin. **Buffalo Bay Academy continues greatness with Pimotatowin** 

Kapawe'no First Nation - Buffalo Bay Academy, Grades servina 7-12, continues to chart a defined road in athletic excellence. The Academy's Pimotatowin program (Archery) İS dedicated to helping our young athletes grow, develop their skills and their academics.



As Buffalo Bay Academy Pimotatowin team gears up for forthcoming competition in Edmonton March 14-16 there is an air of excitement and a forward-looking optimism. Students continue to practice and get ready for their competition in Edmonton.

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# Cultivating Language and Legacy at First Nation Collegiate... from page 1

The program's structure is unique, emphasizing Nêhiyawêwin and Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin, integration through engaging methods. Morning sessions led by the keepers and teachers are complemented by in-studio, on-air segments, and inclassroom conversational Nêhiyawêwin, focusing on practical language use.

The inclusion of traditional songs, storytelling, and the active participation of Elders Knowledge Keepers embeds authentic Nêhiyawak teachings and practices within the educational experience. This approach preserves important elements and connects students deeply with their identity; who they are.

Regular collaboration with Elder Knowledge Keepers and the integration of the Seven Sacred Grandmother and Grandfather teachings are central to the program. These teachings serve as a moral compass, shaping the holistic development of students in intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and physical aspects. Through this framework, the program aims to develop not only language proficiency but also a strong, empowered sense of identity and nation connection among the students. Nêhiyawêwin Isihcikewin and Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin is our language and the way of life!



# Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimâtisiwin: The Heartbeat of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School

Kapawe'no First Nation - Kapawe'no Nehiyawak School is a vibrant center where traditional Nêhiyawêwin and music blend seamlessly into the fabric of daily learning. Whether it's through the flow of Nêhiyawêwin Isihcikêwin with our Keepers or the rhythms of our music program with Mr Fred Mack and Scott Courtorielle, every student, including those in Mrs. Jackie Halcrow's K-1 class, with the help of Ms DJ and Ms Erin Thunder is engaged and connected to our Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimâtisiwin. Amazing!



# Exploring Music and Heritage: A Journey to Edmonton for Buffalo Bay Academy (Grade 7-12) Students

Kapawe'no First Nation - In a remarkable exploration of music and Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin, our dedicated students from grades 7 through 12 are embarking on a four-day field trip to Edmonton March 8-11. This excursion, rich in musical education, spans an impressive 14 hours of diverse musical activities.

The trip's highlight is their participation in the Jazzworks Band Festival. Here, they will enjoy a mesmerizing concert by the esteemed Edmonton Jazz Orchestra and engage in an interactive workshop led by some of the Orchestra's talented musicians. This experience promises to deepen their appreciation and understanding of jazz music.

Complementing their musical journey, the students will indulge in several band practices, honing their skills and fostering teamwork. Another enriching experience awaits them at Fort Edmonton with the Indigenous Storytelling exhibit. This visit is not just an entertainment experience; it's an opportunity to connect with and understand Indigenous cultures and histories, resonating





deeply with our ethos of respect and truth.

Their musical adventure continues with a visit to the historic Yardbird Suite jazz club, an iconic venue that has hosted many jazz legends. On Saturday night, they will immerse themselves in the club's vibrant atmosphere and legacy. The excitement builds on Sunday as the students attend the Alberta Country Music Awards. The presence of Ashley Ghostkeeper, a favorite of our students and a previous performer at our school, adds a special connection to the event.

This visit is not just an entertainment experience; it's an opportunity to connect with and understand Indigenous cultures and histories, resonating deeply with our ethos of respect and truth.



The culmination of their journey is the participation in the Alberta International Band Festival on Monday.

This trip is a unique blend of musical learning, cultural immersion, and community connection. It reflects our commitment to nurturing the love for music, respect for diverse cultures, and the pursuit of excellence in our students. We eagerly anticipate the inspiration and growth this experience will foster in our young musicians.

# KAPAWE'NO NÊHIYAWAK SCHOOL

# In a world where you can be anything,

# it's the ultimate rebellion against bullying.



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# **FIRST NATION COLLEGE**

# Where tradition meets the future. Knowledge ever increasing!

First Nation College is a special place where we learn about our traditions and get ready for the future. We mix old teachings from our ancestors with new things we need to know for today's world. This is where students like you can grow strong in who they are and learn lots of new things. We believe that knowing about our past makes us ready for tomorrow.

At the heart of our mission and vision lies the aspiration to infuse our students with resilience, wisdom, and profound knowledge. We envision graduates who, while deeply connected to their heritage, are adept at navigating the global milieu with finesse.

# **Mission and Vision**

Mission: To enrich learning rooted in Knowledge Ever Increasing blending ancestral wisdom with academics.

Vision: Fostering a learning environment with ancestral wisdom and contemporary knowledge to face and shape tomorrow's challenges.



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# Guiding Principles for First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)

1. Nation Bonding - Our digital platform thrives on the essence of love, fostering an environment where students and educators support, care for, and nurture each other, replicating the warmth of face-to-face interactions in a virtual setting.

2. Inclusive Dialogue - Grounded in the teaching of respect, we ensure every voice is valued. By creating spaces for diverse experiences and views, we cultivate a culture where each member's perspective enriches our collective understanding.

3. Boundless Exploration - With the spirit of courage, we urge our students to step outside their comfort zones. Our platform champions innovative learning methods and encourages members to tackle challenges head-on, redefining the boundaries of virtual education.

4. Authentic Engagement - Honesty, as a guiding beacon, ensures our community remains transparent and genuine. Every

interaction, content shared, and feedback loop at FNVLC is anchored in truth and ethical practice.

5. Enlightened Learning - Beyond mere information dissemination, our platform emphasizes transforming knowledge into wisdom. Drawing from ancestral teachings, we guide students to reflect deeply, ensuring a balance between age-old insights and contemporary contexts.

6. Collaborative Growth - Recognizing the collective effort behind every milestone, our principle of humility ensures we view our achievements as a communal success. Every individual's contribution, no matter how small, is celebrated and acknowledged.

7. Pursuit of Authenticity - Steeped in the spirit of truth-seeking, we are committed to an education that encourages probing questions and genuine interactions. Our learners embark on journeys of self-discovery, understanding, and sincere knowledge acquisition.

# Morning Conversations: Nêhiyawêwin Isihcikewin in Mrs. Jackie Halcrow's Classroom

Kapawe'no First Nation - At First Nation Collegiate, the week in Mrs. Jackie Halcrow's class begins the day with the resonant tones of Nêhiyawêwin Isihcikewin, the Cree language and learning. At 8:00 am, the classroom transforms into a vibrant space of cultural and immersion for the teachers. Mrs. Halcrow, alongside the Nêhiyawawin Keepers, orchestrates a session that weaves together the learning of prayers, numbers, and the day's curriculum. This session is more than a language lesson; it's an embodiment of cultural awakening, fostering a deep connection to the land with the Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin among students.

These early morning gatherings are instrumental in grounding teachers in their cultural identity, starting their day with a sense of nation and shared Nêhiyawak Miyo



Pimachitiwin. The focus is on conversational Nêhiyawêwin, enabling twachers to engage with the language in a practical, lively manner. Through these interactions, they learn the structure and vocabulary of Nêhiyawêwin and imbibe the wisdom and teachings that are interlaced with Nêhiyawêwin. Starting the day in Mrs. Halcrow's class exemplifies how Nêhiyawêwin Isihcikewin can be an immersive, enriching experience, deeply intertwined with understanding and living Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimachitiwin.

# Grandfather drum begins the day at Kapaweno Nehiyawwak School and Buffalo Bay Academy

Kapawen'no First Nation -Each early morning our Grade 2-5 students begins the day with the grandfather drum. Kapaweno Nêhiyawak School and Buffalo Bay Academy are filled with the powerful heartbeat of our big grandfather drum, a sound that echoes the deep-rooted traditions and spirited energy of our Nation.

Led by Muskwak Juniors and Mr. Cory Cardinal Jr. and Sr., these morning sessions are musical interludes and a very vibrant expression of our nêhiyawak miyo pimachitiwin.



Scan this code to watch the video on facebook



# First Nation College... from page 5

Through these principles, FNVLC aims to craft a holistic virtual education experience, harmonizing ancestral teachings with the needs of the modern digital age.



### **Future Steps in Employment**

Graduates from First Nation College find themselves equipped with a unique blend of ancestral wisdom and modern skill sets. Our alumni have secured prominent positions in diverse fields, from community leadership and education to corporate sectors and entrepreneurial ventures.

Our dedicated career services team offers resources, networking events, and mentorship opportunities, guiding students towards fulfilling career paths.







### Admissions

First Nation College believes in an inclusive and holistic admissions process. Candidates are evaluated based on their academic achievements, involvement in their nation, and passion for learning. The admissions window opens in spring, with details available on our website. Our dedicated admissions team is available for queries, ensuring prospective students have all the information they need.





### **Financial Aid & Scholarships:**

We believe in providing every deserving student an opportunity. Our financial aid office assists students with grants, scholarships, and Ioan information. Discover the First Nation College difference. Join us on this transformative journey. Enroll today!

First Nation College isn't just about acquiring knowledge—it's about understanding where that knowledge comes from. Here, you won't just learn about the world, but also your place within it, anchored by Nehiyawak traditions. Join us and be a part of this transformative journey.

#### Please register today at: www.firstnationcollege.com or email us at admin@firstnationcollege.com

We are proud to offer a diverse range of Certificate and Diploma programs this Fall:



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# First Nation Collegiate: Osâwâpiskâw Asapap is about Sovereignty, Governance, Understanding the Fabric of Treaties, and Next Steps in Indigenous-Settler Relations

"Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Sovereignty, Governance, and Treaties... and Were Afraid to Ask"

Canada's Tragedy in 4 Acts - The Day Before Treaty, The Day of Treaty, Days Well After the Treaty, and Now Tomorrow!

Kapawe'no First Nation - Osâwâpiskâw Asapap (The Golden Thread) a Grade 10-12 program, delves into the complex interplay of inherent rights, sovereignty, treaties, and legal agreements that have historically framed and continue to influence Indigenous-settler relationships in what is today called Canada.

Osâwâpiskâw Asapap covers a wide range of pivotal events and documents, providing students with a thorough understanding of their significance and ongoing impact. These include the Two Row Wampum (1613), the Royal Proclamation (1763), Treaty of Niagara (1764), Dene and Cree Peace Treaty (1781), North-Western Territories Order (1870), the Historic Numbered Treaties 1-11, Treaty 8 (1899), Natural Resources Transfer Act (1930), Harold Cardinal's "The Unjust Society" (1969), the Constitution Act (1982), the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and recent Supreme Court rulings regarding Indigenous sovereignty.

Structured into interactive modules, Osâwâpiskâw Asapap engages students deeply in the process of learning. Each module consists of an introduction, learning objectives, discussion topics, and practical assignments or activities. The program prioritizes incorporating the Seven Sacred



Grandmother and Grandfather teachings, using them as guiding principles throughout the course. There's a strong emphasis on interactive learning methods, including sharing circles and discussions, allowing students to explore the material in a way that aligns with their personal research style and presentation preferences.

Osâwâpiskâw Asapap places a special focus on integrating Kapawe'no First Nation's codes and laws into every aspect of its curriculum, establishing these teachings and perspectives





as fundamental to understanding each module's content. This integration ensures the consistent application of Nêhiyawak life and legal frameworks across all modules, highlighting the practical relevance of these laws and principles in various contexts. Students continuously engage with these teachings, aligning them with contemporary issues and discussions.

This program represents a comprehensive approach to understanding the complex and evolving dynamics of Indigenous and settler relationships in Canada, anchored in respect, wisdom, and an appreciation of nêhiyawak miyo pimacihowin.

By Boh Kubrakovich-Kiniw, In Memory of Our Great Friend Rarihokwats, In Partnership Teaching with Aaron Courtorielle

# **FIRST NATION VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTRE (FNVLC)** "Empowering First Nation Students through Innovative Virtual Education"

# **Our Journey**

Since its establishment on April 1st, 2021, the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) has embarked on a pioneering journey that seeks to redefine education on Turtle Island for students in Grades 4-12.

Our focus extends far beyond the classroom, encompassing all those who aspire to explore and wholeheartedly embrace the rich heritage of our ancestral way of living. We aim to create a future where knowledge transcends traditional boundaries, curiosity knows no bounds, and the immense potential of First Nation students is fully realized.

# **Mission-Vision-**

#### Mission

"To provide cutting-edge virtual school experiences that transcend traditional boundaries and unlock the potential of First Nation students, as well as those eager to learn about our ancestral ways."

#### Vision

"Interactive virtual learning that transports students to higher order thinking and digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations."



# Our journey is driven by the following:

#### A Commitment to Transformation

At FNVLC, we stand at the forefront of a transformative movement in education. We believe that learning knows no bounds, and through the seamless fusion of the physical and digital realms, we've created an educational experience unlike any other. It's an experience that doesn't merely impart knowledge but integrates the very essence of Nêhiyawak culture and wisdom into every lesson.

#### **An Innovative Approach**

Our approach is a testament to innovation. We are dedicated to pushing the boundaries of what's possible in education. From curriculum development to instructional design, we are constantly evolving to meet the dynamic needs of our students. We understand that each student is unique, and our commitment to personalized learning ensures that every individual can thrive in their way.

# **Empowering Through Education**

We firmly believe that every student, regardless of their background, deserves the very best education. Our commitment to excellence is unwavering. Our educators and staff are not just mentors; they are dedicated champions of student success. They work tirelessly to create a nurturing environment that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment.

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# Harmony in Tradition: Nêhiyawak Way in Music at Buffalo Bay Academy

Kapawe'no First Nation - At Buffalo Bay Academy, music teacher Mr. Fred Mack is pioneering a unique blend of the Nêhiyawak way with contemporary music, creating an educational symphony that resonates with both tradition and modernity. His innovative approach is showcased in the upcoming Edmonton performance, where students from Buffalo Academy will demonstrate the fruits of their dedication and skill, honed under his guidance.

In Mr. Mack's music room, traditional Nêhiyawak drum beats merge seamlessly with the tones of modern wind, brass, and percussion instruments. This musical fusion is not just a creative experiment; it's an immersive journey into the Nêhiyawak way, articulated through a harmonious blend of ancient rhythms and contemporary melodies. The students, since the beginning of the school year, have been deeply engaged in this



unique musical endeavor, practicing tirelessly.

Their commitment extends beyond mastering the instruments; it's an embodiment of the Nêhiyawakway, expressed through their music.

As the students prepare for their performance in Edmonton, it becomes evident that the music program is about more than just learning notes and rhythms. It's a journey into self-discovery, nation bonding, and a profound respect for the Nêhiyawak way. Under Mr. Mack's mentorship, these young musicians are enhancing their musical talents while fostering a sense of unity, confidence, and cultural connection.

# Exploring History Through Dance: Métis Dancing in the Classroom

Kapawe'no First Nation - This week, students at our school took a special journey into the past with Métis dancing. Led by Scott Courtoreille and Mr. Fred Mack, they learned the Red River Jig, a dance that tells a story about the Métis people and their history.

The Red River Jig is a mix of Indigenous and French music from the 1700s and 1800s. It shows how Métis culture comes from different backgrounds and creates something new and beautiful.

While dancing, some students also played

spoons. This wasn't just about learning steps or music; it was like traveling through time. They felt the history of Turtle Island, the name many Indigenous people use for North America, through every step and note.

The Red River Jig teaches us that history isn't just in books. It's alive in the dances we dance, the music we play, and the stories we tell. This experience helped the students see and feel the history of Turtle Island in a whole new way, showing them how important it is to respect and cherish different cultures and their histories.



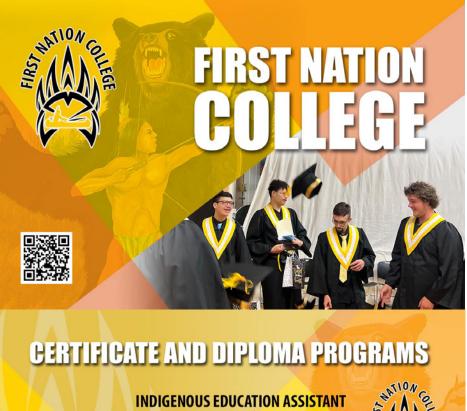
# Online Learning at First Nation College: Upholding First Nation Sovereignty and Embracing Nêhiyawak Traditions

Kapawe'no First Nation - First Nation Control of First Nation Learning. Central to our philosophy at First Nation College is the principle of self-determination in lifelong learning. Our online learning environment is an embodiment of this principle, providing a space where First Nation control over First Nation learning is paramount. We empower our Nations by designing courses that are not only informed by, but led and taught by, First Nation educators. This approach ensures that our teachings, perspectives, and ways of knowing are accurately represented and preserved.

Our curriculum is deeply rooted in Nêhiyawak way of life, offering a unique educational experience that honors our ancestral knowledge. Each course is an exploration of Nêhiyawak wisdom, where students delve into our history, philosophies, and the teachings of our elders knowledge keepers. This approach is not just about learning facts; it's about immersing oneself in the Nêhiyawak way of life and understanding the world through our ancestral lens.

Nêhiyawawin and Connection to Aki is a way of life. A profound aspect of our online courses is the integration of Nêhiyawawin, the language of the Nêhiyawak. Language is more than a tool for communication; it's a carrier of culture, values, and worldviews. By incorporating Nêhiyawawin into our virtual learning, we connect students deeply with their heritage and with Aki, Mother Earth. This connection is vital, as it fosters a sense of responsibility and stewardship towards the land, instilling in our students the importance of living in harmony with the natural world.

Interactive and Earth-Centered Learning; our online platform offers interactive experiences that bring the teachings about Aki into students' homes. Through virtual reality tours,



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ASSISTANT LEVEL 1 AND 2 (2 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE) INDIGENOUS EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE LEVEL 1, 2 AND 3 (2 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE) INDIGENOUS BUSINESS MANAGEMENT DIPLOMA (2 YEAR AND 3 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE) INDIGENOUS LAW(F) LAND, AIR, WATER, FIRE DIPLOMA INDIGENOUS OFFICE ADMINISTRATION DIPLOMA (2 YEAR AND 3 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE)

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interactive simulations, and collaborative projects, students can experience and appreciate the beauty and wisdom of Mother Earth, learning to apply these insights in both personal and professional contexts.

Empowerment Through Knowledge is in every course, as we strive to empower our students with knowledge that is both practical and spiritually fulfilling. We understand that true learning is about acquiring skills and nurturing a deep, respectful relationship with our Nêhiyawak way of life, our Nation, and Mother Earth. Our online learning environment is a testament to this understanding, offering a space where tradition and technology meet to create a transformative educational experience. The First Nation College is here for you. Call our Student Services staff at (780) 751.0009 to enroll today and register. Get started on a "Knowledge ever increasing..." journey. Call now.

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# OUR 7 SACRED LEGIP GRANDMOTHER AND GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS

# Kihew Eagle (Love)

Embracing every student with warmth, understanding, and kindness. "Let Kinew's spirit elevate our hearts, fostering love that transcends

Sakihitowin

# Sakawmostos Buffalo (Respect)

Honouring the unique journey of each individual. "With samawmostos's wisdom, we learn to respect every path, recognizing the journey. in each step."

NAT



Muskwa Bear (Courage)

Fostering a spirit of bravery and resilience. "Muskwa's courage reminds us that true strength lies in facing our fears with a brave heart."

Sopkitchewin

# Mistapew Sasquatch (Honesty)

Upholding transparency and integrity. "Embrace the Sasquatch's honesty, walking a path of integrity that enlightens our spirit."



# Amisk Beaver (Wisdom)

Continuously seeking and imparting. "From amisk's diligence, we learn the wisdom of building our minds as we do our world.

Mahikar Wolf (Humility)

Approaching each day with a willingness to learn and grow. "Emulate mahikan's humility, understanding that every day is a chance to grow wiser and kinder.



Miskinahk Turtle (Truth)

Committed to teaching the genuine history, values, and knowledge of our people. "Let miskinahk guide us in our guest for truth, anchoring us in the wisdom of the ages."

Tapwewin



In the spirit of respect, humility, seeking and finding balance and a profound commitment to lifelong learning. Knowledge is ever increasing for our children.

# First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 9

# **The Guiding Principles**

Our guiding principles for the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) are foundational beliefs and values that shape its mission, vision, and approach to education. Our guiding principles include:



Cultural Respect and Preservation: To honor and respect our ancestral cultures, traditions, and languages, and to work towards their preservation and revitalization;

Inclusivity and Equity: To provide equitable access to quality education for all First Nation students, regardless of their location, background, or circumstances;



Community Engagement: To actively involve and engage with the local Indigenous communities, Elders, and knowledge keepers to ensure the curriculum and approach are culturally relevant and meaningful;

Holistic Education: To offer a well-rounded education that includes cultural teachings, traditional knowledge, and values alongside academic subjects.

Innovation and Adaptation: To be open to innovative approaches in education and adapt to the changing needs of students while

# Our journey is driven by the following... from page 9

#### **Inclusivity Beyond Borders**

As we look to the future, our commitment to virtual education remains steadfast. Through our innovative Indio Network platform, we are ready to offer another year of transformative learning experiences. We'll continue to stream our lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island, ensuring that access to quality education is not limited by location or circumstance. Our focus is to extend educational opportunities to all corners of our vast and diverse Turtle Island.

#### Venturing into the Future

The future of education is boundless, and at FNVLC, we are poised to embrace it fully. We're venturing into uncharted territories, expanding our virtual content to encompass a wide range of subjects. Our focus includes interactive virtual field trips that transport students to far-flung places, digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations. The possibilities are limitless, and we're determined to explore them all.

### Join Us in the Journey

Welcome to a new era of education, where the possibilities are as boundless as the sky. We invite you to join us on this transformative journey of discovery, learning, and cultural celebration. Together, we can redefine education and empower the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and visionaries.



preserving cultural integrity;

Empowerment: To empower students to become leaders, thinkers, and contributors to their communities and the broader society;

Sustainability: To ensure the sustainability of Indigenous cultures and languages by incorporating them into the educational experience.

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# Bright Smiles and Learning: A Dental Health Adventure for our K-1 Students

Kapawe'no First Nation - Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, Mrs. Jackie's K-1 students recently had an afternoon of learning, hosted by health professionals from Kapawe'no Health Services.

The visit included an engaging presentation from the dentist who taught the children about proper teeth cleaning techniques through interactive activities. The dentist also captured their attention and curiosity through the reading of a book about dental health. This experience was about learning dental



hygiene and about fostering a sense of nation building through health and wellbeing among our youngest learners.



# **EVERY WEDNESDAYS AT 3:30 PM**

RAMA

For more information please contact: Miss Aaron aaron.courtorielle@kfnschool.ca Miss Wendy Wendy.Lamouche@kfnschool.ca or call the school at (780) 751-0008.

# First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 13

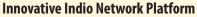
# **Looking Ahead**

As we look ahead, our commitment to virtual education remains unwavering. Through our innovative Indio Network platform, we are ready to offer another year of transformative learning experiences. We'll continue to stream our lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island, ensuring that access to quality education is not limited by location or circumstance.

Let's delve deeper into what this forward-looking commitment entails:

# **Unwavering Commitment to Virtual Education**

The FNVLC is resolute in its commitment to virtual education. This means that it recognizes the importance of leveraging digital platforms to provide accessible and flexible learning opportunities.



The mention of the "Indio Network platform" signifies the FNVLC's investment in cutting-edge technology and infrastructure to deliver education. This platform likely offers features and tools designed to enhance the virtual learning experience.



#### Transformative Learning Experiences

The FNVLC is not content with just delivering education; it aims to make a difference in students' lives. "Transformative learning experiences" indicate that the FNVLC is dedicated to providing education that goes beyond the acquisition of knowledge. It's about personal growth, development, and empowerment.

#### **Accessibility Across Turtle Island**

The FNVLC's commitment to streaming lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island emphasizes inclusivity. Turtle Island is a term used by some Indigenous peoples to refer to North America. By ensuring access to quality education across this vast region, the FNVLC is addressing geographical and circumstantial barriers that might hinder educational opportunities.

#### **Equity in Education**

The overarching goal is to ensure that all First Nation students, regardless of where they are located or their personal circumstances, have equitable access to a high-quality education. This commitment aligns with the FNVLC's mission to empower students and promote educational equity.

In essence, "Looking Ahead" signifies the FNVLC's readiness to embrace the future of education, leveraging technology to provide transformative and accessible learning experiences to First Nation students. It reflects a dedication to breaking down barriers and ensuring that education reaches every corner of Turtle Island, ultimately contributing to the empowerment and success of Indigenous communities.

# **Unbounded Possibilities**

The future of education is boundless, and we're poised to embrace it fully. We're venturing into uncharted territories, expanding our virtual content to encompass a wide range of subjects. Our focus includes interactive virtual field trips that transport students to far-flung places, digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations. The possibilities are limitless, and we're determined to explore them all.

Let's explore the key points in this statement:

#### **Boundless Future of Education**

The FNVLC acknowledges that the future of education is limitless. It recognizes that traditional boundaries and limitations are giving way to new possibilities and opportunities in education.

#### **Embracing the Future**

The FNVLC is not just passively observing but actively embracing the changing landscape of education. It is willing to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of students in this rapidly changing world.

#### Venturing into Uncharted Territories

This phrase signifies the FNVLC's willingness to explore new and innovative approaches to education. It is ready to take risks and pioneer new methods to enhance the learning experience.

#### **Expanding Virtual Content**

By expanding virtual content, the FNVLC is broadening the scope of subjects and resources available to students. This reflects a commitment to providing a comprehensive and diverse educational experience.

# **WHO WE ARE**

First Nation Collegiate, under the four pillar schools, is accredited both in western studies and the Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin (way of life). Our programs we specialize in include Nêhiyawewin (Cree Language) Isihcikewin (to know for yourself) arts, sciences, music, sports and Nêhiyawak studies. With state-of-the-art technology, we build upon the technological advances of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School (K-6), Buffalo Bay Academy (7-12), First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) and First Nation College while focusing on higher education standards.

# LOCATION

Nestled within the ancestral lands of the Kapawe'no First Nation, First Nation Collegiate stands alongside Buffalo Bay Academy and Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, enriching our Kapawe'no Territorial educational ecosystem. Knowledge Ever Increasing where Ancestral Wisdom Meets Higher Education.

# **KNOWLEDGE EVER INCREASING**

Mission: To enrich learning rooted in Knowledge Ever Increasing blending ancestral wisdom with academics. Vision: Fostering a learning environment with ancestral wisdom and contemporary knowledge to face and shape tomorrow's challenges.

# LIFE LONG LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

"Knowledge Ever Increasing" our philosophy embodies the harmonious blend of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak teachings and modern pedagogy.

We extend the principles established in the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre, enriching the academic environment with collaborative and wisdom-based learning.

# **UNIQUE FEATURES**

Interdisciplinary Programs: Melding traditional knowledge and modern subjects for a well-rounded education. Research Opportunities: Working in sync with First Nation College, we offer research initiatives that allow students to delve into their ancestral heritage.

Partnerships: Leveraging relations with local businesses and organizations for internships and job placements.

# GOVERNANCE

Functioning under the Kapawe'no First Nation's Hereditary and Life Long Governance and Leadership, we share governance principles with the other educational institutions within the territory, ensuring alignment yet maintaining our own distinctive role in higher education.

# **FLEXIBLE LEARNING**

Building upon the four-day school week implemented at our schools, the curriculum includes interactive virtual sessions, enabling students to pursue independent research projects or participate in local support service.

# CURRICULUM

Fully accredited, our courses meet the academic standards for higher education, while our unique indigenous studies program complements the curricula offered.

# **INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM ELEMENTS**

Wisdom Circles: Interactive dialogue sessions where students, educators, and Elders share knowledge. Global Indigenous Exchange Program: An extension of cultural exchange initiative, now at a collegiate level.





# Schools

We have four pillar schools along with our outreach program under our First Nation Collegiate which are:

#### The following schools are:

- Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School K-6 (KNS)
- Buffalo Bay Academy 7-12
- First Nation Virtual Learning Centre
  (FNVLC)
- First Nation College

#### Our Outreach programs are;

- Kapawe'no Outreach
- Virtual and Adult Outreach

# **ADMISSIONS**

Admission processes are holistic, considering applicants' academic and cultural contributions. They are also in line with the open and inclusive admissions policy at First Nation College.





# email: admin@kfnschool.ca

# First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 15

#### **Interactive Virtual Field Trips**

The mention of virtual field trips indicates a commitment to immersive and experiential learning. It allows students to explore places and concepts beyond the confines of a traditional classroom.

#### **Digitized Learning Experiences**

Digitized learning experiences make education engaging and fun. They leverage elements of games to motivate and challenge students, enhancing their learning experience.

#### **Personalized Learning Paths**

Recognizing that every student is unique, the FNVLC aims to provide personalized learning paths. This approach tailors education to individual needs, interests, and aspirations.

#### **Limitless Possibilities**

The statement emphasizes that there are no limits to what education can achieve. It conveys a sense of ambition and determination to explore all the opportunities and innovations that the future holds. Unbounded Possibilities reflects the FNVLC's commitment to pushing the boundaries of education. It aims to create an educational environment that is dynamic, engaging, and tailored to individual learners, while

embracing emerging technologies and pedagogical approaches. This forward-looking vision signifies a dedication to providing students with an education that prepares them for the limitless opportunities of the future.

# Courses Offered 2023/24

Our diverse curriculum includes a range of courses to cater to the diverse interests and needs of our students.



Independent Studies (Choose from a catalog of independent studies courses under supervision).

Over 150 courses available virtually

# These courses include:

- Social Studies 10-1, 10-2, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1, 30-2
- Art 10, 20, 30
- English 10, 20, 30
- Family Law (10)
- Intro To Psychology (10)
- Nêhiyawêwin 10, 20, 30

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Sohkitehewin (Courage)

Muskwa (Bear) tahkonam ekwa kimikonaw (carries and gives us the gift of) sohkitehewin. Fostering a spirit of bravery and resilience. "Muskwa's sohkitehewin reminds us that true strength lies in facing our fears with a brave heart."





*"Where tradition fuels the future, we create a distinct path to wisdom and growth."* 

ARTS | MUSIC | SPORTS | LAWF

Buffalo Bay Academy, a Grades 7-12 school is part of the First Nation Collegiate at Kapawe'no continues to be an autonomous school. We offer technology-enhanced classrooms to support both traditional and new methods of teaching, offering students a unique blend of the Nêhiyawak way of learning. This blend incorporates Arts, Music, Sports, and LAW teachings through full accreditation by Alberta and our Elder Knowledge Keepers.

MY CAMP

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US email: admin@kfnschool.ca phone: (780) 751-0008



LISKUAY

# KAPAWE'NO NÊHIYAWAK SCHOOL

# First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 17

# **The Commitment to Excellence**

This statement reflects the FNVLC's dedication to providing a top-tier educational experience. Let's delve deeper into what this commitment entails:

#### **Driving Excellence**

At the core of our FNVLC is an unwavering commitment to excellence. This means that we continuously strive for the highest standards of quality and effectiveness in every aspect of education that we offer.

#### **Curriculum Development**

We take pride in being leaders in curriculum development. This means that our educational programs are not stagnant but instead evolve to meet the changing needs of students and society. We invest time and resources in creating engaging, relevant, and up-to-date curricula.

#### **Instructional Design**

Our instructional design reflects our commitment to delivering the best learning experiences. We employ innovative teaching methods and technology to ensure that students are actively engaged in their education. Our instructional design is geared toward promoting creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

#### **Dedicated Team**

Our educators and staff are the backbone of our FNVLC. They are a dedicated team that works tirelessly to ensure that our students receive the highest level of support and guidance. Their passion for education is what drives our commitment to excellence.

#### **Fostering Creativity**

We believe that education is not just about



memorizing facts; it's about fostering creativity. Our approach encourages students to think outside the box, explore new ideas, and develop innovative solutions to real-world problems.

#### **Critical Thinking**

Critical thinking is a cornerstone of our educational philosophy. We equip students with the skills to analyze information critically, make informed decisions, and navigate complex challenges.

#### **Cultural Enrichment**

We understand the importance of cultural enrichment. Our commitment extends beyond academics to include a celebration of culture, heritage, and diversity. We believe that a wellrounded education includes an appreciation for different cultures and perspectives.

#### Accessibility

We firmly believe that every student, regardless of their background, should have access to the very best education. This commitment to accessibility ensures that our FNVLC is inclusive and welcoming to students from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

In summary, our "Commitment to Excellence" is a holistic dedication to providing students with a high-quality, forward-thinking education. We prioritize innovation, creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment to ensure that every student receives the very best education possible. This commitment is a testament to our mission to empower students and prepare them for success in a rapidly changing world.

# Join Us in this New Era of Education

Welcome to a new era of education, where the possibilities are as boundless as the sky. We invite you to be a part of this transformative educational journey at the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre.

For online registration and more information, please visit our Registration Package page or download the package directly from this link;



https://kfnlearning.com/admissions/

Join us in shaping the future of education for First Nation students and beyond, where learning knows no bounds, and cultural heritage is celebrated at every turn.

#### **Connect with Principal Cory Cardinal Sr**

(780) 751-0008 or email corysrcardinal@kfnschool.ca to discover how we can help you or your child embark on a path of discovery, growth, and cultural enrichment.

More information please visit our website: www.kfnlearning. com/virtual-learning/





# NÊHIYAWAK SCHOOL K-6

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**Preparing the students of today** to meet the challenges of tomorrow!

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# **FIRST NATION**



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BUFFALO BAY ACADEMY

GRADE 7-12