

E-Newsletter December 2021

BUILDING THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Community Schools in B.C.



United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
Interior, Lower Mainland, Central
& Northern Vancouver Island

Welcome

This is our 10th Community Schools in BC e-newsletter and our goal remains to both inform and build networks in the field of community education and schools in B.C. In this edition we highlight opportunities for professional development, networking and capacity building in your communities. Please email Sukh Shergill at SukhS@uwlm.ca to contribute updates or join the mailing list.

Professional Resources



Did you know about the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre at UBC?

Visit for resources, sign up for learning events and regular newsletters.

www.irshdc.ubc.ca

Check out UBC's HELP Bannock and Banter series.

www.earlylearning.ubc.ca



Upcoming workshops include:

- 1) Truth & Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action & Actioning the Calls
- 2) Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+:
In Reclaiming Power and Place's Calls for Justice

Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education

UBC is offering a free 6-week Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). The last session just completed and visit the site for updates on upcoming sessions.

www.pdce.educ.ubc.ca/reconciliation/

Engage with Indigenous knowledge keepers, educational leaders, and resources to enhance your understanding and knowledge of practices that advance reconciliation in the places where you live, learn, and work. This course will help you envision how Indigenous histories, perspectives, worldviews, and approaches to learning can be made part of the work we do in classrooms, organizations, and communities.

Partners in Focus



Have you heard of the Stigma Free Society?

Did you know they recently teamed up with UWBC and "Schools Out" agencies to provide educational toolkits and resources for after-school programs.

www.stigmafreesociety.com

Look for the following programs on their website.

[Student Mental Health Toolkit:](#) This online engaging Toolkit contains extensive mental health resources for youth, educators, and school counsellors that emphasize the importance of taking care of your mental health and reaching out for help. It contains Mental Wellness Lesson Plans for Grades 4-7 and 8-12 that align with the B.C. curriculum guidelines.

[Virtual Stigma-Free Presentations:](#) As part of the Student Mental Health Toolkit, the Society offers a virtual presentations program featuring LIVE 45-minute sessions for students via an online platform. During the Presentation, a presenter shares about their journey with stigma and the intersecting mental health issues they have faced. The program also provides a co-presenter that facilitates the online presentation with their deep knowledge about mental health.



As we know, life isn't always easy, but finding help can be with 211.

Dial 2-1-1 to connect with a Navigator who will help find the right supports and services in your community for your situation, whether it's housing, food, financial assistance, health resources, counselling, or more.

It's free, confidential, multilingual and available 24/7.

Dial / text 2-1-1 or [visit bc.211.ca](http://bc.211.ca)

Support for Communities

United Way British Columbia is now ready for agencies to register to apply for funding support. They have launched the United for BC Flood Response Fund to help provide immediate and long-term assistance through non-profit agencies. The aim is to help displaced residents, and those who have lost housing, belongings and/or employment.

www.uwbc.ca/flood

Funding can be used for immediate and ongoing relief efforts, long term recovery, resiliency, and preparedness for future events in British Columbia and impacted regions, including consequential events related to the floods.

Advisory Committee

The BC Community Schools Advisory Committee (BCCSAC) served an important function in terms of development of strategy for expansion of a Community Schools approach. This next meeting will to conclude this committee and plan next steps.

Friday January 21st, 2022

1:00 – 2:30 PM

Zoom Mtg info:

<https://zoom.us/j/2984579420>

Meeting ID: 298 457 9420

Telephone Dial-In: 1-877-853-5257

Please join this meeting if you are interested in strategic conversations and organizational development. The agenda will include a summary of BCCSAC, identify successful models for advocacy for better outcomes for communities, and facilitated dialogues around priority areas articulated by BCCSAC. These include:

- All Schools in BC have a community schools approach.
- Community Schools approach is embedded in how governments deliver services to children and families.
- There is a strong presence representing community education/community schools interests
- Communities have access to evidence, resources and supports for adopting, growing and/or sustaining their community school approaches

It has been a turbulent time in the province and world. We hope you are safe and healthy. We wish you a happy holidays and look forward to connecting in the new year.