

# The Office of First Nation Education Newsletter

September 2022



A'fis ujit l'nueyey • Litposuwakon 'Ciw  
kina'matmkewey • Skicinuwi-Kehkiketuwakon

Office of First  
Nation Education • Bureau d'éducation  
des Premières nations

## Truth and Reconciliation Week Sept 26-30



This year educators from across Canada will be marking **Truth and Reconciliation Week (TRC Week) from September 26-30**. The Office of First Nation Education is proud to support and partner with an initiative lead by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTRC) to memorialize the children lost to the Indian residential school system, honour the survivors and their families, and ensure that Canadians learn the truth of this legacy.

The NCTRC, in partnership with provinces and territories, and many other partners, will be hosting a national virtual program for all schools featuring age-appropriate materials for grades 1-12.

This year's theme is "Remembering the Children". Days 1-3 featured pre-recorded videos and a live Q & A session. Day 4 includes an in person gathering which will be live streamed. On September 30, students will be able to watch a live broadcast. To register, visit this link: <https://events.hubilo.com/trw2022/register>

Or for more information, please visit <https://nctr.ca/education/trw/>

## WIPCE 2022

Dozens of educators from across New Brunswick will be attending the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE) from Sept 26 to Sept 30 in Adelaide Australia.

WIPCE is the largest and most diverse education forum in the world with representatives from across the globe. The program features a diverse group of Indigenous presenters, networking opportunities and workshops from led by Indigenous presenters from Norway, Japan, South Africa, Hawai'i, Taiwan, and many other countries and territories.

Topics include integrating Indigenous work and art into the curriculum, learning from Elders, reconciliation in the school, Indigenous language learning, Indigenous science, and many other themes.

For more information on this event, or the 2025 WIPCE or to register (hybrid registrations are available), please visit their website:

<https://wipce2022.net/>

## New Educator Site

The Office of First Nation Education site is in the process of moving to SharePoint. This site includes links and resources for Treaty Education, Wabanaki Languages, Indian Day Schools and Residential Schools, Professional Learning Materials as well as content for Orange Shirt Day.

Note that this site is only available to educators inside a school or district network and should be live by (or shortly after) publication time: [OFNE SharePoint](#)

[The former site](#) remains live for the time being.

## Wabanaki Framework and Companion Document

The Wabanaki Framework is a document produced together with Wabanaki Elders and educators to guide future curriculum development to ensure that Wabanaki ways of being, knowing, and doing are meaningfully included in the curriculum. The framework is available publicly [here](#):

To further support educators, we have produced a [Wabanaki Framework Companion Document](#) with helpful information on including Wabanaki content, bringing in speakers to the classroom, avoiding cultural appropriation, and information on who to contact in each school district.

Both of these documents are hosted on the Office of First Nation Education public site:

<https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education/k12/content/office-of-first-nation-education.html>

This site also includes information on the role of the Office of First Nation Education and past issues of the newsletter.

## Wabanaki Languages Across the Curriculum

A future, updated curriculum set to be introduced in 2023 includes Wabanaki Languages for all students from K-8 (high school courses are also available). While many students currently have access to Indigenous language learning at the elementary and middle school levels, this curriculum encourages educators to include Wabanaki language learning for all students.

This can take many forms, and many schools have introduced Wolastoqey or Mi'kmaw content in a variety of innovative ways including initiatives such as Treaty Tuesdays or Wabanaki Wednesdays. This has included Wabanaki languages used during part of the morning announcements, students learning the Mi'kmaw Honour Song, or the Wolastoq Song, Wabanaki vocabulary posted around the classroom, and opportunities for students to learn directly from an Elder during a class visit.

The [Wabanaki Framework](#) offers some suggestions on the vocabulary which can be taught.

Educators may find the [World of Wisdom](#) a useful platform as it enables educators to have a [virtual visit with a language keeper](#). Educators may also wish to access the Mi'kmaw or Wolastoqey middle school pilot curriculum available on the [OFNE SharePoint](#).

## Cultural Immersion Camp

In August the Office Sponsored a Cultural Immersion Camp for New Brunswick educators. The week-long camp, held in the community of Sitansisk, was led by Wabanaki Elders and Knowledge Keepers.



Topics and activities included learning about and participating in ceremony, lessons about Wabanaki history, Indigenous traditions and worldviews, Indigenous storytelling, Peace and Friendship Treaties, Longhouse Teachings, Indigenous archeology, songs, and dances.

