



News and Information

January 14, 2014

Celebration of the Central Okanagan's Second Five-Year Enhancement Agreement

Kelowna, B.C. –

News reporters are invited to join in the celebration of the School District's Second Enhancement Agreement between Central Okanagan School District and the Aboriginal Communities of the Central Okanagan:

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

12:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Sensisyusten House of Learning (Gymnasium)

Westbank First Nation

1920 Quail Lane

West Kelowna, B.C.

These five-year agreements are a commitment by School Districts, local Aboriginal communities, and the Ministry of Education to work together to support Aboriginal learners. Much progress has been made since the District's first Agreement was signed. Academic supports (tutors in middle and secondary schools, breakfast and homework clubs) and unique programs such as the Academy of Indigenous Studies and Aboriginal Student Leadership courses are ensuring more students are feeling connected to their schools and successful in school. Six-year completion rates for Aboriginal students in the District have risen from 55 per cent to nearly 70% over the last five years.

There are currently 2,228 Aboriginal students in the Central Okanagan School District for the 2013-2014 school year making up 11 per cent of the overall student population of 21,995.

Quote from Moyra Baxter, Chairperson, Board of Education:

"This Agreement will provide Aboriginal students with greater opportunities for success and will encourage the sharing of their rich Aboriginal culture and history with all students. It reflects the dedication of all those who have worked so hard to bring it to fruition."

For comments, please contact:

Moyra Baxter, Chairperson of the Board of Education, 250-767-6153

Hugh Gloster, Superintendent of Schools, 250-470-3256

For additional details, please contact:

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