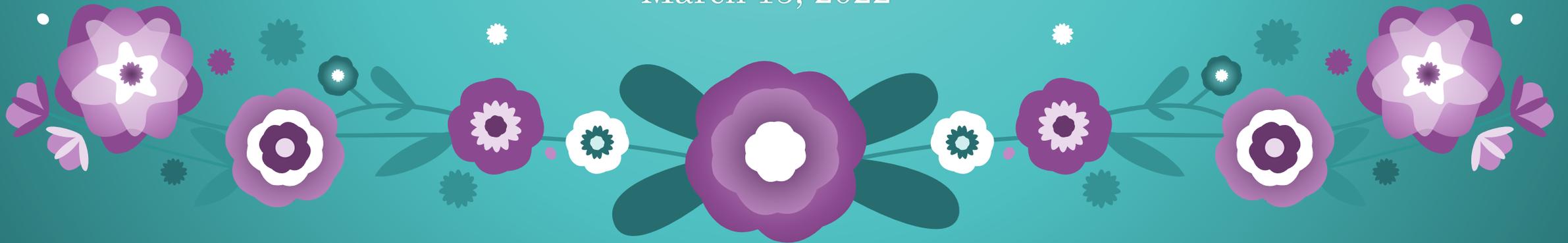


Oo'mahn'istay Iikakimaaks: You've Got a Story- Next Steps to a New Beginning

Calgary Catholic School District and Werklund School of Education:
Increasing Indigenous Student Transition to Post-Secondary

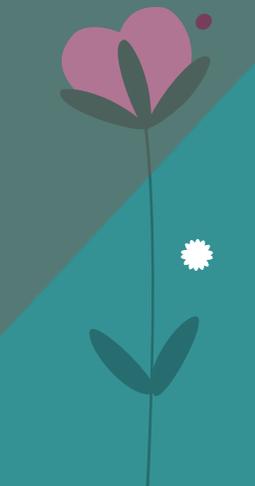
CASS Indigenous Education Conference

March 15, 2022

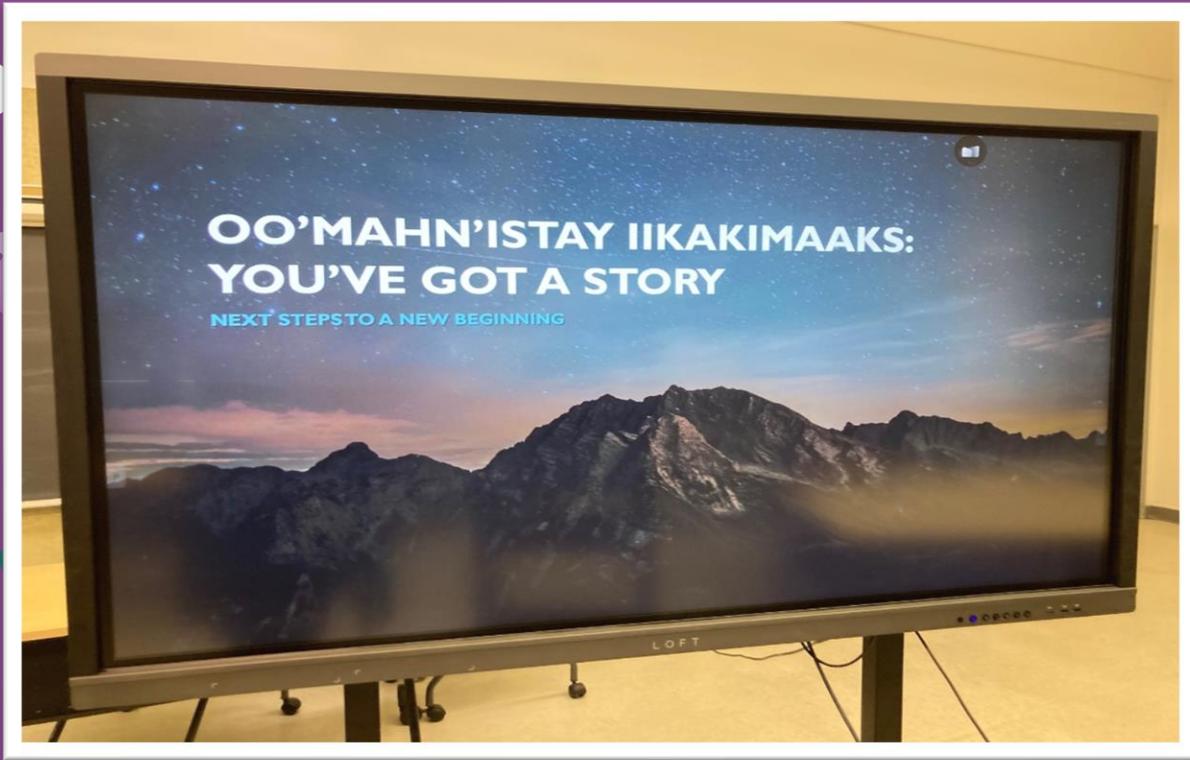




We acknowledge that we are on the traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Dene and Nakota Sioux, and the traditional homeland of the Métis Nation. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.



February 3rd, 2021

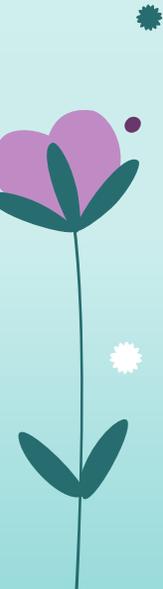
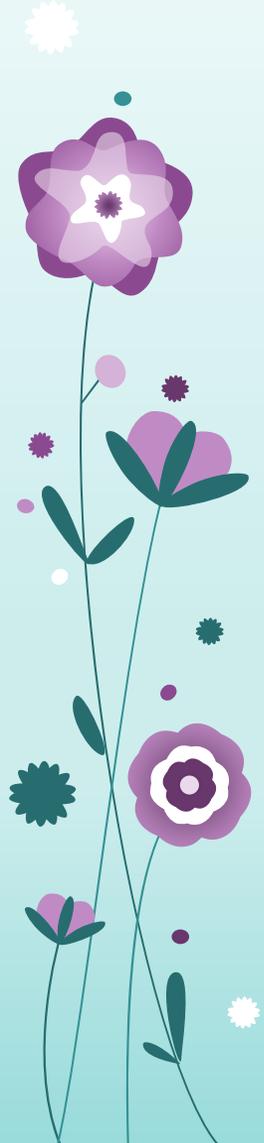


Event
headquarters



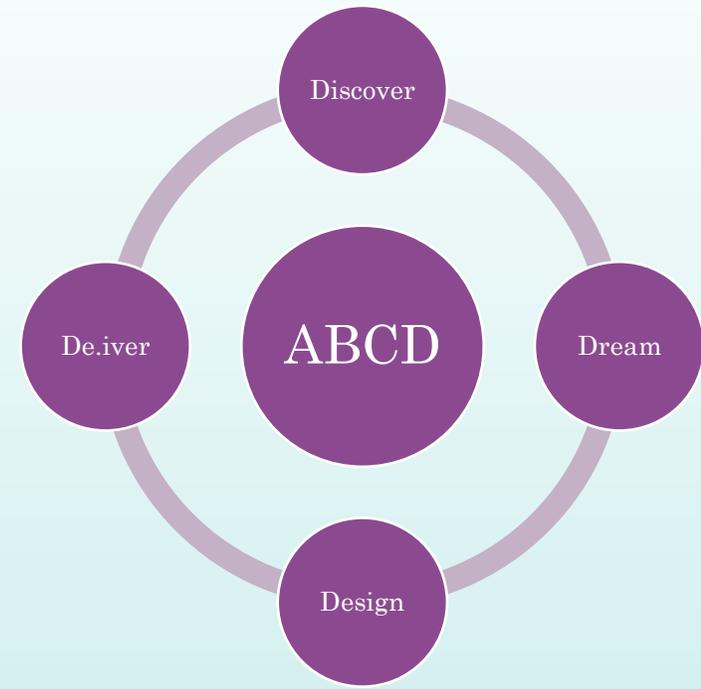
Theoretical Frameworks

- Assets Based Community Development
- Wesley-Equimaux's (2010) "Wise Practices"



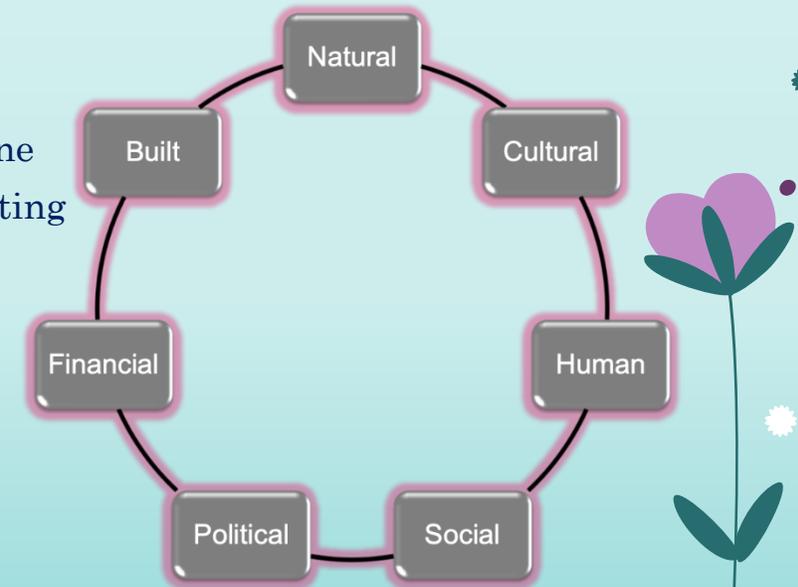
Principles of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)

- Discover a need
- Dream up ways to address that need
- Design a plan that involves the community at every step and accesses all community assets
- Deliver
- Cycle back to discovery by investigating your event
- Use appreciative inquiry



Maximize all existing capital

- Existing capital
 - Cultural: Indigenous cultures and traditions, Elders, faculty, alumni, cuisine
 - Human: Elders, District Leaders, Family Support Workers, successful existing students, former students, faculty
 - Social: Supportive, complementary organizations
 - Political: District leadership, WSE Leadership
 - Financial: WSE Grant funding, Indigenous Education Department budget
 - Built: school buildings



Maximizing Capital

If we want to change behaviour we must change environments
(Bronfenbrenner, 1979).

- Educators, Elders, Faculty, Alumni, and community event involving secondary and post-secondary schools
- **Bonded:** established relationships with staff, students, Elders, faculty, alumni
- **Bridged:**
 - UCalgary to CCSD community and supports
 - Outside supportive organizations to Indigenous families
- **Linked:**
 - CCSD Indigenous students and families to UCalgary support organizations

The “central theme of ABCD is relocation of power to communities” (Mattie & Cunningham, 2003, p. 428)

Working *with* community at every stage:

- Teamwork- We are the community and involve the community at every step in the process
 - Strong connections with Elders built
 - Community and Indigenous Liaisons
 - Indigenous community support workers
 - Successful Indigenous students
 - Indigenous catering
 - Indigenous faculty
 - Indigenous student recruiter

Wise Practices vs Best Practice (Wesley-Esquimaux & Calliou, 2010)

- “Best defined as locally appropriate actions, tools, principles or decisions that contribute significantly to the development of sustainable and equitable social conditions” (Wesley-Esquimaux & Calliou, 2010, p. 19)
- **7 factors** for successful Indigenous community development
 - Identity and culture- use of communities and cultures at every turn
 - Leadership- from both the CCSD and the nation and community
 - Strategic vision- derived from both sides, led by Indigenous contingent
 - Good governance and management
 - Accountability- follow up surveys and data analysis
 - Performance evaluation- analyze the surveys and data analysis
 - Good external relationships and partners- communication in a non-Western-neutral way

Many hands made light work.

Mohkinstsis Indigenous Community

- Wanda First Rider
- Bruce Starlight
- Edmee Comstock
- Rod Hunter

Calgary Catholic School District

- Wanda First Rider
- Angela Houle
- Patricia McCallum
- Paula Huddy

Werklund School of Education

- Dr Aubrey Hanson
- Dr Erin Spring
- Teresa Miles
- Maureen Plante



Creating
Calgary
Catholic *Together*



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
WERKLUND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



CCSD Board Priorities

- Honouring the shared responsibility of integrating foundational knowledge with Indigenous peoples' perspectives within the curriculum
- Embracing and supporting Indigenous students' success and belonging
- Nurturing successful relationships with Indigenous communities

- Encountering Christ - Faith formation for students and staff
- Promoting Catholic Communities of Caring, service, solidarity and justice
- Advocating for Catholic education

- Honouring the shared responsibility of integrating foundational knowledge with

- Providing student-centered learning and assessment practices
- Supporting the diversity of learning needs for students' success
- Encouraging staff growth to champion students' needs

- Supporting student and staff wellness and mental health
- Promoting and supporting diverse cultures and racial justice





Tsuut'ina Elder- Bruce Starlight

Morning Overview

“You belong at post-secondary”:



Blackfoot Elder- Wanda First Rider



Metis Elder- Edmee Comstock

Elders' messages



Iyarhe Nakoda Elder Rod Hunter

‘The Importance of Education’ from Treaty 7 Elders

[C:\Users\angela.houle\Desktop\FinalGrantUofCvideo \(1\).mp4](#)

What and who awaits you there:

University of Calgary Indigenous Students, Alumni, and Faculty

Current and Alumni Students

Indigenous Faculty

Dr. Yvonne Poitras Pratt

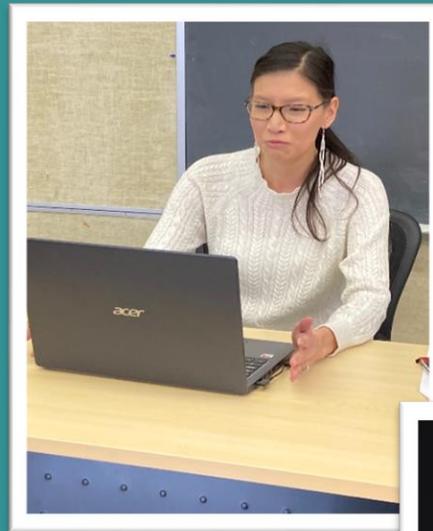
Dr. Jaime Fiddler

Dr Daniel Voth

Dr Adam Murry

Dr. Tiffany Prete

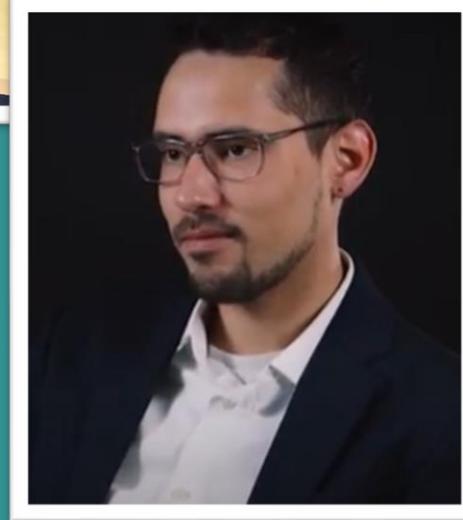
And Dr. Amy Burns



Cecelia
Littlelight-
CCSD student



Chantel
Large- CCSD
student



Tylor Pavlik



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
WERKLUND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Lunch Competition



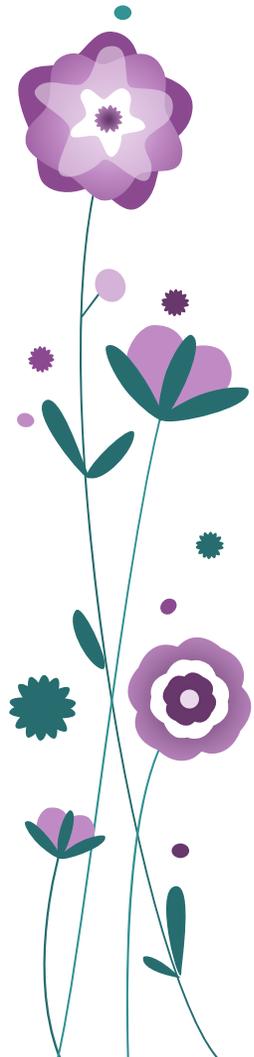
Afternoon Overview

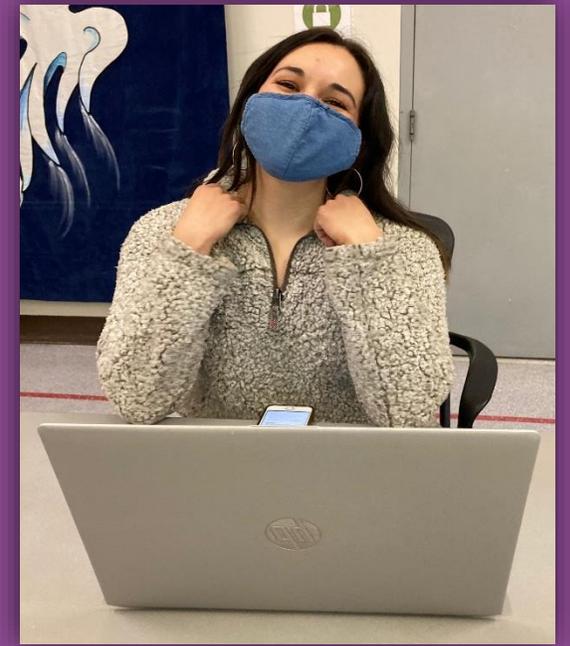
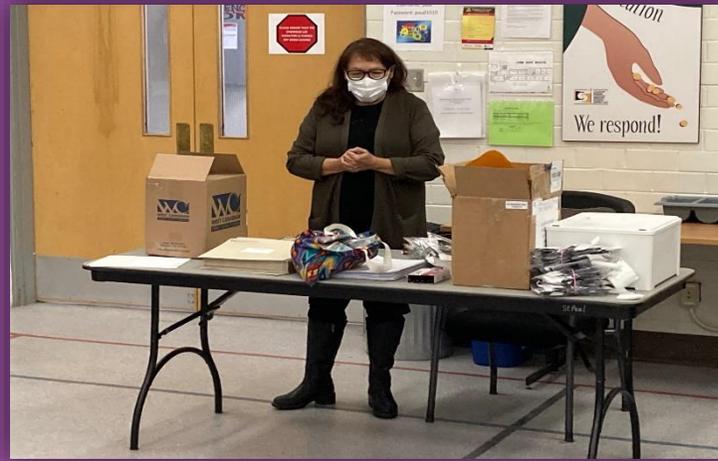
How do you get there:

- U of C Indigenous student recruiter
- CCSD Counselling
- Student packages

Take your culture with you:

- Medicine pouch teachings and creation with Blackfoot Elder Wanda First Rider
- Each package contained sage medicine for the pouches



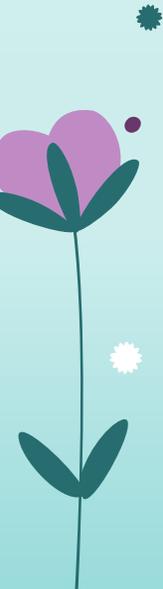


Planning, package prep, filming on campus, lunch delivery...



Discussion & Questions

- What initiatives exist in your districts that focus on Indigenous student transition to post-secondary?
- What strategies can you share around supporting Indigenous youth in seeing themselves in higher education?
- Do you have any questions for us?





Were we successful?



QR Code exit slips- 43 of 44 respondents said they were more likely to consider post-secondary education now because of the event.



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Thank you, Marsee

