



**LEADERS FOR LEARNING**  
*Aboriginal Education Leadership Council*  
**NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Year End Report 2015/2016**

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools' (NLPS) 3rd Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement (AEEA) expired this year along with an announcement from the Ministry of Education, Aboriginal Education Branch that they will no longer be involved in or require any new Enhancement Agreements.

For over 15 years, the Ministry has supported the development and implementation of AEEAs across the Province as a primary tool to increase Aboriginal student success and to bring Aboriginal Education to the forefront. NLPS was one of the first three AEEA's ever to be signed in the province of BC. Our AEEA was a signed partnership agreement between NLPS, the Ministry of Education and Aboriginal community partner groups. Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools has had long standing relationships with our Aboriginal communities and these partnerships continue to be important to our educational mandate. The NLPS AEEA spanned over a fifteen-year period and served us in many positive ways including elevating Aboriginal Education to the forefront of district plans and initiatives. Our AEEAs have left us ready and poised to move forward with new, integrated approaches to Aboriginal Education, which will be highlighted this upcoming 2016-2107 year through the development of an Aboriginal Education strategic plan informed by the spirit of our past AEEAs.

The Leaders for Learning Executive Group – L4L (Aboriginal Education Leadership Council) is comprised of representatives from the three land-based First Nations: Snuneymuxw, Stz'uminus, and Snaw-Naw-As, Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre and Mid-Island Metis Nation, along with the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools Aboriginal Education Department. L4L is unique, in that it is neither governed nor mandated by the NLPS Board of Education, instead it is a special partnership between local Aboriginal communities and NLPS themselves through great consultation deriving from past NLPS Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreements. The Group will continue to meet monthly to receive and discuss updates on key activities in the district and to share information about the communities and organizations they represent.

The following is the Leaders for Learning (“L4L”) 2015-2016 Year End Report.

## **L4L 2015-2016 Meeting Highlights**

L4L met monthly between September 2015 and June 2016 to receive and discuss updates on key activities in the district and share information about the communities and organizations they represent. Leaders for Learning attended 9 meetings between September 2015 and June 2016. A new District Vice-Principal, Aboriginal Education, Anne Tenning was hired and attended L4L meetings this year. In addition to these regular monthly meetings, the Group also participated in a number of community consultation meetings and special meetings including: Updated Facilities Plan, Transportation Plan, School Closure Working Group, Interview pane for the new Director of Human Resources and for the Vice Principal of Aboriginal Education.

Agendas and pre-reading packages were provided to the Group in advance of all meetings. Binders/tabs were also provided that included important reference documents:

- Terms Of Reference
- Calendar of Meeting Dates to September 2016
- Leader Contact Information
- Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement
- NLPS District Budget
- Aboriginal Education Budget
- Learning Services Organization Chart
- Meeting Agendas, Minutes & Action Items

### September to December 2015

- Reviewed & Signed 2015-2016 Terms of Reference
- Approved strategic plan for the 2015/16 year
- Approved L4L 2015/2016 Calendar
- Guests:
  - NLPS Director of Communications, Dale Burgos provided an overview of departmental priorities and demonstration of a new NLPS app.
  - NLPS Assistant Superintendent, Bob Eslinger, provided an overview of draft Community Threat Assessment Protocol
  - NDSS Principal Geoff Steel & Vice-Principal of Learning Alternatives Bob Brooks provided an overview of NDSS structures including recent updates to Tier 3 programming.

### January to June 2016

- Reviewed & Approved 2016/2017 Aboriginal Budget and Staffing Budget numbers
- Approved Year-end survey protocol
- Conducted a 2015-2016 Satisfaction Survey
- Approved 2016-2017 L4L Strategic Meeting Plan
- Guests:
  - NLPS Superintendent, John Blain provided overview of the proposed catchment changes.
  - NLPS Principal Kevin Brand provided introduction and philosophy as new, Principal of Bayview Elementary School.
- Board of Trustees and Leaders met at Snuneymuxw First Nation for year-end gathering.