



MEDIA RELEASE

July 21, 2022

Provincial Indigenous Education Council Appointment

School District 91 Board Chair Dave Christie has accepted the appointment to join the BC School Trustee Association's (BCSTA) nine-member Indigenous Education Council.

The Indigenous Education Committee represents the BCSTA to develop and make recommendations for the crucial work of improving Indigenous student achievement. The committee also continually seeks to heighten knowledge, awareness, and understanding of Indigenous matters and further Reconciliation.

Dave Christie commented: "I am honored and excited to have this opportunity to be a part of the Provincial Indigenous Education Council. As School District 91 operates on the unceded, ancestral territories of fourteen First Nations and is working diligently towards creating equity through conscious acts of Reconciliation, I felt it was important to accept the invitation to join the Council. This position will provide a voice for SD91 and other northern regions in the continued effort to improve Indigenous student success."

Current Superintendent Manu Madhok commented: "Dave is passionate about improving student outcomes and the school experience and will represent the District and the northern BC well. His dedication to his role as a Trustee has been ever since being elected almost four years ago."

Backgrounder:

Annually the BCSTA solicits interest from the membership for participation on various committees. Following the Annual General Meeting, the President considers requests based on factors such as geographical representation, continuity, and renewal and appoints members to committees accordingly. As outlined in the BCSTA bylaws, the Members of the Indigenous Education Committee are appointed by the President.

Recent work of the committee includes involvement in planning and facilitating a day of Indigenous Learning and a dedicated session at the last AGM focused on honouring the children found on residential school sites. The committee also requested the Ministry of Education to create a senior leadership position for Indigenous Education, increase targeted funding, provide continuous access to In-Service for teachers, and develop resources for teachers in training.

The BCSTA has advocated for the First Peoples Course to be included in graduation requirements for improved funding for Community Link and language curriculum, and they promoted support for actions from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

For more information on this committee, please see:

<https://bcsta.org/get-to-know-the-indigenous-education-committee/>

<https://bcsta.org/resources-and-services/knowledge-series/>

For further information, please contact:

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