

# The Office of First Nation Education Newsletter

December 2021



## Respect and Diversity Talks

Dalhousie Regional High School recently hosted World of Wisdom Wellness Presenter Linda Morehouse for a talk on Respect and Diversity as part of a weeklong event on that topic.

20 teachers and 280 students were in attendance for this event which was described as “empowering” by Colleen Harquail, a guidance counsellor at the high school. Harquail described the event as “engaging” and “empowering”.

The presentation involved examining perceptions, and misconceptions and showed how misinformation can lead to biases.

To book a session with Linda, please visit:

<https://world-of-wisdom.ca/portfolio/wellness-and-well-being/>

## Wabanaki Holistic Education Framework

The Wabanaki Holistic Education Framework, or Wolokehkitimkil in Wolastoqey and Kolu'lk kina'masuti in Mi'kmaw is a continuum of learning being designed to provide an outline for how Indigenous education can be woven throughout the K-12 curriculum. The framework has been finalized and is currently being implemented to ensure that Wabanaki perspectives are meaningfully included across the curriculum.

At present 28% of provincial curriculum documents include Wabanaki or other Indigenous content. We expect this number to increase greatly over the next two years.

As in previous editions, you'll notice several beautiful pieces of art in this newsletter. These were provided to our office by Mi'kmaw artist Pauline Young.



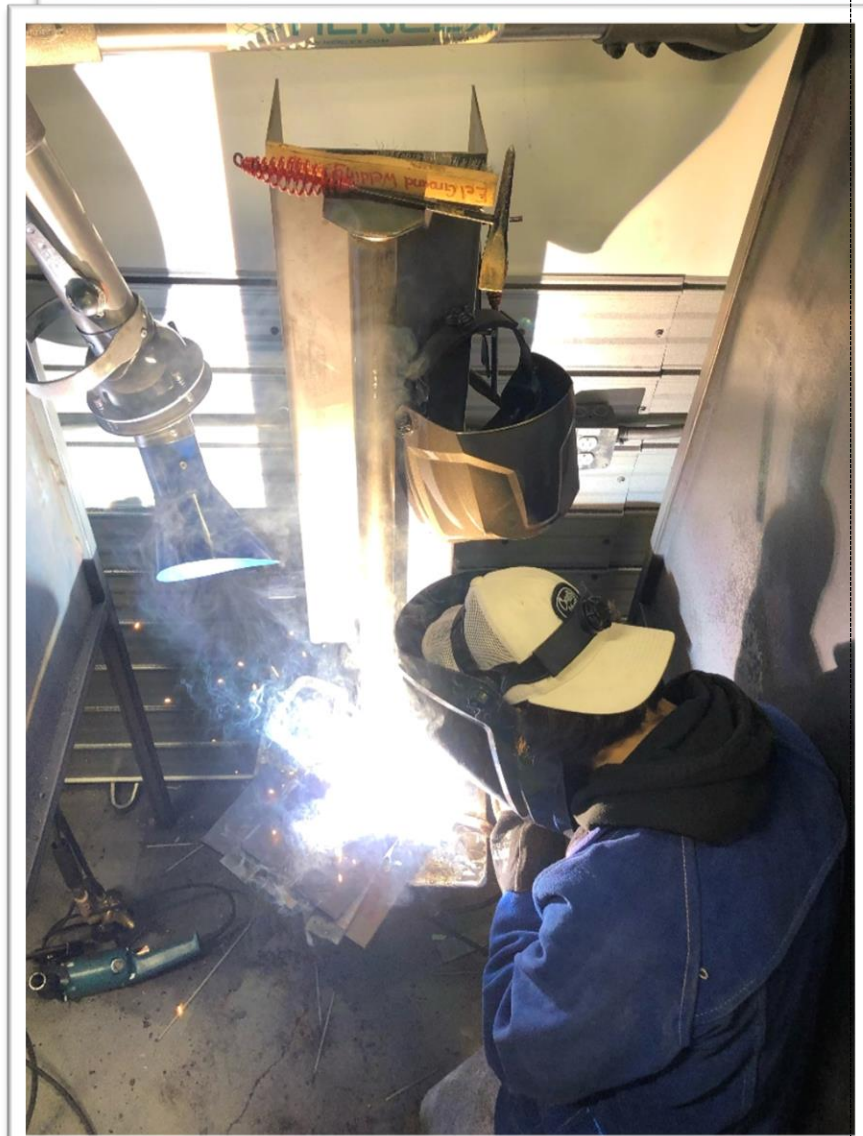
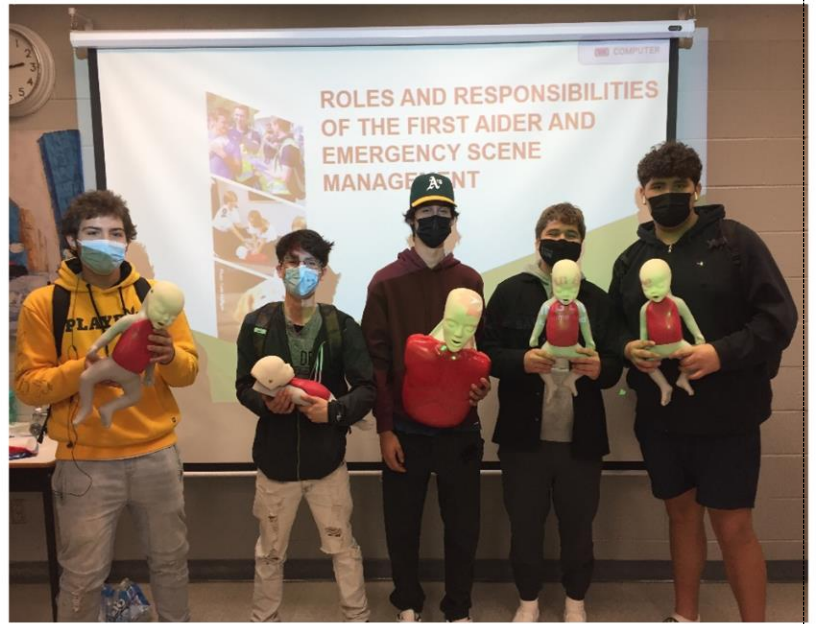
## Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and happy holidays. We hope you all have an opportunity for meaningful rest.

*-The Office of First Nation Education team*

## Welding at Natoaganeg

The Natoaganeg Welding students recently completed their First Aid and CPR course. They are now working hard on preparing for their upcoming CWB welding certification test. Once testing is complete, they will move on to designing, fabricating, and welding a new community trailer. Lots of exciting things happening!



## Middle School Mi'kmaw and Wolastoqey Language Curriculum Update

New Mi'kmaw and Wolastoqey language courses for middle schools are being piloted this semester. Feedback from the pilot teachers will be used to improve these courses and help to inform further Wabanaki language development. These courses feature improved supports and resources for teachers.

New elementary curriculum is currently under development and is expected to be released next year.

## Wabanaki Language Mentorship

The Office of First Nation Education is currently developing a language mentorship program to help support Mi'kmaw and Wolastoqey language teachers in provincial schools. At present, mentors are available to connect either virtually or in person. For more information, please contact [Craig.Williamson@gnb.ca](mailto:Craig.Williamson@gnb.ca)

## Wabanaki Stories, Lessons and Cultural Teachings

We would like to respectfully invite Elders to share stories, lessons, cultural teachings, observations or suggestions to this newsletter. Please contact [Craig.Williamson@gnb.ca](mailto:Craig.Williamson@gnb.ca) or any other member of the OFNE team.



## Word Wall

The Office of First Nation Education recently reached out to Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey, Francophone, and Anglophone educators to ask them what words or concepts they think best describe the role of education in young people's lives. These words were collected and then affixed to the wall in the lobby of Place 2000, complementing the four paintings of feathers by First Nation artist Pauline Young.

The words are in all four languages -- Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey, French and English. Common themes that emerged from this exercise include the notions that education should be based on truth, respect, love, wisdom, balance, and connectedness. We move forward... together.



## Branch Name and Logo

We would like to thank language keepers Walter Paul, Mona Francis, Serena Sock and Imelda Perley for helping us to translate our branch name. We also acknowledge Brandon Mitchell for this beautiful design.



A'fis ujit l'nueyey  
kina'matmkewey

Litposuwakon 'Ciw  
Skicinuwi-Kehkiketuwakon

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**4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> PERIOD**  
**AT GITPO SPIRIT LODGE**

ASD-N ICE Center is excited to be offering a new course next semester: Fisheries, Forestry and Environment.

This course will follow the Community Learning Model that we are currently using in our Electrical and Welding courses