



AHCAHK SPIRIT BEAR MUSKWA

KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION LIFE LONG LEARNING

MARCH 30, 2024 ISSUE

LEARN MORE ABOUT US ONLINE!



www.kfnlearning.com



Kapaweno First Nation School

Phone: 780.751.0008 | E-mail: admin@kfnschool.ca



Revitalizing Support: Service Structures for Students and Families at First Nation Collegiate

Kapawe'no First Nation - The First Nation Collegiate embrace a sacred trust that molds a system reflecting Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimacihowin. The guiding principles support the operations of our Student Services, ensuring that every step we take is grounded in tradition while propelling us towards the future.

Our student services are directed by our Seven Sacred Grandmother and Grandfather Teachings. These principles, ranging from Sâkhitowin (Love) with the guidance of Kihew (Eagle) to Tapwewin (Truth) led by Miskinahk (Turtle), ensure that our support for students is comprehensive and balanced.

more on page 5

Rhythm on the Global Stage for Aysha Bellegarde

Kapaweno First Nation - Aysha Bellegarde's journey in the world of dance began at the age of four in Regina, Saskatchewan. Since then, she has immersed herself in various dance forms including jazz, tap, ballet, acro, pointe, lyrical, and contemporary.

Over the years, Aysha has garnered numerous awards at dance competitions across Saskatchewan, showcasing her exceptional talent and dedication. Her passion for dance has even taken her to Disneyland, where she participated in a parade. Currently, Aysha continues to pursue her passion for dance at Repertoire Dance Society in High Prairie. Greatness achieved for Aysha, continue to shine!



Tradition Meets Tomorrow: Inspirational Hand Game Session with students

Kapawé'no First Nation - In the heart of Spring's rejuvenation, Kapawé'no Nêhiyawak School and Buffalo Bay Academy witnessed a unique blend of tradition and learning. Knowledge keeper Herman Sutherland Sr led a hand game session, an emblematic cultural activity of the Nêhiyawak miyo pimacihowin for the students.

The hand game session was a living exhibition of Nêhiyawak infusing traditional wisdom into the learning experience. Knowledge Keepers Sutherland's expertise and engaging approach provided a positive learning atmosphere, deeply resonating with the students and staff alike.



We have launched a spring sport for everyone to enjoy!

BASEBALL

JOIN US!

email: admin@kfnschool.ca | phone: (780) 751-0008



Celebrating Excellence at our schools through the eyes of our former Olympian: Brian D. Thomas

Kapaweno First Nation - Kapawe'no NĒhiyawak School's Grade 5/6 class, under the expert guidance of Ms. Sam Tomkins, proudly showcases the accomplishments of Brian D. Thomas, an inspiring figure whose athletic prowess extends beyond national records to the global stage of the Olympics. His legacy of dedication and excellence continues to influence the students and nation.

From Record Holder to Role Model

Brian D. Thomas, a former Olympic athlete, set a Canadian high school record in long jump that stands unchallenged to this day. His commitment to athletics earned him a scholarship at the University of Alabama, where he became a three-time All-American athlete. His journey from the Olympics to becoming a valued educator



and community activist illustrates the power of perseverance and discipline.

A Legacy of Leadership and Learning

Today, Brian D. Thomas enriches Kapawe'no NĒhiyawak School and Buffalo Bay Academy as the Athletic Director. He integrates his

comprehensive experience in sports with a deep commitment to student development. His approach nurtures athletic ability and instills the core values of respect, determination, and academic excellence, shaping the leaders of tomorrow. He leads our Confident Student Athlete program with the support from the administration. Great work Ms Sam Tompkins and our Grade 5/6 students.

Scan the code for more info and news about Brian Thomas at the kfnlearning.com website



<https://project57.weebly.com/who-is-brian-d-thomas.html>

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1.3594684>

Join the DRAMA club

EVERY WEDNESDAYS AT 3:30 PM

For more information please contact:
 Miss Aaron aaron.courtorielle@kfnschool.ca ■ Miss Wendy Wendy.Lamouche@kfnschool.ca
 or call the school at (780) 751-0008.



Join our **E-SPORTS** Journey!



*Develop essential skills
like strategic thinking,
teamwork, and communication
while engaging in your
favorite games.*

SCAN THE CODE
FOR MORE INFO!



www.kfnlearning.com/esports



✉ admin@kfnlearning.com

☎ (780) 751-0008



Mrs Berlinda Sharkawi, latest addition to the team

Inspiring Growth at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School

Kapawe'no First Nation - We welcome Mrs Berlinda Sharkawi as the latest addition to the team at Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School. Growing up in Grouard, she now living in High Prairie, Mrs. Berlinda is dedicated to making a difference in students' lives.

Her focus in teaching spans from kindergarteners to high school students, finding inspiration in each grade's unique aspects.

Believing that education offers daily learning opportunities for both teachers and students, Mrs. Berlinda embraces each day as a chance to learn, succeed, and grow. Outside of school, she manages a family business in



High Prairie, spends weekends traveling with her son, and visits her other two children who are pursuing university education. Mrs. Berlinda's commitment to

teaching and her community involvement exemplify her dedication to fostering educational growth.

Revitalizing Support: Service Structures for Students and Families from page 1

Lifelong Learning is dedicated to upholding sovereignty and embracing the wisdom of our Lifelong Learning Council. Our Collegiate, which includes Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, Buffalo Bay Academy, FNVLC, First Nation College and First Nation Outreach, are unified in delivering lifelong learning that resonates with our Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimacihowin.

NEHIYEWAK PIMACIHOWIN (EAST) (Spirit)

- Our commitment is to embed Nêhiyawak practices and Nêhiyawêwin across our collegiate, respecting and reflecting the Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimacihowin in every aspect of our curriculum and nation interactions.

HOLISTIC STUDENT SERVICES (SOUTH)

(Physical) - We offer holistic support to

address the multifaceted needs of our students and their families ensuring that our services cater to their academic, emotional, cultural, and social well-being.

SUPPORT (WEST) (Emotional)

- Educators are empowered through continuous development, and our connections with the Nation ensure our learning aligns with our Nation's aspirations.

SAFETY & WELLNESS (NORTH) (Mind)

- Our focus is on fostering a safe and respectful learning environment, promoting wellness through programs aligned with Nêhiyawak practices and contemporary wellbeing principles.

IT SERVICES (SKY) (Vision) - IT support and culturally sensitive technology solutions both in person and online support our vision for accessible and comprehensive learning.

LEADERSHIP (MOTHER EARTH)

(Foundation) - Through initiatives that instill pride and empower leadership, we encourage students to actively participate in the betterment of our Nation and their own futures.

These guiding principles affirm our dedication to a learning environment where Nêhiyawak Miyo Pimacihowin guide us, where innovation is embraced, and where every student, teacher, and Nation member finds value and empowerment.

FIRST NATION COLLEGE

Where tradition meets the future. Knowledge ever increasing!

First Nation College is a special place where we learn about our traditions and get ready for the future. We mix old teachings from our ancestors with new things we need to know for today's world. This is where students like you can grow strong in who they are and learn lots of new things. We believe that knowing about our past makes us ready for tomorrow.

At the heart of our mission and vision lies the aspiration to infuse our students with resilience, wisdom, and profound knowledge. We envision graduates who, while deeply connected to their heritage, are adept at navigating the global milieu with finesse.

Mission and Vision

Mission: To enrich learning rooted in Knowledge Ever Increasing blending ancestral wisdom with academics.

Vision: Fostering a learning environment with ancestral wisdom and contemporary knowledge to face and shape tomorrow's challenges.



more on page 7

FIRST NATION COLLEGE

APPLY NOW!

(780) 751-0008

email: admin@kfnschool.ca

SCAN THIS CODE TO LEARN MORE

Guiding Principles for First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)

1. Nation Bonding - Our digital platform thrives on the essence of love, fostering an environment where students and educators support, care for, and nurture each other, replicating the warmth of face-to-face interactions in a virtual setting.
2. Inclusive Dialogue - Grounded in the teaching of respect, we ensure every voice is valued. By creating spaces for diverse experiences and views, we cultivate a culture where each member's perspective enriches our collective understanding.
3. Boundless Exploration - With the spirit of courage, we urge our students to step outside their comfort zones. Our platform champions innovative learning methods and encourages members to tackle challenges head-on, redefining the boundaries of virtual education.
4. Authentic Engagement - Honesty, as a guiding beacon, ensures our community remains transparent and genuine. Every interaction, content shared, and feedback loop at FNVLC is anchored in truth and ethical practice.
5. Enlightened Learning - Beyond mere information dissemination, our platform emphasizes transforming knowledge into wisdom. Drawing from ancestral teachings, we guide students to reflect deeply, ensuring a balance between age-old insights and contemporary contexts.
6. Collaborative Growth - Recognizing the collective effort behind every milestone, our principle of humility ensures we view our achievements as a communal success. Every individual's contribution, no matter how small, is celebrated and acknowledged.
7. Pursuit of Authenticity - Steeped in the spirit of truth-seeking, we are committed to an education that encourages probing questions and genuine interactions. Our learners embark on journeys of self-discovery, understanding, and sincere knowledge acquisition.

First Nation College... from page 6

Through these principles, FNVLC aims to craft a holistic virtual education experience, harmonizing ancestral teachings with the needs of the modern digital age.



Future Steps in Employment

Graduates from First Nation College find themselves equipped with a unique blend of ancestral wisdom and modern skill sets. Our alumni have secured prominent positions in diverse fields, from community leadership and education to corporate sectors and entrepreneurial ventures.

Our dedicated career services team offers resources, networking events, and mentorship opportunities, guiding students towards fulfilling career paths.



We are proud to offer a diverse range of Certificate and Diploma programs this Fall:

CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ASSISTANT
LEVEL 1 AND 2 (2 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE)

INDIGENOUS EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE
LEVEL 1, 2 AND 3 (2 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE)

INDIGENOUS BUSINESS MANAGEMENT DIPLOMA
(2 YEAR AND 3 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE)

INDIGENOUS LAW(F) LAND, AIR, WATER, FIRE DIPLOMA

INDIGENOUS OFFICE ADMINISTRATION DIPLOMA
(2 YEAR AND 3 YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE)





For more information please call: (780)751-0008 or e-mail: admin@kfnlearning.com



Admissions

First Nation College believes in an inclusive and holistic admissions process. Candidates are evaluated based on their academic achievements, involvement in their nation, and passion for learning. The admissions window opens in spring, with details available on our website. Our dedicated admissions team is available for queries, ensuring prospective students have all the information they need.



Financial Aid & Scholarships:

We believe in providing every deserving student an opportunity. Our financial aid office assists students with grants, scholarships, and loan information. Discover the First Nation College difference. Join us on this transformative journey. Enroll today!

First Nation College isn't just about acquiring knowledge—it's about understanding where that knowledge comes from. Here, you won't just learn about the world, but also your place within it, anchored by Nehiyawak traditions. Join us and be a part of this transformative journey.

Please register today at:

www.firstnationcollege.com
or email us at admin@firstnationcollege.com

Implementing our First Nation Collegiate Student Services Human Resource Plan

Kapawe'no First Nation - At First Nation Collegiate, our Human Resource Plan is designed to synergize Nēhiyawak miyo pimachihowin with modern educational methods.

This plan is foundational for our Student Services, outlining nine positions that uphold our mission and values:

- **Student Support Coordinator:** Implements holistic support strategies, ensuring students receive comprehensive care and development aligned with Nēhiyawak Pimachihowin principles.
- **Guidance Counselor:** Provides students with advice and support on educational and career paths, aiding in their personal and professional development.
- **Safety Officer:** Develops and enforces safety protocols, ensuring a secure learning environment for all students and staff.
- **Student Liaison:** Acts as the bridge between students and faculty, addressing academic and personal needs, and enhancing communication.
- **Human Resources Manager:** Leads staff development initiatives and manages the crisis response team, ensuring staff are well-supported and trained.
- **IT Support Specialist:** Responsible for maintaining and updating the IT infrastructure, facilitating effective technology integration in teaching and learning.



- **Elder Knowledge Keeper in residence:** Plays a vital role in imparting traditional wisdom, ensuring that our Nēhiyawak miyo pimachihowin is integrated into the learning framework and leads with sharing circles with our students.
- **Resource Support Assistant:** Provides essential resources and support, aiding both students and staff in accessing the tools they need for success.
- **Fundraising Team Leader:** Organizes and directs fundraising efforts, teaching students valuable leadership skills and supporting nation projects.



Each role is pivotal to the fabric of First Nation Collegiate, contributing uniquely to our goal of nurturing a generation that is academically accomplished and deeply rooted in Nēhiyawak Pimachihowin.

Our strategic HR plan ensures a cohesive, supportive, and culturally rich learning environment, fostering the growth and development of both students and staff. Knowledge ever increasing...

FIRST NATION VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTRE (FNVLC)

“Empowering First Nation Students through Innovative Virtual Education”

Our Journey

Since its establishment on April 1st, 2021, the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) has embarked on a pioneering journey that seeks to redefine education on Turtle Island for students in Grades 4-12.

Our focus extends far beyond the classroom, encompassing all those who aspire to explore and wholeheartedly embrace the rich heritage of our ancestral way of living. We aim to create a future where knowledge transcends traditional boundaries, curiosity knows no bounds, and the immense potential of First Nation students is fully realized.

Mission-Vision-

Mission

“To provide cutting-edge virtual school experiences that transcend traditional boundaries and unlock the potential of First Nation students, as well as those eager to learn about our ancestral ways.”

Vision

“Interactive virtual learning that transports students to higher order thinking and digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations.”



Our journey is driven by the following:

A Commitment to Transformation

At FNVLC, we stand at the forefront of a transformative movement in education. We believe that learning knows no bounds, and through the seamless fusion of the physical and digital realms, we've created an educational experience unlike any other. It's an experience that doesn't merely impart knowledge but integrates the very essence of Nēhiyawak culture and wisdom into every lesson.

An Innovative Approach

Our approach is a testament to innovation. We are dedicated to pushing the boundaries of what's possible in education. From curriculum development to instructional design, we are constantly evolving to meet the dynamic needs of our students. We understand that each student is unique, and our commitment to personalized learning ensures that every individual can thrive in their way.

Empowering Through Education

We firmly believe that every student, regardless of their background, deserves the very best education. Our commitment to excellence is unwavering. Our educators and staff are not just mentors; they are dedicated champions of student success. They work tirelessly to create a nurturing environment that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment.

more on page 13

First Nation Collegiate schools participate in Winter Festival 2024

Kapawe'no First Nation - On March 23, 2024 around 9:30AM the wheels got churning with the first activity of Winter Festival 2024. Mrs. Jackie class walked with Mr. Thomas toward the beautiful Buffalo Bay on a pictures perfect sunny morning. Along the way we stopped at Devils creek and he gave the student a short history lesson on the area that we were looking over.

Principal Thesssin talked about the buffalo and the attraction to the area which was the abundance of sweet grass by the animals of the day.

Following the walk the students enjoyed a hot beverage of hot chocolate and briefly returned to their classroom. Where the elders knowledge keepers was present with old time stories and traditional way of the Nēhiyawak. Each class was offered the same walk and hot chocolate and storytelling.

Following lunch and the experience of



the permanent fire which burned thru the entire festival and looked after by Mr. Mack; the students enjoyed the different opportunities made available by the organizers.

The big surprise for the students was the frozen theme bouncy house which was a feature attraction for the student. It was set up as a

theme park attraction which was enjoyed by all.

Most important there was no injuries and the majority of students really appreciated the activities that was put on by the organizing committee, who worked tirelessly to make it happened.

Thank you to the staff, relations we

have and sponsor who stepped up to help us out. All the donations by staff the medical staff over at Kapawe'no Health and all the contributors to make this day possible.

Brian D. Thomas (Athletic Director and organizer along with Scotty Courtorielle and Rod Sutherland)



DRUM

Group and lessons

LEARN

Hand drum and grandfather drum
Drum making and painting of drums
Hand rattles with our Female students

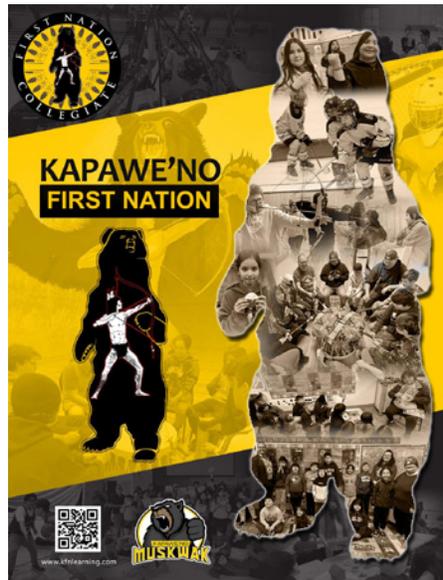
**EVERY WEDNESDAY
AND FRIDAYS
DURING LUNCH HOUR**

Please stay connected with
Mr. Cory Cardinal Jr
for practice times, lessons
and any other questions.

Charting the Future by establishing the Lifelong Learning Council and Implementing the 2024-29 Strategic Plan

Kapawe'no First Nation - The strive for excellence and greatness continues. Kapawe'no First Nation, part of the larger Nēhinawak Nation, has taken a significant step in learning development by endorsing the Lifelong Learning (LLL) Strategic Plan 2024-29. This plan upholds the Nation's unceded right to education, integrating Nēhinawak identity, culture, and sovereignty. It reflects commitments to past agreements and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, emphasizing educational support aligned with Nēhinawak miyo pimacihowin.

At the core of the plan is the integration of traditional teachings with modern learning methodologies. It includes the Seven Grandfather/Grandmother Teachings and the Nehiyawak miyo pimacihowin, aiming to cultivate economic, cultural, and spiritual growth in the Nation. The Chief and Council's endorsement underscores a commitment to principles and actionable steps fostering



continual knowledge development.

"The establishment of the Lifelong Learning Council is a strategic move to ensure effective implementation and governance of our

learning," said Hereditary Chief Sydney L Halcrow. This LLL council, rooted in the Nation's codes, signifies a commitment to self-governance and cultural preservation. It will oversee the strategic plan, ensuring it remains dynamic and reflective of the Nation's evolving needs.

The strategic plan's nature as a living document ensures ongoing engagement with the Nation, including Elders and educational leaders. This approach allows the plan to evolve, adapting to the Nation's changing needs and aspirations.

The Lifelong Learning Strategic Plan 2024-29 and the Lifelong Learning Council represent a transformative approach to education within the Kapawe'no First Nation. It's a model of how education can align with a nation's cultural, spiritual, and sovereign identity, serving as an example for indigenous and nation-centric learning systems globally. Knowledge ever increasing.

KAPAWE'NO NĒHIYAWAK SCHOOL

MUSIC LESSONS

MR. FRED MACK
INSTRUCTOR

EVERY MONDAY
AFTER SCHOOL

✉ admin@kfnschool.ca

📘 [kapawenofirstnationschool](https://www.kfnlearning.com)

☎ (780) 751-0008



Celebrating Nēhiyawak miyo Pimachihowin Team Spirit: The Winter Festival with Spirit North

Kapawe'no First Nation - The Winter Festival on day two, enhanced by the involvement of Spirit North, turned into a remarkable event of our ancestral ways and active participation. Central to the festival were traditional Nēhiyawak and Blackfoot games, which were not only a source of fun but also a means of connecting students to Nēhiyawak miyo Pimachihowin.

One of the highlights was the game of Double Ball, a traditional activity with profound cultural roots in both Nēhiyawak and Blackfoot Nations. Played predominantly by women, this game, resembling modern lacrosse, required high physical endurance and strategic team play. The equipment and rules varied regionally, but generally, it involved two small balls connected by a leather thong, caught and thrown using a curved stick. The aim was to score points by hitting a target in the opponent's area, with an intriguing field length that could stretch up to a mile. The game's importance goes beyond mere physical exercise, historically serving as a symbol of strength and empowerment, particularly among women.

Additionally, the festival featured Back Tag, an engaging and cooperative game that highlights the importance of agility and strategy. Other games like Shinny, akin to hockey, and Corraling the Buffalo, emphasizing teamwork and strategy, were also part of the festival's activities, offering a broad view of the rich sporting traditions of the Nēhiyawak and Blackfoot Nation.

"The day was a celebration of traditional games great learning experience. Spirit North's involvement helped to underscore the importance of such cultural exchanges", said Mr Fred Mack.

The festival's success is a testament to the enduring appeal and relevance of these traditional games. It was a day of joyful competition, cultural enrichment, and community spirit, honoring the teachings of



Love, Respect, Courage, Wisdom, Humility, Honesty, and Truth, which are the cornerstone of Nēhiyawak miyo Pimachihowin.

"Their work in empowering our youth through sport and play is pivotal in fostering both physical well-being and cultural pride", stated Mr Mack.

For more information on Spirit North and their mission to engage indigenous youth through sports, visit their website at Spirit North.

Sources: FNMI Games for Physical Education on Cree and Blackfoot games (fnmigamesforpe.weebly.com), U.S. National Park Service on Double Ball (nps.gov).

About Spirit North

Spirit North plays a vital role in transforming the lives of Indigenous youth through sport and play. This national charitable organization focuses on empowering children and youth to learn, grow, and thrive by connecting them to sport, play, the outdoors, and the land. Their activities and programs are designed to develop leadership skills, improve health and wellness, and inspire participants to realize their full potential.

Their approach is holistic, aiming to improve the lives of youth and their communities by focusing on education, community, and health. In partnership with schools and educators, Spirit North programs support academic outcomes, attendance, and encourage the development of innovative curricula around activities, enhancing learning experiences in areas such as leadership and language. Community engagement is also a key component, involving elders, family members, Indigenous advisors, local educators, and community leaders to build involvement, capacity, and sustainability.

The health aspect of Spirit North's methodology allows children and youth to experience healthy outdoor activities, promoting physical health as well as increased feelings of confidence, joy, belonging, and resilience. This method has shown significant positive impacts, with a majority of students reporting that the activities made them feel good and helped them feel better emotionally.

Their activities span across seasons, including cross-country skiing, mountain biking, canoeing, and land-based games. By providing these diverse opportunities, Spirit North ensures engagement and excitement among participants, enhancing their connection to the land and their communities.

Founded by Beckie Scott, an Olympic gold and silver medalist in cross-country skiing, Spirit North is built on the belief that sport holds the power to change lives, transform communities, inspire individuals, heal, and teach. The organization's impact extends beyond the youth, benefiting volunteers, family members, and entire communities through its inclusive and dynamic programs.

For more detailed information on their programs, partnerships, and impact, visit Spirit North's website at: www.spiritnorthxc.ca

First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 9

The Guiding Principles

Our guiding principles for the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) are foundational beliefs and values that shape its mission, vision, and approach to education. Our guiding principles include:



Cultural Respect and Preservation: To honor and respect our ancestral cultures, traditions, and languages, and to work towards their preservation and revitalization;

Inclusivity and Equity: To provide equitable access to quality education for all First Nation students, regardless of their location, background, or circumstances;



Community Engagement: To actively involve and engage with the local Indigenous communities, Elders, and knowledge keepers to ensure the curriculum and approach are culturally relevant and meaningful;

Holistic Education: To offer a well-rounded education that includes cultural teachings, traditional knowledge, and values alongside academic subjects.

Innovation and Adaptation: To be open to innovative approaches in education and adapt to the changing needs of students while

Our journey is driven by the following... from page 9

Inclusivity Beyond Borders

As we look to the future, our commitment to virtual education remains steadfast. Through our innovative Indio Network platform, we are ready to offer another year of transformative learning experiences. We'll continue to stream our lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island, ensuring that access to quality education is not limited by location or circumstance. Our focus is to extend educational opportunities to all corners of our vast and diverse Turtle Island.

Venturing into the Future

The future of education is boundless, and at FNVLC, we are poised to embrace it fully. We're venturing into uncharted territories, expanding our virtual content to encompass a wide range of subjects. Our focus includes interactive virtual field trips that transport students to far-flung places, digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations. The possibilities are limitless, and we're determined to explore them all.

Join Us in the Journey

Welcome to a new era of education, where the possibilities are as boundless as the sky. We invite you to join us on this transformative journey of discovery, learning, and cultural celebration. Together, we can redefine education and empower the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and visionaries.



preserving cultural integrity;

Empowerment: To empower students to become leaders, thinkers, and contributors to their communities and the broader society;

Sustainability: To ensure the sustainability of Indigenous cultures and languages by incorporating them into the educational experience.

more on page 15

First Nation Collegiate Student Services Guiding Principles takes next steps with implementation

Kapawé'no First Nation - Rooted in our dedication to the Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin, our new implemented guiding principles reflect our commitment to our learning aspirations and Nation responsibilities. Our holistic approach intertwines knowledge, culture, technology, and nationhood, guided by the 7 directional principles and the 7 grandmother and grandfather teachings of the Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin.

Incorporating the 7 Sacred Grandmother and Grandfather Teachings:

1. Sâkhitowin (Love) - Kihew (Eagle): Nurturing students with warmth and understanding.
2. Manacitowin (Respect) - Sakawmostos (Buffalo): Honoring each individual's unique journey.
3. Sohkitewin (Courage) - Muskwa (Bear): Building bravery and resilience.
4. Kwayaskitowin (Honesty) - Mistapew (Sasquatch): Upholding integrity in all endeavors.
5. Iyiniwiniwin (Wisdom) - Amisk (Beaver): Pursuing continuous learning.
6. Tapahteyimisiwiniwin (Humility) - Mahikan (Wolf): Embracing humility in daily learning.
7. Tapwewin (Truth) - Miskinahk (Turtle): Teaching genuine history and values.



Kapawé'no First Nation, integral to the Nehiyawak Nation, stands with Hereditary Chief Sydney L. Halcrow and Council Members Debbie Chalifoux and Pamala Halcrow at its core. Our Lifelong Learning Council will foster learning, balancing traditional wisdom and modern learning needs.

Our First Nation Collegiate including Kapawé'no Nêhiyawak School, Buffalo Bay Academy, FNVLC adhere to Nêhiyawak miyo pimachihowin, embedding the Seven Sacred Teachings in all aspects of education. Regular sharing circles, traditional teachings, and ceremonies facilitate collective restorative-solutions and healing.

Holistic student support, inclusive registration processes, and effective

administrative support are cornerstones of our process. We empower educators through professional development, focusing on incorporating Nêhiyawak perspectives.

Our approach to safety and wellness will integrate lateral kindness and comprehensive health programs, aligning

These guiding principles illuminate our path toward integrating knowledge, respect for traditions, and innovation.

with traditional healing practices. IT services support our vision with accessible infrastructure and online learning platforms.

Leadership at First Nation Collegiate is fostered through student pride initiatives, fundraising skills, volunteerism, and strategic planning that respects Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin. Change management prioritizes adaptability and respect for traditions.

These guiding principles illuminate our path toward integrating knowledge, respect for traditions, and innovation. We commit to a nurturing learning environment, guided by the Seven Sacred Teachings, empowering every member of our nation. Knowledge ever increasing...

First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 13

Looking Ahead

As we look ahead, our commitment to virtual education remains unwavering. Through our innovative Indio Network platform, we are ready to offer another year of transformative learning experiences. We'll continue to stream our lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island, ensuring that access to quality education is not limited by location or circumstance.

Let's delve deeper into what this forward-looking commitment entails:

Unwavering Commitment to Virtual Education

The FNVLC is resolute in its commitment to virtual education. This means that it recognizes the importance of leveraging digital platforms to provide accessible and flexible learning opportunities.



Innovative Indio Network Platform

The mention of the "Indio Network platform" signifies the FNVLC's investment in cutting-edge technology and infrastructure to deliver education. This platform likely offers features and tools designed to enhance the virtual learning experience.

Transformative Learning Experiences

The FNVLC is not content with just delivering education; it aims to make a difference in students' lives. "Transformative learning experiences" indicate that the FNVLC is dedicated to providing education that goes beyond the acquisition of knowledge. It's about personal growth, development, and empowerment.

Accessibility Across Turtle Island

The FNVLC's commitment to streaming lessons to First Nation students across Turtle Island emphasizes inclusivity. Turtle Island is a term used by some Indigenous peoples to refer to North America. By ensuring access to quality education across this vast region, the FNVLC is addressing geographical and circumstantial barriers that might hinder educational opportunities.

Equity in Education

The overarching goal is to ensure that all First Nation students, regardless of where they are located or their personal circumstances, have equitable access to a high-quality education. This commitment aligns with the FNVLC's mission to empower students and promote educational equity.

In essence, "Looking Ahead" signifies the FNVLC's readiness to embrace the future of education, leveraging technology to provide transformative and accessible learning experiences to First Nation students. It reflects a dedication to breaking down barriers and ensuring that education reaches every corner of Turtle Island, ultimately contributing to the empowerment and success of Indigenous communities.

Unbounded Possibilities

The future of education is boundless, and we're poised to embrace it fully. We're venturing into uncharted territories, expanding our virtual content to encompass a wide range of subjects. Our focus includes interactive virtual field trips that transport students to far-flung places, digitized learning experiences that make education engaging and fun, and personalized learning paths that cater to individual needs and aspirations. The possibilities are limitless, and we're determined to explore them all.

Let's explore the key points in this statement:

Boundless Future of Education

The FNVLC acknowledges that the future of education is limitless. It recognizes that traditional boundaries and limitations are giving way to new possibilities and opportunities in education.

Embracing the Future

The FNVLC is not just passively observing but actively embracing the changing landscape of education. It is willing to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of students in this rapidly changing world.

Venturing into Uncharted Territories

This phrase signifies the FNVLC's willingness to explore new and innovative approaches to education. It is ready to take risks and pioneer new methods to enhance the learning experience.

Expanding Virtual Content

By expanding virtual content, the FNVLC is broadening the scope of subjects and resources available to students. This reflects a commitment to providing a comprehensive and diverse educational experience.

more on page 17

WHO WE ARE

First Nation Collegiate, under the four pillar schools, is accredited both in western studies and the Nêhiyawak Pimachihowin (way of life). Our programs we specialize in include Nêhiyawewin (Cree Language) Isihcikewin (to know for yourself) arts, sciences, music, sports and Nêhiyawak studies. With state-of-the-art technology, we build upon the technological advances of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School (K-6), Buffalo Bay Academy (7-12), First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC) and First Nation College while focusing on higher education standards.

LOCATION

Nestled within the ancestral lands of the Kapawe'no First Nation, First Nation Collegiate stands alongside Buffalo Bay Academy and Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School, enriching our Kapawe'no Territorial educational ecosystem. Knowledge Ever Increasing where Ancestral Wisdom Meets Higher Education.

KNOWLEDGE EVER INCREASING

Mission: To enrich learning rooted in Knowledge Ever Increasing blending ancestral wisdom with academics.
Vision: Fostering a learning environment with ancestral wisdom and contemporary knowledge to face and shape tomorrow's challenges.

LIFE LONG LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

"Knowledge Ever Increasing" our philosophy embodies the harmonious blend of Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak teachings and modern pedagogy.

We extend the principles established in the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre, enriching the academic environment with collaborative and wisdom-based learning.

UNIQUE FEATURES

Interdisciplinary Programs: Melding traditional knowledge and modern subjects for a well-rounded education.
Research Opportunities: Working in sync with First Nation College, we offer research initiatives that allow students to delve into their ancestral heritage.
Partnerships: Leveraging relations with local businesses and organizations for internships and job placements.

GOVERNANCE

Functioning under the Kapawe'no First Nation's Hereditary and Life Long Governance and Leadership, we share governance principles with the other educational institutions within the territory, ensuring alignment yet maintaining our own distinctive role in higher education.

FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Building upon the four-day school week implemented at our schools, the curriculum includes interactive virtual sessions, enabling students to pursue independent research projects or participate in local support service.

CURRICULUM

Fully accredited, our courses meet the academic standards for higher education, while our unique indigenous studies program complements the curricula offered.

INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM ELEMENTS

Wisdom Circles: Interactive dialogue sessions where students, educators, and Elders share knowledge.
Global Indigenous Exchange Program: An extension of cultural exchange initiative, now at a collegiate level.



Schools

We have four pillar schools along with our outreach program under our First Nation Collegiate which are:

The following schools are:

- Kapawe'no Nêhiyawak School - K-6 (KNS)
- Buffalo Bay Academy - 7-12
- First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)
- First Nation College

Our Outreach programs are;

- Kapawe'no Outreach
- Virtual and Adult Outreach

ADMISSIONS

Admission processes are holistic, considering applicants' academic and cultural contributions. They are also in line with the open and inclusive admissions policy at First Nation College.



CALL US TODAY

(780) 751-0008

email: admin@kfnschool.ca



First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 15

Interactive Virtual Field Trips

The mention of virtual field trips indicates a commitment to immersive and experiential learning. It allows students to explore places and concepts beyond the confines of a traditional classroom.

Digitized Learning Experiences

Digitized learning experiences make education engaging and fun. They leverage elements of games to motivate and challenge students, enhancing their learning experience.

Personalized Learning Paths

Recognizing that every student is unique, the FNVLC aims to provide personalized learning paths. This approach tailors education to individual needs, interests, and aspirations.

Limitless Possibilities

The statement emphasizes that there are no limits to what education can achieve. It conveys a sense of ambition and determination to explore all the opportunities and innovations that the future holds.

Unbounded Possibilities reflects the FNVLC's commitment to pushing the boundaries of education. It aims to create an educational environment that is dynamic, engaging, and tailored to individual learners, while

embracing emerging technologies and pedagogical approaches. This forward-looking vision signifies a dedication to providing students with an education that prepares them for the limitless opportunities of the future.

Courses Offered 2023/24

Our diverse curriculum includes a range of courses to cater to the diverse interests and needs of our students.



Independent Studies (Choose from a catalog of independent studies courses under supervision).

Over 150 courses available virtually

These courses include:

- Social Studies 10-1, 10-2, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1, 30-2
- Art 10, 20, 30
- English 10, 20, 30
- Family Law (10)
- Intro To Psychology (10)
- Nêhiyawêwin 10, 20, 30

more on page 19



Manacihtowin Respect

Sakawmostos (Buffalo): Honouring the unique journey of each individual. "With sakawmostos's wisdom, we learn to respect every path, recognizing the journey in each step."



*“Where tradition fuels the future,
we create a distinct path to wisdom and growth.”*

A R T S | M U S I C | S P O R T S | L A W F

Buffalo Bay Academy, a Grades 7-12 school is part of the First Nation Collegiate at Kapawe'no continues to be an autonomous school. We offer technology-enhanced classrooms to support both traditional and new methods of teaching, offering students a unique blend of the Nêhiyawak way of learning. This blend incorporates Arts, Music, Sports, and LAW teachings through full accreditation by Alberta and our Elder Knowledge Keepers.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US
email: admin@kfnschool.ca
phone: (780) 751-0008



First Nation Virtual Learning Centre (FNVLC)... from page 17

The Commitment to Excellence

This statement reflects the FNVLC's dedication to providing a top-tier educational experience. Let's delve deeper into what this commitment entails:

Driving Excellence

At the core of our FNVLC is an unwavering commitment to excellence. This means that we continuously strive for the highest standards of quality and effectiveness in every aspect of education that we offer.

Curriculum Development

We take pride in being leaders in curriculum development. This means that our educational programs are not stagnant but instead evolve to meet the changing needs of students and society. We invest time and resources in creating engaging, relevant, and up-to-date curricula.

Instructional Design

Our instructional design reflects our commitment to delivering the best learning experiences. We employ innovative teaching methods and technology to ensure that students are actively engaged in their education. Our instructional design is geared toward promoting creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Dedicated Team

Our educators and staff are the backbone of our FNVLC. They are a dedicated team that works tirelessly to ensure that our students receive the highest level of support and guidance. Their passion for education is what drives our commitment to excellence.

Fostering Creativity

We believe that education is not just about



VIRTUAL LEARNING IS THE FUTURE

The Kapawe'no First Nation and its hereditary Chief Sydney Halcrow has a strong vision of incorporating the Cree way of living with the next steps in life long learning. This Vision is taking the next steps into Virtual learning.

LEARN MORE



www.kfnschool.ca

memorizing facts; it's about fostering creativity. Our approach encourages students to think outside the box, explore new ideas, and develop innovative solutions to real-world problems.

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is a cornerstone of our educational philosophy. We equip students with the skills to analyze information critically, make informed decisions, and navigate complex challenges.

Cultural Enrichment

We understand the importance of cultural enrichment. Our commitment extends beyond academics to include a celebration of culture, heritage, and diversity. We believe that a well-rounded education includes an appreciation for different cultures and perspectives.

Accessibility

We firmly believe that every student, regardless of their background, should have access to the very best education. This commitment to accessibility ensures that our FNVLC is inclusive and welcoming to students from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

In summary, our "Commitment to Excellence" is a holistic dedication to providing students with a high-quality, forward-thinking education. We prioritize innovation, creativity, critical thinking, and cultural enrichment to ensure that every student receives the very best education possible. This commitment is a testament to our mission to empower students and prepare them for success in a rapidly changing world.

Join Us in this New Era of Education

Welcome to a new era of education, where the possibilities are as boundless as the sky. We invite you to be a part of this transformative educational journey at the First Nation Virtual Learning Centre.

For online registration and more information, please visit our Registration Package page or download the package directly from this link;



<https://kfnlearning.com/admissions/>

Join us in shaping the future of education for First Nation students and beyond, where learning knows no bounds, and cultural heritage is celebrated at every turn.

Connect with Principal Crystal Zhang

(780) 751-0008 or

email crystal.zhang@kfnschool.ca

to discover how we can help you or your child embark on a path of discovery, growth, and cultural enrichment.

More information please visit our website: www.kfnlearning.com/virtual-learning/





FIRST NATION COLLEGIATE



KAPAWE'NO NEHIYAWAK SCHOOL K-6

FREE BUSING PROVIDED TO
FIRST NATION COLLEGIATE CAMPUS



BUFFALO BAY ACADEMY

GRADE 7-12



ARTS | MUSIC
SPORTS | LAW



*Preparing the students of today
to meet the challenges of tomorrow!*

www.kfnlearning.com



FIRST NATION VIRTUAL LEARNING CENTRE



FIRST NATION COLLEGE



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT KFN SCHOOL:

Email: admin@kfnschool.ca | Phone: (780) 751-0008

