

# “Learning From Our Past, Building Our Future”

Yukon School Councils Spring 2013 Conference

April 18<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre

**Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**REGISTRATION - 6:00 pm**

**7:00 pm - Open to the public**


“To kill the Indian in the Child”  
**Reconciliation and Racism:  
 Education as a Healing  
 Process**

Presenter

Eric Wong, First Nations Education Steering  
 Committee

Sponsored by:



Time	Friday April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday April 20 <sup>th</sup>
7:30am	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:30 am	Welcome & Introductions Minister/Grand Chief Deputy Minister	Introductions  <b>ROUNDTABLE</b> All School Councils
9:00 am	<b>Building Cultural Awareness of Aboriginal People</b> Gayle Bedard	
10:00 am – 10:15am	Health Break	
	<b>Building Cultural Awareness</b> <i>continued</i>	<b>School Council Roles &amp; Responsibilities &amp; Authorities</b>  Greg Storey & Bob Laking
12:00	Lunch	
1:00pm	<b>Understanding Issues and Improving Outcomes for First Nations Students</b>  ~~~~~ <b>Project of Heart</b> Joanne Henry	<b>Update on Actions &amp; Supports for Rural Learners</b>  Greg Storey & Judy Arnold  <b>Conference Recommendations</b>
2:30 pm -2:45pm	Health Break	
	<b>Privacy Protection for School Councils- What Must We Do?</b>  Hank Moorlag	<b>Destination Imagination</b>  Mike Woods Time for play!  <b>4pm ADJOURN</b>
4:15 pm	<b>AYSCBC</b> <b>Annual General Meeting</b>  ASSOCIATION OF YUKON SCHOOL COUNCILS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES	
	<b>AYSCBC</b> <b>Members' Dinner</b>	

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## KEYNOTE PRESENTATION AND SESSIONS OVERVIEW

**Thursday, April 18, 2013 7 pm**

Multipurpose Room

### **"To kill the Indian in the Child" Reconciliation and Racism: Education as a Healing Process**

**Guest Speaker: Eric Wong, Anti-Racism Consultant, First Nations Education Steering Committee has worked in the field of human rights and diversity for more than 15 years.**

*It is said that the circle is unbroken but it is certainly marked with fractures, fissures and faults. The legacy of residential schools is not symbolic or theoretical – it is a legacy that continues to imprint itself on the current generation of young Aboriginal learners. This workshop will address the need to acknowledge and remedy the causes and effects of racism as a prerequisite and ongoing element to the reconciliation process. The following questions will frame this difficult and uncomfortable conversation.*

- *Why is this conversation difficult but essential?*
- *What place does healing have in schools and classrooms?*
- *What role can educators play in supporting the reconciliation process?*

Sponsored by:



**Friday, April 19, 2013**

Multipurpose room

### **Building Cultural Awareness of Aboriginal People**

**Presenter: Gayle Bedard, Community Services Director for the Tsawwassen First Nation Government, former Director of Yukon First Nations Programs & Partnerships Unit, Yukon Education**

*How do we know as Canadian citizens if we are culturally aware and have a good understanding of the many Aboriginal cultural groups across Canada? This workshop will introduce participants to the concept of understanding cultural awareness, and a greater understanding of the issues and challenges facing Aboriginal people. We will review Canadian history from an Aboriginal perspective; how Canadian history impacts Aboriginal people today, and what we can do as Canadian citizens to improve the lives of the Aboriginal people for a better future.*

*Gayle's lifelong commitment is to deepen understandings of how cultural backgrounds affect individual perceptions and actions; and for educators and students to understand how history impacts the success rates of Aboriginal children in today's education system. Being culturally aware can improve the relationships between people from differing cultural backgrounds which will result in improved education results for Aboriginal students in schools.*

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## **Project of Heart**

**Presenter: Joanne Henry, Executive Director of CAIRS (Committee on Abuse in Residential School)**

*Started by a Manitoba school teacher, “Project of Heart” is an inquiry based, hands-on, collaborative, inter-generational, artistic journey of seeking truth about the history of Aboriginal people in Canada. Its purpose is to:*

- *Examine the history and legacy of Indian Residential Schools in Canada and to seek the truth about that history, leading to the acknowledgement of the extent of loss to former students, their families and communities*
- *Commemorate the lives of the thousands of Indigenous children who died as a result of the residential school experience*
- *Call Canadians to action, through social justice endeavors, to change our present and future history collectively*

*Joanne Henry, will speak about the program and highlight how it is being used now in several Yukon schools.*

## **Privacy Protection for School Councils – What must we do?**

**Hank Moorlag, Former Yukon Information & Privacy Commissioner**

*Hank will explore the important topic of Privacy Protection, and work with participants on the following questions:*

- *Why does privacy protection matter?*
- *What’s the difference between ‘privacy protection’ and ‘confidentiality’?*
- *What are the responsibilities and obligations of School Councils?*
- *What are our responsibilities and obligations as individuals?*

## **AYSCBC Annual General Meeting**

*Following the Conference proceedings on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, the Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards & Committees will be holding its Annual General Meeting and Elections of the Executive at the same venue.*

*There will be a dinner for AYSCBC Members, hosted by the Association, at the Westmark Whitehorse following the AGM.*

**Saturday, April 20, 2013**

## **School Councils’ Round Table**

*All Councils share some information about what they are working on with their school community to support student learning.*

*This session is always a conference favourite with evaluation feedback such as:*

*--“I liked hearing the Roundtable reports. I learned from listening to others’ experiences.”*

*--“ Roundtable was very helpful for idea generating.”*

## **School Council Roles, Responsibilities & Authorities –**

**Bob Laking, Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards & Committees Chair, and Greg Storey, Superintendent**

*Responding to the request for a clearer understanding of the roles, responsibilities & authorities of School Councils, a new document is being developed to further clarify these areas. When complete, it will be another addition to the School Council Leadership Toolbox.*

*Bob and Greg will use real examples of situations encountered by Council members in this session.*

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## **Update on Actions & Supports for Rural Learners**

**Judy Arnold, Director and Greg Storey, Superintendent**

*In order to address unique needs and challenges in Yukon rural communities, the department is working with partners to develop strategies to address the needs of rural learners to ensure they are supported throughout their school career. These include examining the diversity and flexibility of program offerings, course delivery, scheduling and the role of trades.*

*Judy and Greg will provide an update on the latest developments and news.*

## **Recommendations**

*A brief presentation and verification of any Recommendations being put forward from the assembled Conference delegates based on discussions and information shared during the event.*

## **Destination Imagination**

**Mike Woods, Superintendent, and Faith Garriock, BC Director of Destination Imagination**

*Destination Imagination provides educational programs for K-12 students to learn and experience creativity, teamwork and problem solving. In Destination Imagination, students organize into teams to solve open ended challenges and present their solutions. Teams are tested to think on their feet, work together and devise original solutions that satisfy the requirements of the challenges. Participants gain more than just basic knowledge and skills — they learn to unleash their imaginations and take unique approaches to problem solving.*

*The program is being piloted in four schools this year: Elijah Smith Elementary, Ross River, Hidden Valley and Christ the King. Mike and Faith will provide a short presentation and do some exciting challenges with School Council members.*



## **OTHER INFORMATION:**

### **Directions**

Here's a link to a

[Map of Whitehorse with directions from Westmark Whitehorse to Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre](#)

It is a 2 minute drive or 6 minute walk from the Westmark to the KDCC.

### **Parking**

It's free and easy, both at the Centre and also across the street.

Whitehorse Public Library is beside the Centre.