



*"The Feather", our AbEd memo, keeps you up-to-date on events and news related to our department. Submissions are accepted ([kerins\\_1@surreyschools.ca](mailto:kerins_1@surreyschools.ca)) up to noon on the previous Friday.*

### **Superintendent's Message to Surrey Schools parents, students & staff- April 14, 2020**

**(Note: The LA Matheson T-Shirt is a gesture of support for the Surrey teacher who was injured at work on the last day before spring break.)**  
<https://vimeo.com/407474268>

### **Haisla writer Eden Robinson speaks about her inspiration**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lc4enkFOkx0>

*"Eden Robinson brings a fresh and fearless perspective to Canadian literature. Hailing from Kitamaat Village, British Columbia, her writing combines contemporary realism with Haisla mysticism in stories that are sometimes brutal, often compassionate, and always disarming. She talks about her beginnings, the influence of family on her and her work, and the challenges of being an Indigenous writer."*

See also her interview with APTN: <https://youtu.be/tBmzJdN-yKE>

### **Living Legends: Cedar is Life**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHFdz2Wz8lY>

Indigenous Tourism BC has a series of short vignettes from across the province. This clip features cedar: *"Cedar is the tree of life, and it is used by Indigenous people for protection, ceremony, and in daily life. Making a small, simple item such as a bracelet reminds us of the limitless physical and spiritual gifts of the land."*

### **“Idea of the Day” – Indigenous Resources to explore**

For intriguing resources, please visit Aboriginal Learning’s webpage called “Idea of the Day”. It will feature an Indigenous resource that teachers, parents or students can use. Nadine Tweets out an idea of the day and then unpacks it on the website. The hashtag on twitter is #sd36iod, and to get to the website, visit <http://bit.ly/sd36iod> .

### **Nisga’a Language Channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/user/nisgaalanguage/videos>

Produced by Nisga’a Nation, these videos have a “Sesame Street” feel and introduce students to words and phrases in the Nisga’a language in a conversational setting.

### **Syilx Language House – Elder recordings**

<http://www.thelanguagehouse.ca/elder-recordings.html>

The Okanagan First Nation (Syilx) has produced a number of language resources, including a digital textbook that offers transcription of a number of Elder stories. The digital workbook allows users to follow printed text while listening to one of the many audio tracks of Elders telling a story. This resource gives visitors a good opportunity to hear the Nsyilxcn language spoken at length.

### **Technology for Indigenous students – meeting the needs**

As you discover technology needs for students, check in with your school team first to see what the plan is for getting devices to students. Many schools are distributing tech this week. (Also, let Lisa Kerins know the names, grades and school of the students– and if they are able to be helped by your school. We are building a spreadsheet of the needs of Indigenous students so we can get a better sense of the situation across the district.) If your school is unable to help with the

device needs of that family, let Gordon and Lisa know. We will investigate next steps.

## **Explore new Indigenous musical platform**

<https://nikamowin.com/en/playlists>

NIKAMOWIN is an Indigenous music streaming and sharing platform where you can discover Indigenous artists and cultures in Canada. It's an exceptional window on emerging or more established artists, and the streaming platform presents music from all styles across Canada.

Discover out featured playlists and stay posted to hear the latest releases on NIKAMOWIN

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