



*“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.*

### **Thank you for your efforts in this challenging time**

Lyn and I would like to thank all the members of the department as you step up and respond to the challenge of continuing to deliver support and services in a very different environment. Our focus is on providing service to Indigenous students, and their families, and we have been encouraged by the willingness and creativity of the department in “making it work!” These are difficult times. Wela’lioq (thank you all) for the work you are doing and stay safe.

### **Vimeo message from Superintendent Jordan Tinney**

April 3, 2020 update to all Surrey Schools parents, students & staff

<https://vimeo.com/403528317>

### **FRAFCA virtual culture night – Beading - April 13<sup>th</sup>, 5pm**

Marissa McIntyre, Indigenous Youth Connections and Culture Night Coordinator at FRAFCA, is offering a virtual culture night on her Facebook page, live on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. She will be teaching how to do a beading brick stitch so people can follow along from home. Her Facebook ID is “Marissa FRAFCA”.

<https://www.facebook.com/marissa.iyoet.7>

### **Finding AbEd and AESA on the HUB**

If you are looking to direct someone to AbEd on the HUB, note that we were reclassified as a department, so the path to our landing page has changed:

*Surreyschools.ca -> About us -> Department Directory -> Aboriginal Learning*

Also, if you are wanting to update student interactions using the AESA webapp on a desktop rather than the iPad app, you can find the link using the following steps:

1. Log onto Surreyschools.ca
2. Go to our website: <http://bit.ly/SurreyAbEd36>  
or <https://www.surreyschools.ca/ProgramsAndServices/ABRG/Pages/default.aspx>
3. The AESA app will be visible on the top right-hand side of the purple menu bar.

## **COVID-19 webportal for BC First Nations**

<https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus>

The FNHA is working with provincial and federal partners to actively monitor and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. They have created this COVID-19 web portal to help BC First Nations people and their health care providers and community leaders to get the information they need to keep themselves and others safe.

In addition, Jennifer Charchun (Child & Youth Systems Navigator) is available by email: [Jennifer.Charchun@fnha.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Charchun@fnha.ca) if families are looking for additional help.

## **Services available to families – Summary of Financial supports**

It can be hard to keep track of what services are available federally and provincially. Your local MLA and/or MP will have information on many of the resources various levels of government are offering. Here is a summary table from a Lower Mainland MLA website: <http://bowinnmamla.ca/covid19/supports/> You can also subscribe for updates.

## **Technology for Indigenous students**

A number of you are uncovering technology needs as you reach out to students and families. (Thank you for being on top of this.) Check in with your school team first to see what their plan is for disbursing devices to students. (Also, please let Lisa Kerins know the names, grades and school of the students– 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 know and we'll investigate next steps.

## **FRAFCA Facebook page – community outreach**

<https://www.facebook.com/FRAFCA/>

FRAFCA offers a number of resources on its Facebook page for members of the Surrey urban Indigenous community. There are new resources posted almost daily. Being familiar with these will help us offer support as questions arise.

### **Free lunch programming for students – referral process (see [link](#))**

The district is currently running a Lunch Program available to all children and youth in the city who need this service. It operates Monday to Friday, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, with bagged lunches available for pick-up at a number of school sites.

If you work with youth or families who require food drop-off, please connect with Meghann Allan ( [allan\\_m@surreyschools.ca](mailto:allan_m@surreyschools.ca) ) and she will do a referral to the WRAP case manager.

Include the following in the email:

- (1) Surname and address of the family
- (2) Number of meals required
- (3) First name and phone number of someone in the family (for coordination of drop-off)

Please make sure that you have contacted the family and confirmed the info with them before sending the referral info to Meghann.

### **FRAFCA – Kaley demonstrates smudging practice**

<https://www.facebook.com/kaley.best.796/videos/214945183157333/>

### **Partnership between TELUS, the British Columbia Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction**

*“A program to provide eligible families with tools and connectivity”*

Some of your families may have heard about this program and are looking for more information. The link takes you to the Telus page for sign up. There are conditions that apply for a family to be eligible. Surrey Schools is not endorsing this, but interested families can explore on their own.

<https://www.telus.com/en/about/company-overview/community-investment/how-we-give/cause-campaigns/internet-for-good>

### **REEL Canada – RCtv webcast – April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Register for this year's upcoming edition, to be streamed on Wednesday, April 22. RCtv 2020 will spotlight the **Indigenous-made film *The Grizzlies***, a powerful story of the determination and resilience of a group of Inuit youth struggling with the legacy of colonization. (Because of the challenging themes, this is recommended for grades 9-12) The webcast can be accessed using a web browser on phones, computers or tablets. To register, please complete our [RCtv Registration Form](#). RCtv is provided entirely **free of charge**. More detailed information about RCtv can be found at [canadianfilmday.ca/RCtv](http://canadianfilmday.ca/RCtv). For more information, contact Annick Sheedy McLellan (Outreach Coordinator) [annick@reelcanada.ca](mailto:annick@reelcanada.ca) 416-642-5796 ext. 202 1-855-733-5709 ext. 202 (toll-free)

## **FitNation Easy Fitness Videos**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI3c6v0mHMfdvhJKElvJI4FComjULi6PP>

ISPARC has been posting FitNation videos for anyone looking to maintain fitness while social distancing (at-home, low/no equipment fitness workouts). Please feel free to share them with your communities

## **Math & Sciences in Indigenous Learning - A Digital Forum – April 8**

Hosted by The National Centre for Collaboration in Indigenous Education and First Nations University of Canada

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 2 PM – 3 PM CST on Facebook live

(The event will also be recorded and available on the NCCIE Facebook page after the event concludes.) <https://www.facebook.com/NCCIECanada/>

## **Eshki-nishnaabemjig offering free on-line language classes – April 14**

Language classes every Tuesday evening 6pm-7:30 pm beginning April 14<sup>th</sup>. Taught by past students of the Eshki-nishnaabemjig summer Immersion program, and offered via Zoom.

Check out their Facebook page for more details: <https://www.facebook.com/eshki.nishnaabemjig/>

## **Indigenous Youth Opportunity - Coming Together For Hope - April 8,15, and more.**

The Surrey Indigenous Youth Advisory Committee (FRAFCA) is hosting an online series called “*Coming Together For Hope*” throughout April 2020 featuring individual sessions with inspirational speakers. Free to Indigenous participants (ages 14 - 24yrs) - a weekly, one-hour dialogue on zoom.us with a Q&A afterward.

- Wednesday, April 8th, 2020 - Dr. Philip Cook at 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM on zoom
- Wednesday, April 15th, 2020 - Jereme Brooks at 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM on zoom
- To Be Announced - Jody Bauche (RCY)
- To Be Announced - Thunder Sky

\*Announcements will be on Mondays at 9:00 AM on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/FRAFCA/>

**SIGN UP:** send an email to: [chey.stonechild@gmail.com](mailto:chey.stonechild@gmail.com) with your

- 1.) **Name**, 2.) **First Nation** and 3.) **Which Session** you want to participate in (or if you want to join every session in April 2020). You will receive a zoom link to join the session(s) you choose. \*Limit of 25 people per session, to be respectful of the speaker’s time. (See [poster](#) and speakers [bio notes](#))

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Gordon Powell

Twitter: @gordonpowell hashtag: #sd36AbEd

Blog: <http://sharedteachings.blogspot.ca/>

AbEd Weebly:

<http://aboriginalresourcesforteachers.weebly.com/>