



# GRADE 12 INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Greater Victoria School District  
Pride & Success Through Education

The Indigenous Education Division (IED) of the Greater Victoria School District hosts an annual Recognition Ceremony for all Indigenous Grade 12 students who have completed the official requirements for graduation. We know that our students have worked long and hard to obtain a Grade 12 education, and we feel that they need to be honoured and acknowledged for their perseverance and dedication. We would like to take this opportunity to inform the students and their families about our Recognition Ceremony, which celebrates the success of our students district-wide.

**The 2020 recognition banquet & ceremony is scheduled for:**

**Thursday, June 4, 2020**  
**Songhees Wellness Centre, 1100 Admirals Rd.**  
**Social starts at 5:00 - Dinner at 5:30pm**  
**Ceremony 7:00 – 9:00 pm**

Each graduate will receive an invitation informing them of the ceremony and that they will also receive two free guest tickets. If families request extra tickets, they are first put on a waitlist; extra tickets are \$25.00 each. Invitation acceptance **must** be verified through the school contact or the IED office in order to confirm attendance at the banquet. The dress code is **formal or semi-formal**.

IED will also produce a booklet profiling the graduates. One of our district staff members will meet with each Grade 12 student to obtain a photograph and a profile for our booklet. We hope that Grads will provide other students with some encouraging advice!

## Fund Raisers

The Indigenous Recognition Grad Committee meets on a regular basis to plan for the annual recognition banquet and ceremony.

The committee invites any interested students, parents and community members to join our team to plan for 2020.

- ◆ M'akola Group of Societies and various community agencies send contributions towards the banquet.
- ◆ The Liquor Distribution Branch contributes towards the banquet through the Dry Grad Funding.

*If you wish to join the Indigenous Grad Planning Committee or have any other fund-raising ideas, please call (250) 475-4124.*



All Indigenous graduates will be contacted by one of our district contacts for follow-up prior to the Recognition Ceremony. The IED school contacts are as follows:

<b>S.J. Burnside</b>	<b>Rebecca McCool</b>
<b>Esquimalt</b>	<b>Tensly Koontz, Teacher or Chris Courchene</b>
<b>Lambrick Park</b>	<b>Principal or Vice-Principal</b>
<b>Mt. Douglas</b>	<b>Tammy Reid or Paul Thomas</b>
<b>Oak Bay</b>	<b>Melanie Paas, Vice-Principal</b>
<b>Reynolds</b>	<b>Gary Crocker, Teacher</b>
<b>Spectrum</b>	<b>Emma Milliken or Paul Thomas</b>
<b>Victoria High</b>	<b>Joanne Mitchell or Frank Conibear</b>

## Scholarships:

- ❖ **HEMASAKA SCHOLARSHIP: \$500 [Two Available]**
- ❖ **JUDY BOURNE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: M'akola Housing \$1600 [Two Available]**
- ❖ **FIRST NATIONS INTO SCIENCE: Dr. Rose Lenser \$1000 [One Available]**
- ❖ **VIOLET'S PRIDE: Aaron Aubin, Nicole Hajash & Darcy Aubin \$1000 [One Available]**
- ❖ **ROBERT WARREN TRADES SCHOLARSHIP: Aboriginal Nations Education/GVSD61 \$1,000 [One Available]**
- ❖ **FREDA SHAUGHNESSY SPORTS/ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP: Aboriginal Nations Education/GVSD61 \$1,000 [One Available]**
- ❖ **COLD COMFORT CULINARY ARTS SCHOLARSHIP: Cold Comfort Ice Cream \$1,000 [Two Available]**
- ❖ **LIFTING EACH OTHER UP CULINARY ARTS & TRADES SCHOLARSHIP: Deadbeetz Food Truck, Karrie Hill \$1,000 [One Available]**
- ❖ **NELLA NELSON LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP: Hulitan Child & Family Services \$1,000 [One available]**

These scholarships are presented at the Recognition Ceremony, and recipients receive funds upon formal registration at a post-secondary institution. For copies of the application forms please visit our website at <https://aned.sd61.bc.ca/graduation/greater-victoria-sd61-scholarships/> or contact your school counsellor.

The deadline for all scholarships is **Friday, May 8, 2020**

## **Post-Secondary Indigenous Connections:**

IF YOU ARE THINKING OF ATTENDING POST-SECONDARY, THERE ARE INDIGENOUS ADVISORS AVAILABLE AT EACH CAMPUS:

### CAMOSUN COLLEGE:

Indigenous Advisors [250] 370-3692/370-3659

### UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA:

Indigenous Academic Advisor [250] 721-8389

### VICTORIA NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE:

CEER Program (Career, Employment & Education Resources) [250] 384-3211

## **U.B.C. Summer Sciences Program**

The Summer Science Program is a one-week summer camp for Indigenous students in grades 8-12. This Program promotes interest in the field of health and human service programs through firsthand experience at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC. Students who have completed grades 8-11 and are of First Nations, Inuit, or Métis Ancestry, are encouraged to apply.

For more information and to apply you can go to the UBC website:

<http://health.aboriginal.ubc.ca/education/ubc-summer-science-program/>



## **Grad Dresses & Tuxedos: The Magic Wand Project**

Magic Wand is a program that helps make Graduation a “dream come true” by providing grad outfits for students who otherwise might not feel able to attend their graduation night due to the expense of buying a dress or renting a tuxedo. To book an appointment call:

250-658-0246 or email [esurerus@telus.net](mailto:esurerus@telus.net)

[www.themagicwandproject.ca](http://www.themagicwandproject.ca)