



Networks of Inquiry and Innovation **Aboriginal Enhancement Schools Network**

2016 - 2017 AESN / NOII Case Study

School Name: Myrtle Philip Elementary

School District: SD#48 Sea to Sky

Inquiry Team Members: Shelley DesBrisay

Inquiry Team Contact Email: sdesbrisay@sd48.bc.ca

Type of inquiry: NOII

Grade levels: Primary (K - 3), Intermediate (4 - 7)

Curricular area(s): Applied Design, Skills & Technology, Arts Education, Social Studies

Focus area(s): First Peoples Principles of Learning

In one sentence, what was your focus for the year?

Can a common learning of Cedar build community in our school and enhance our understanding of local Aboriginal Ways of learning, knowing and being?

Scanning: Briefly summarize your scanning process. How did you use the four key questions as part of the scanning process? What did you notice about the experiences of your learners that were most important to your team?

When I observed our school I saw a divide between our primary and intermediate teams. I wanted to come up with a common goal to drive our Aboriginal learning and bring us together in the process.

Focus: In a few sentences, explain why you selected this area. What changes were you hoping to obtain for your learners?

I was hoping to increase the moral imperative for both the students and teachers in our school. I thought a simple common goal would be an easy place for us to start. I also wanted us to make our learning visible by sharing our learning on our School's Aboriginal day in June.

Hunch: Describe your hunches about the ways in which practices at the school may have



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been contributing to the experiences of your learners that were of concern to you.

My concern was that Aboriginal content was not being covered in all grades.

New professional learning: What new areas of professional learning did you explore? What resources were most helpful? What specific designs did you use to support the learning of your colleagues?

Our Shared Learning Committee is very helpful because resources are shared. I like having a list of Aboriginal Educators that are available to come into our school to share their knowledge. I also greatly appreciate the Aboriginal book resources that have been signed out to our school.

Taking action: Describe strategies you and your team decided on and how your actions worked out.

I presented the idea of cedar being our common focus at a staff meeting. We generated ideas of how we can integrate learning with cedar K-7. At another meeting we went through First People's Principles of Learning and made connections to how these principles are embedded in what we do. The we came up with ideas on how we wanted our students to present their learning during our Aboriginal Day in June.

Checking: Summarize the differences you made. Were they enough? Were you satisfied?

I can not answer this question yet because we have not had our final celebration of learning. My prediction is that we need to keep working on infusing deliberate Aboriginal content and sharing it with our community.

Reflections/Advice: Finish by sharing what you learned from this inquiry, where you plan to go next, and what advice you would offer other schools with a similar interest.

Change takes time. We need to keep working on this. I would like to start earlier next year so that we can share our learning 2nd term.