



NEWSLETTER

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Literacy Strategies using the Seven Grandfathers Teachings

A Link to Identity

This year, Anna Barley and Ronda Ziakris were selected to present at the 2021 National Gathering for Indigenous Education, taking place virtually from November 24-26. For this newsletter, Ronda shares a summary of their workshop, which will discuss Literacy Strategies using the Seven Grandfathers Teachings.

Anna and I were honoured to have been selected to present this highly engaging, interactive and practical workshop for the 2021 National Gathering for Indigenous Education. The workshop highlighted strategies outlined in the book *Achieving Aboriginal Student Success* (Toulouse, 2011) to enrich a literacy program while incorporating the characteristics of a character education program. When classrooms and schools are intentional about honouring Indigenous culture and worldview through literacy and character development in a good way, a healthy and positive course can be charted for the Indigenous youth of today who will be the Indigenous leaders of tomorrow.

Based on the Seven Grandfathers Teachings of love, respect, honesty, bravery, humility, truth and wisdom, the workshop explored the specific researched components that, when embedded into a literacy program, will aid in Indigenous student success. Participants were encouraged to share how integrating the methods discussed in the workshop will inform and enhance their pedagogy moving forward.

The outcomes of this workshop were that participants were able to:

1. Conclude that literacy success for Indigenous students happens when teachers are caring and create culturally relevant classrooms.
2. Recognize that when Indigenous worldview and culture are honoured, students will have a more meaningful connection with the curriculum.
3. Apply strategies for incorporating the Seven Grandfathers Teachings into a rich literacy and character-education curriculum.

If you are interested in attending the 2021 National Gathering and viewing the presentation, you can register at the following link: <https://indspire.ca/events/national-gathering/>

Welcome Marcy and Yana!

We are excited to welcome Marcy and Yana to Strategies North

Marcy Matthew

Executive Coordinator

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Marcy Matthew grew up in the North Thompson valley and has made Kamloops her home for 20+ years where she lives with her family. Marcy has a longstanding background working in administration with senior leadership in healthcare and brings with her an extensive skill set of administrative management from her previous role as Program Coordinator for a local non-profit physician association. Having been hired at the beginning stage of the association creation, she has experience with society operations, structure and governance. She also brings with her a broad skill set in communications, event planning/coordination, project management and financial coordination. She is passionate about engaging in meaningful work and is excited to be a part of this purpose-driven organization and dynamic team!



Yana Stratemeyer-Trinczek

Director of Client Services

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Coming from a public sector background, Yana has worked in program and organizational development and community outreach for over 10 years. She specializes in creating organizational programs and processes that promote inclusion, growth and long term impact. Yana has experience in communications and engagement, policy development and holds a Master of Arts degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice. She is passionate about building relationships through meaningful connection and collaboration. Yana is excited to bring her experience and perspective to help our clients achieve success.



We look forward to bringing your expertise to the Strategies North team!

Strategies North in the Yukon

In September, Grant and Nick had the opportunity to visit Harriet and Nelson in the Yukon. While there, the team spent time in Whitehorse, met with some of our clients, and Nelson and Grant hosted an engagement activity for the Nelson Project in Kathleen Lake.



Nick and Harriet having too much fun at work!

From left to right: Grant Barley, Nick Hayden, Harriet Stanford, and Nelson Lepine



Key Dates

November 30: Resilient Communities Grants – Northern Health
Deadline to apply

December 17: Civil Society Fund - Government of Alberta
Deadline to apply

December 24 - January 2: SN Holiday Office Closure

January 15: Community Rink Affordability Grant – Province of Saskatchewan
Deadline to apply

January 17: Language Technology Program - First Peoples' Cultural Council
Deadline to apply

February 1: A Sense of Place Grant - First Peoples' Cultural Council
Deadline to apply (BC)

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