

GOVERNOR SEMPLE SCHOOL

JUNE 2013 NEWSLETTER

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Ph. # 204-339-7112 Fax #204-334-7356



The end of the year has arrived! It is a time of celebration, farewells and change for students and staff alike. We wish Ms. Meyers well as she joins the staff at James Nisbet next year, Ms. Hunter as she joins the Educational Assistants staff at Garden City, Ms. Mazur and Ms. Chartrand as they move on to new endeavors, and Ms. Sampson as she becomes the full time Librarian at Arthur Wright School. We thank them for their contributions to our school. Ms. Shukster will be moving on with some of her Kindergartens and will teach Grade 1/2. We welcome Mr. Karl Campbell, (Kindergarten and Learning Support) and Ms. Carrie Lundy (Grade 4/5) to our teaching staff for next year.

It is going to be busy at the school this summer. The BEEP program will be running their summer program and taking care of the gardens until August 9th. All of our exterior windows will be replaced and interior renovations done to accommodate an additional classroom, daycare and technology needs. This classroom is being added in response to increasing enrollment in grades 4 and 5. This has meant that our Daycare will relocate into the Computer Lab space, and our 'Lab' will have a new look next year. The addition of a 24 laptop cart combined with a teaching space in the music room consisting of ceiling mounted projector, mimeo, and pod of 12 desktops, provide many opportunities for children to access technology as needed. We hope to have the long awaited outdoor 'log' play space installed beside the play structure in August. On top of all this, our custodial staff, Mr. Mitchell and Ms. Wall will be working hard to get everything ready for September.

We wish everyone a safe and happy summer vacation. Orientation Days will be on September 3 and 4, 2013. The first day of regular classes will be on September 5, 2013.

Have a great summer!



**THE STAFF OF GOVERNOR SEMPLE SCHOOL
WOULD LIKE TO WISH OUR FAMILIES A VERY
HAPPY & SAFE SUMMER!**

Important Dates for the 2013 – 2014 School year at Governor Semple

September:

3 – Orientation Day
4 – Orientation Day
5 – First full day of School Grades 1 – 5; Day 3 on the school Cycle
5 - First Group staggered start for Kindergarten
6 – Second Group staggered start for Kindergarten
9 – First Full group day for Kindergarten
19 – “Welcome Back” Family BBQ
20 - School Professional Development – NO CLASSES
27 – Theme Day

October:

9 – 1st Hep B shots for gr. 4’s @ 1:00 p.m.
14 - Thanksgiving Day- NO CLASSES
15 – Farm To Market fundraiser
18 – Theme Day
21 – Divisional PD Day – NO CLASSES
23 – School Pictures @ 9:00
25 – SAG Provincial In-service Day NO CLASSES

November:

7 – Remembrance Day Assembly
8 – School PD Day – NO CLASSES
11 – Remembrance Day – NO CLASSES
Remembrance Day Assembly
15 – Picture Retakes
18 – 22 First Term, Triad, Student, Parent, Teacher, Conferences. **NO CLASSES on the 22nd**
28 – Family Night
29 – Theme Day

December:

18 – Concert
20 – Theme Day
20 - Last Day of Classes before Winter Break

January:

6 – First day of classes after Winter Break – Day 6
29 – Family Night
31 – Theme Day

February:

3 – School Professional Development – NO CLASSES
17 - Louis Riel Day – NO CLASSES
28 – Theme Day

March:

10 – 14 Second Term, Triad, Parent, Student, Teacher, Conferences.

NO CLASSES on the 14th
24 – 28 Milk Spirit Week
26 – Family Night
28 – Theme Day

March 31 – April 4 Spring Break - NO CLASSES

April:

7 – First Day of classes after Spring Break – Day 5
18 – Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
25 – School Professional Development - NO CLASSES

May:

12 - School Professional Development Day- NO CLASSES
19 – Victoria Day- NO CLASSES
30 – Theme Day

June:

13 – Theme Day
20 – Admin. Day – NO CLASSES
24 – Awards Day
26 – Gr. 5 Farewell
27 – Last Day of School

Important Dates to Remember

June	27	Gr. 5 Farewell school assembly @ 9:30 (Families are welcome to attend)
	28	Last Day of School- dismissal at 12:00
September	3 & 4	Orientation Days
	5	First full day of school

NOTE: PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME DATES MAY CHANGE FOR IN-SERVICE DAYS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED.
PLEASE CHECK THIS LIST MONTHLY. THANK YOU



Kindergarten Registration.

Governor Semple School started accepting Kindergarten Registration on Monday, February 25th, 2013.

Registrations will be taken during regular office hours from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please note that your child must be five years old by **December 31, 2013** in order to be eligible for registration for the fall Kindergarten classes. You must bring your **child's birth certificate, medical card and proof of address** when coming to register.

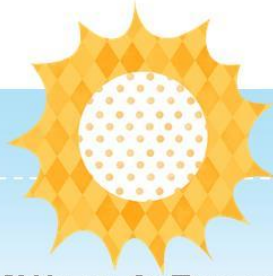


MOVING????

If your family is planning to move over the summer or your child will not be attending Governor Semple in the fall, please let the office know as soon as possible at 204-339-7112

Parents of Kinders and School Age Children

Governor Semple Children's Place currently has spaces open for enrollment. If you or someone you know is in need of child care, please drop by room 5 in the school or call our program @ 290-8517 between 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. You can ask for Debbie. You may also call our main center Sunny Mountain Daycare @ 290-7980 after 9:00 a.m. and ask to speak with Patrisha.



**Elwick Village & Resource Centre
is hosting their 2nd Annual Canada Day Celebration**

Time: 5:00-11:00pm

**Where: Elwick Community School Grounds
30 Maberley**

JULY 1st



**Come join your neighbours for an event you
don't want to miss!**

**LIVE entertainment, games, face paint, bouncy
castle, FIRE WORKS, treats**

and so much more



For more info. contact Chelsea or Kirstie

Chelsea.hewitt@7oaks.org kirstie.lindsay@7oaks.org

Elwick Village and Resource Centre

1417 Fife Street

204.632.5992



SOCCER SKILLS SUMMER CAMP FOR PLAYERS AGE 4 TO 9 YEARS OLD

FC Northwest coaching staff will be developing players by instructing and teaching the basics of ball mastery with emphasis on receiving and passing; maneuvers for 1 on 1; along with speed & finishing. The coaches will also focus on movements and plays that involve different field positions. The sessions will allow players to work with others to gain confidence and skill that they can then introduce in their own individual game situations.

FCNW would like to offer this program to players' ages 4 to 9 years old who are interested in increasing their knowledge and skill level in a fun, noncompetitive environment. Players will be grouped according to skill level. Rain or shine arrive to field with shin pads, cleats and water bottle.

1/2 DAY CAMPS

DATES: Choose from the following dates and locations

July 2nd – 4th/13: 9 AM – 12 NOON @ East St. Paul CC

OR

July 9th – 11th/13: 9 AM – 12 NOON @ Garden City CC

COST: \$90.00 per player OR a team rate (minimum of 8 players) \$80.00

REGISTRATION FORM

Please submit payment and this registration form on or before June 26th 2013. Cheques are payable to FC Northwest. Mailing Address: FC Northwest, 725 Kingsbury Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R2V 3H9

OR Drop off to FCNW Office 2nd floor at 7 Oaks Soccer Complex

Information posted @ www.fcnorthwest.com or contact coordinator@fcnorthwest.com

Name: _____ Age: ____ Year of Birth: _____ Gender: M F
 Address: _____ Postal Code: _____ Fee: ____ Community Club _____
 Contact Numbers: _____ Email: _____

Any limiting Health Factors: No ____ Yes ____ If yes please specify: _____

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE SESSION:

July 2 - 4: 9 – 12 @ East St. Paul CC ____ July 9 - 11: 9 – 12 @ Garden City CC ____

Release: The undersigned being the parent or legal guardian or the child listed above, do hereby remise, release, and forever discharge the FC Northwest Soccer Club and its agents and employees of and from all manner of action, causes of action, claims or demands in law or in equity which we may hereafter have for and cause, matter of thing and particular by reason of injuries suffered by the said applicant, by reason of an accident or illness occurring during soccer clinics or other events and programs sponsored or conducted by the FC Northwest Soccer Club.

I understand that by completing this form the FC Northwest Soccer Club is collecting certain personal information about my child, me and other members of my family including if necessary my Manitoba Health Personal Health Identification Number (PHIN) and any medical conditions experienced by my child. I also understand this information will be used only for the purposes of administrating the FC Northwest Soccer Club player development and in instructional programs. I hereby consent to such collection, use and disclosure of this personal information.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____



FC NORTHWEST SOCCER CAMP

FC Northwest will be offering Summer Camps to enhance the development of youth soccer players from ages 6 to 14 years old.

The camp is for both the beginner and experienced players who want to enhance and develop their own individual skill level under the guidance of Club Head Coach Larry Ladobruk and Staff Coach Laurie McIvor. Players will be placed in groups according to their skill level. Emphasis will be placed on skill development, technical training, tactical training, fun competitions and small sided scrimmages.

The camps are three days - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday **rain or shine**. **Location:** Garden City C.C. fields adjacent to Canadian Tire

The following weeks are options to choose from, sessions will be under the direction of Staff Coach Laurie McIvor:

Week #1: Aug. 6th, 7th, 8th/13

Skills or Goalie Academy: In week 1 option to participate in a Goalkeeping Clinic in a.m. for the beginner to the experienced player with the main focus on diving with the option to participate in the regular skills camp in the afternoon.

Week #2: Aug. 13th, 14th, 15th/13

Week #3: Aug. 27th, 28th, 29th/13

COST per Week:

Full Days \$130.00 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Supervised lunch hour 12–1)
Half Days \$ 85.00 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Early registration bonus prior to July 19/13: Full Days: \$120.00; Half Days: \$75.00

Participants will need to bring bag lunch, soccer shoes/cleats, shin pads, socks, 2-3 water bottles, sunscreen, insect repellent, and a hat.

Come out have fun, meet new soccer friends while refining your technique learning new skills and concepts, all while building and developing confidence to play a more skilled level game of soccer.

Please pass this information on to any other players who may be interested in attending. Information posted at www.fcnorthwest.com or for any inquires contact coordinator@fcnorthwest.com



FC NORTHWEST SUMMER CAMP

Cheques payable to FC Northwest. Mailing Address **OR** can be dropped off to:

FC Northwest
2nd Floor 7 Oaks Soccer Plex
725 Kingsbury Ave
Winnipeg, MB. R2V 3H9

For any inquiries contact: coordinator@fcnorthwest.com

Name: _____ Yr. of Birth _____ Age: _____ Female _____ Male _____
Address: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone: _____

(Home)

(Cell)

Parents Names: _____ Email: _____

Shirt Size: Youth M ___ Youth L ___ Youth XL ___ Adult S ___

Club Name: _____ Circle One: Recreational; D-League; Regional/Premier

Week 1: Aug. 6th - 8th _____ **Week 2:** Aug. 13th - 15th _____ **Week 3:** Aug. 27th - 29th _____

Full Day: _____ 1/2 day a.m. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. _____ **OR** 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. _____

Goalie Camp: _____ 1/2 day a.m. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. only; OR full day with player skills in p.m. _____

Payment amount submitted: _____ Cheque # _____ Cash: _____

Any limiting Health Factors: No Yes If yes please specify: _____

How did you become aware of the Soccer Camp: _____

Release: The undersigned being the parent or legal guardian or the child listed above, do hereby remise, release, and forever discharge the FC Northwest Club and its agents and employees of and from all manner of action, causes of action, claims or demands in law or in equity which we may hereafter have for and cause, matter of thing and particular by reason of injuries suffered by the said applicant, by reason of an accident or illness occurring during soccer clinics or other events and programs sponsored or conducted by the FC Northwest Club.

I understand that by completing this form the FC Northwest Club is collecting certain personal information about my child, me and other members of my family including if necessary my Manitoba Health Personal Health Identification Number (PHIN) and any medical conditions experienced by my child. I also understand this information will be used only for the purposes of administrating the FC Northwest Club player development and in instructional programs. I authorize FC Northwest to release and to publish any photographs, videos or recordings taken of my child or team along with his/her name. I understand these images will be used in promotional materials for FC Northwest and its affiliated organizations and members. I herby consent to such collection, use and disclosure of this personal information.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian



SEVEN OAKS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION INC.

Foundation

NEWS

Summer 2013

Behind the Board

Meet a few faces working behind the scenes at the Foundation



Front Row: Cory Juan, Pat Stefanchuk, Margaret Brett, Fran Taylor, Ajit Kaur Deol O.M.
Back Row: Avrum Senensky, Irv Simmonds, Bernie Gowryluk, Wayne Shimizu, Ted Ash and Kraig Hillis

When you think of the Seven Oaks Education Foundation, it's only natural to think about scholarships and how they benefit students pursuing a post-secondary education.

But what about the Board of Directors who volunteer their time and energy behind the scenes to help ensure that those scholarships continue?

Here are five of those Board members who took a little time to talk about how they became part of the Board, and why they choose to do what they do to help students pursue their post-secondary education.

Avrum Senensky



If you ask Avrum Senensky how he came to be a Board member, he'll give you a simple answer: he was asked.

"I was actively involved in the Garden City Collegiate 50th Anniversary Reunion - my wife Cheryl was one of the co-chairs," says Avrum.

"This event turned out to be a great fundraiser for SOEF, and afterward, Harriet Zaidman asked if I would be interested in sitting on the Board of SOEF. There was no hesitation on my part. I view it as a way to give back to a great community."

Avrum was himself a recipient of the \$50 O.V. Jewitt Memorial Scholarship for having the highest mark in Math 300 at Garden City Collegiate back in 1975.

"The fact I remember the name and the amount of the scholarship all these years later indicates the lasting impression receiving this scholarship had on me."

He's not the only one in his family with that direct experience with awards and scholarships.

"My eldest son David received numerous awards and scholarships when he graduated from Garden City in 2009 and will be graduating next year with an Actuarial Mathematics and a Double Finance degree from the Asper School of Business," says a

proud Avrum. "And my youngest son, Josh will be graduating with honours from Garden City Collegiate this year. He will be receiving an entrance scholarship from the University of Manitoba and will be attending the Asper School of Business in the fall."

Why does Avrum see scholarships as being such a vital part of education?

"I view scholarships as having two main benefits. First, they are an award for excellence, acknowledging the accomplishments of the students. Second, they are a motivator, inspiring students to continue on with their education.

"I am a very strong believer in the importance of post-secondary education. A higher education is perhaps the most valuable gift that you can give your children. The work of the Foundation provides motivation and opportunities for the students in the Seven Oaks School Division."

Irv Simmonds



When Irv Simmonds was contacted about being a Board member in 2002, he agreed immediately.

"It was an invitation that I couldn't say no to as I received a \$100 bursary from the Scholarship Board when I graduated from Garden City Collegiate in 1976," recalls Irv who has remained on the Board ever since.

"I was very honored to receive the bursary and to be presented the bursary by Ben Zaidman, who was involved with the Scholarship Board for many years.

"It was a great help as tuition and student fees for first year at the University of Manitoba in September, 1976 were \$492 so the bursary paid for over 20% of those costs."

Times may have changed since Irv received his bursary, but the role such awards play hasn't diminished. Irv needn't look further than his own children who are currently attending schools in the Division. His eldest daughter, Rannah, graduated from West Kildonan Collegiate in 2011 with a first year entrance scholarship from the University of Winnipeg. His daughter, Corene, is graduating from West Kildonan Collegiate this June and his son, Stuart is currently in Grade 9. Irv's wife, Terry, also attended H.C. Avery, Jefferson Junior High School and Garden City Collegiate.

For Irv, this first-hand experience with scholarships, bursaries and awards has reaffirmed his belief in the importance of their role in today's education.

"I believe that in addition to appreciating the monetary assistance, students gain an understanding that what they do, both in school and outside of school, is important... and that it is recognized by their teachers, the school division and the community."

In Irv's opinion, the community component is a key one.

"It is important that people in the community get involved with the Foundation by volunteering, making donations, supporting Foundation events and helping to solicit donations from friends, families and businesses.

“By donating and supporting the Foundation it can support more students with scholarships as they pursue post-secondary education.”

Harriet Zaidman



In her role as a Foundation Board member, Harriet Zaidman leads by example – something she learned by following the example set by her own parents.

“I’m a lifelong Seven Oaks resident. I went to Seven Oaks, Collicutt, R.F. Morrison, Jefferson Junior High and Garden City Collegiate. My parents were active in parent-teacher associations when I was young and my father, Ben Zaidman, was a school trustee for 29 years.”

Not surprisingly, with her parents being such an active part of the Division, Harriet gained a lot of insight into education in Seven Oaks.

“I grew up hearing about the work of the Seven Oaks School Board and the then-Seven Oaks Scholarship Board, and understood the importance and value of advancing educational possibilities for youth,” says Harriet. “My own three children were recipients of scholarships, which relieved their financial burden in university.”

“I wanted to support and advance that work as a tribute to my parents, to my kids and to the community.”

Now, as a teacher herself (though not in the Seven Oaks School Division), Harriet sees first-hand the need for supporting young people as they follow their dreams and strive to fulfill their potential.

“A scholarship can inspire potential!” says Harriet. “It can allow a student to explore his/her possible career choices, and reduce the strain that higher education now puts on students and their families.”

“A scholarship also inspires self-confidence - not just within the family, but it demonstrates the school and community think this student can achieve great things. It’s a morale booster.”

Harriet’s son David is himself an example of a scholarship winner who has gone on to achieve great things. A Maples graduate, David is today a lawyer who has had the opportunity to work all over the world and has since returned to Canada and work at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP in at Toronto.

Though she clearly has a multitude of personal reasons for being an SOEF Board member, there’s one that Harriet believes is the reason more people in the Seven Oaks Community should be actively involved with the Foundation.

“Young people are the future and we need to support them in their pursuit of whatever goal they have – to build an educated, advanced society, whether that education is community college, university or other educational institution.”

With that in mind, Harriet encourages people to show their encouragement through donations and volunteer work with the SOEF when needed, just as she and her fellow board members do.

Kraig Hillis



Some Board members had a long history and deep understanding of the role the Seven Oaks Education Foundation plays in the Division. For Kraig Hillis, however, it was a bit different.

“To be quite honest, my knowledge of the Board was quite limited and it was a friend of mine, Mario Coquete, who actually put my name forward to join the Board,” explains Kraig. “Mario had been on the Board for several years at that point and explained the work the Board was doing in Seven Oaks.”

Though he didn’t entirely know what to expect at the time, Kraig saw it as a way to give back to the community where he grew up.

“My family has been in West Kildonan since the early 1950s,” says Kraig. “My father, uncle, aunts all attended various schools within the Division as did both myself and my wife. I also currently have two children in the Division; my son is finishing Grade 11 at West Kildonan Collegiate and my daughter is attending Edmund Partridge and is in Grade 6.”

Kraig's roots in the community extend beyond living in the Division. His business has an equally long history in Seven Oaks.

"Our family business, Hillis Insurance Agencies Ltd., is on to the third generation and our 50th year of serving the community here in West Kildonan."

Now going into his third year on the Board, Kraig feels he has a far better understanding of the important work of the Foundation and the responsibility Board members have to the students of Seven Oaks.

"One important thing that I think awards and scholarships do is reward students for the hard work and perseverance that they have shown throughout their time in school, especially the high school years. Everyone likes a pat on the back for a job well done and by recognizing students in this way, we are contributing to that."

"The monetary help is always appreciated, I'm sure, but the support we provide, I feel, goes beyond that. At least that is the feeling I have gotten from reading the correspondence our Board has received from students who have been recipients of awards or scholarships from the SOEF."

And what about the role of the community?

"That is a very good question. The community is already helping by supporting the students with various fundraisers at the schools, be it plays, BBQs and other fundraising events. But they can continue to help by donating to the SOEF, so we as a Board can continue dispersing the monetary rewards to our students, maybe even increase the amounts of each and the number provided.

"Ultimately the goal is to have all students of Seven Oaks be given the opportunity to attend post-secondary education."

Steve Medwick



You might say Steve Medwick is pretty familiar with the Seven Oaks School Division; he's been a high school Principal and teacher in the Division for 39 years.

That "front line" experience is what inspired him to join the Seven Oaks Education Foundation Board of Directors.

"I feel it is important that both Educators and Community Members give back to the Division and help support our young students as potential future educators and members of the Community," says Steve.

Steve was himself recognized as Garden City Collegiate's Male Athlete of the Year in 1970, his graduating year.

"It was an honour to be recognized as there were many worthy candidates that year," he recalls.

Although Steve is Principal of Garden City Collegiate, it's Maples Collegiate that is the unofficial family school. Steve's four sons also all graduated from Maples Collegiate. In fact, his third son, Matthew received both academic and football scholarships

upon graduating. Today, he's head of the Phys Ed. Department at West Kildonan Collegiate, adding another family connection to the Division.

Through his day-to-day experiences as a teacher, principal and father, Steve has seen how scholarships, bursaries and awards make a difference to students – and he can attest to how the value is far more than monetary.

"It's recognition of their hard work and dedication towards learning," says Steve. "This recognition is important in front of their peers, their parents and also their teachers.

"This kind of recognition improves overall self-esteem and hopefully it helps the drive to be continuous learners and strong role models for their younger siblings and friends."

Like his fellow Board Members, Steve also knows that community involvement is what helps to make scholarships, awards and bursaries continue to be available.

"Community can be involved in a number of ways," says Steve. "People can support Foundation and School Events. They can join the Foundation and spread the word about the great work that the Foundation is doing for the Seven Oaks community.

And, of course, they can encourage the young people to get involved as they grow and to pass this on to other members of the community."



SEVEN OAKS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Visit 7oakseducationfoundation.org for more information on how to donate or to make an online contribution.

The Foundation provides tax receipts for donations of \$10 or more.

Seven Oaks Aboriginal Education Update

Spring | Issue 01
May 2013

“Find your place in the teachings of the ancestors”.

What if what we taught wasn't true? What if we ran our schools in a way that was really harmful to some of our children?

Well, we've done that over the years to First Nations children. The “we” I'm referring to isn't necessarily you and I as much as it is our system of education (historically speaking) with biased text books, residential schools and racist beliefs.

Now we're working to correct that, not so much to make up for the past, but to make things better now and for the future. We want First Nations students to be successful and we want all students to have a healthy regard for one another and for First Nations history, culture and people. It is for these reasons that our Board of Trustees passed our Aboriginal Education policy on April 15th, 2013. The opening paragraph states: The policy out-

lines the division's commitment to make a difference for all of our students through its approach to curriculum, professional development, Aboriginal languages, parent and community involvement, student supports, employment equity and accountability. We're already doing much of what the policy calls for and we're already making a huge difference in the lives and futures of our students. This policy makes public our commitment to do so and affirms, as the saying goes “that we are all treaty people”. Please visit www.7oaks.org to view this entire Aboriginal Education Policy.

Superintendent
Brian O'Leary



SEVEN OAKS
SCHOOL DIVISION
community begins here



Aboriginal Education

Teaching Aboriginal studies in public education is still a relatively new experience in most Canadian schools. As seen from our collective past, non-Aboriginal peoples in Manitoba and Canada have been learning about Aboriginal peoples from an outsider perspective. Basically from perspectives that are not of their own. In many cases, these learning sites had a hand in creating negative stereotypes and developing a misunderstanding of Canada's Aboriginal peoples. For these reasons, our school division has undertaken a number of initiatives to ensure that Canada's Aboriginal peoples have a voice and presence in their homeland.

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7 Ways to
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Difference

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Announcements

Aboriginal Education (cont'd)

It's important to note that our collective Canadian history has played a huge role in developing and perpetuating stereotypes of Canada's Aboriginal Peoples. History as we know it has often been written by the "winners" which is surely the case when it comes to Canada's Aboriginal peoples. Hollywood over the past 100 years has created over 4000 movies depicting "Indians" as blood thirsty savages. Scenes of white settlers in wagon trails being attacked by marauding Indians were common plot devices. It's important to recognize that there are always varying perspectives on any matter- which is why it is important to have all voices present. Up until recently Canada's Aboriginal peoples have been silent in their own home country but this is changing.

Consider for example, how our school division was named after an important historical event that took place near Belmont School. To the Metis, the Battle of Seven Oaks- previously referred to as the Seven Oaks Massacre marks the birth of the Metis Nation. Unfortunately, historians-often non-Aboriginal peoples have chosen to interpret this particular battle in a negative light, showing the Metis as the aggressors contrary to the evidence. Later, a more careful read of history indicates the Metis did not start this battle and they were cleared of wrong doing in a report prepared by William Bachelor Coltman who was appointed to investigate the battle.

We must consider how our written history along with the mass media (i.e. Hollywood) has played a hand in damaging the relationships between

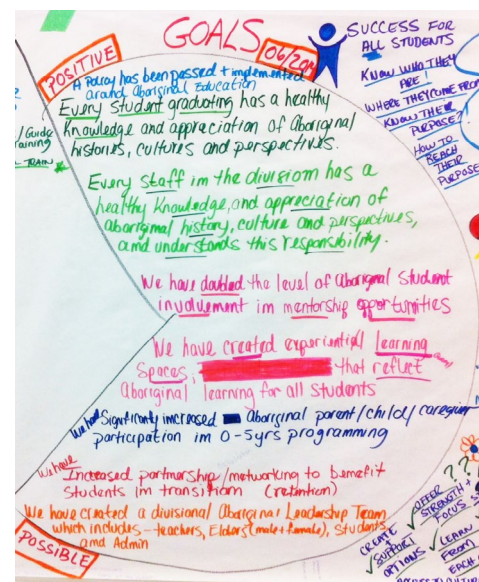
Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Canada. A more accurate and truthful telling of our history will become part of the foundation for reconciliation among our communities as we build a future together. In fact, "Seven Oaks School Division believes that communities are more sustainable and mutually beneficial when we build upon relationships and responsibility to one another to ensure all of our students voices are heard. That is how we mutually benefit. By incorporating authentic learning of and with Aboriginal peoples we can forge a rich collective identity that honours Aboriginal peoples and all our relations" (taken from policy statement).

Building Perspectives

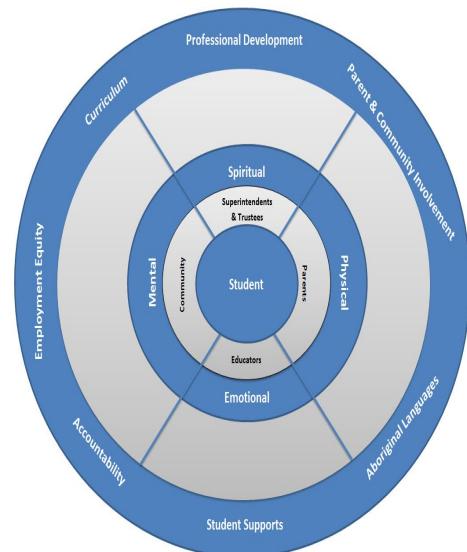
Divisional Initiatives

Discovering our Talents...Discovering Wisdom

This year, as staff and community members we spent time collecting data to identify what efforts were being taken within our school to integrate Aboriginal perspectives. It was apparent that that we are well on our way with some successful initiatives. We are using our divisional internal portal to share this information as it does two important things; first, it provides a list of ideas and contacts, but, secondly it allows us to look at our achievements to celebrate our successes and creativity. This list will be updated regularly and as it grows so will our understanding of the possibilities that lie ahead. We definitely continue to grow and our staff continue to illustrate innovation and dedication as they work to integrate Aboriginal perspectives and to learn from one another. In addition, this year we worked to identify an Aboriginal Education Representative from each of our schools who will act as a liaison between school, divisional and greater community initiatives. These school representatives



will meet four times a year to network, plan, share and benefit from the collective strength of the group. Next year this group will be part of an initiative to develop an Aboriginal education continuum rubric that will serve to support teachers/ schools as they take their next steps to integrate Aboriginal perspectives.





Peace Building Project: Aboriginal and Newcomer Bridging Initiative

We are proud of the Aboriginal and Newcomer Bridging Initiatives we have undertaken. This year, Patrick Harding from Elwick School and the Susan Birdwise from the Adult Learning Centre have both participated in a pilot run of the Peace Building project which in partnership with Menno Simmons College has afforded us with opportunity to share our stories, our culture and traditions with one another.



- Local Anishinaabe Elder Dan Thomas -

SOSD Aboriginal Education Cultural Credit Course

This course aims to create a learning environment that draws from the authentic learning spaces of local Indigenous people's, specifically the local Anishinaabeg. It will engage students with urban and rural teaching spaces through experiential learning that will acknowledge and honor sources of information that stem from Indigenous people's relationship with the land and the spaces they inhabit. The content for the course includes learning through oral traditions, storytelling and songs. This may include attending local cultural events to experience how knowledge has been passed down from generation to generation. Students are encouraged to bring their own cultural backgrounds and life experiences as a source of knowledge as it naturally contributes to the learning environment. This way of teaching and learning weaves together an awareness of all our relationships within a sense of responsibility for all life. It helps students understand that each person must find ways to nurture and/or develop all aspects of their being, which should include developments of our physical, emotional, mental and spiritual self. By developing mindful thinking we naturally learn to appreciate the life that exists in all living things amongst us. This can include an appreciation for the natural elements such a water and mother earth or the plant and animal life. For without these elements, as human beings we would not be able to survive.

Aboriginal Education Directorate



Seven Oaks and the 7 Ways We Plan To Make A Difference

Curriculum.

The division will ensure that Aboriginal perspectives are implemented as basic expectations in all core curricular areas including Social Studies, ELA, History, Math, Science, Physical Education, the K-8 Arts and in French Immersion as outlined by the province.

Professional Development.

Professional learning opportunities will be offered to afford all staff in the division with opportunities to develop a healthy knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal history, culture, perspective and ways of teaching and learning.

Aboriginal Languages

Seven Oaks School Division will be committed to offering Aboriginal language programs for students, staff and parents of the division.

Parent & Community Involvement.

- Staff at all levels shall seek to engage Aboriginal parents/community in active and meaningful ways that demonstrate respect and reciprocity.
- Staff will seek to increase Aboriginal parent/child/caregiver participation in 0-5 year programming.
- A wide variety of Aboriginal people and community resources will be utilized in the development and implementation of Aboriginal education outcomes.

Student Supports.

- The division will develop and maintain supports for students transitioning from rural, northern and outside of Winnipeg Aboriginal communities to attend school in Seven Oaks School Division.
- The division will provide culture and language programming to support academic success and retention of cultural identities.
- Learning opportunities will be created to ensure every student graduating from Seven Oaks School Division has a healthy knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, cultures and perspectives.
- When possible student learning will include opportunities for experiential learning that reflect Indigenous ways of teaching and learning.

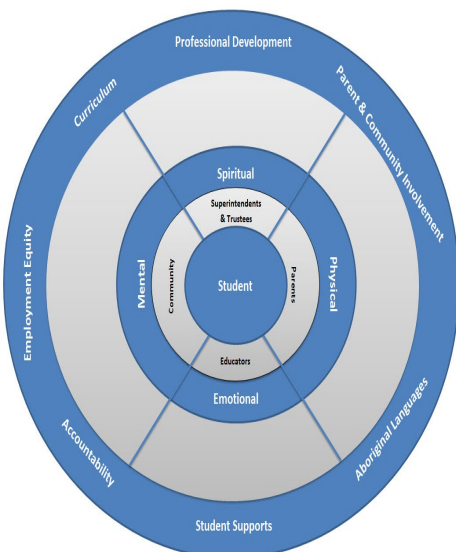
Employment Equity.

The division will maintain and further develop initiatives for hiring Aboriginal peoples for various positions at all levels in Seven Oaks School Division.

Accountability: Assessment and Evaluation.

The Superintendents and Trustees will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Aboriginal Education Policy by:

- Supporting the planning and organization of the educational programs consistent with the goals of this Aboriginal Education policy.
- Ensuring annual plans of all schools and departments include Aboriginal education outcomes.
- Providing opportunity for parents/guardians/community, students and educators to have on-going input into as well as assessment and evaluation of targeted funding.



Upcoming Events

Grad Pow Wow.

The Seven Oaks School Division Graduation Pow Wow began in 2009 as an initiative to celebrate our graduates through Aboriginal culture. This event is open to all people of all ages. Come out to Garden City Collegiate on June 6th for our 4th Annual Traditional Graduation Pow Wow.

CAEM - Council for Aboriginal Education in Manitoba.

October 25th, 2013 SAGE Aboriginal Education Conference will take place at Edmund Partridge School. Keynote speakers include Niiganwewidam-James Sinclair and Kevin Lamoureux.

RTS Partnership & Transitioning from Rural to Urban.

This August 2013 Aboriginal students coming from First Nations communities to attend school will be given an orientation and tour of the city to help them transition to the urban setting and connect them with established programs within the division and Aboriginal Education community.

Accomplishments

Curriculum

- Grade 9 to 12 Indigenous Peoples credit courses offered at Maples Collegiate

Community Building Events in 7 Oaks

- Number of school community feasts growing
- Grandparent / Elder Day .
- Grad Pow Wow and scholarships
- Seasonal Solstice and Equinox Celebrations

Partnerships

- Local Aboriginal artists develop murals in schools
- Restoring The Sacred (Ka Ni Kanichik) Youth Mentorship satellite program piloted at Maples Collegiate
- Administrators on Turtle Island Simulation facilitated by CATEP Students with Assembly of First Nations Toolkit
- MTYP Cultural Connections program piloted in the division this year
- Partnership with the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba brown bag lunch series and resource kit development

Literacy

- Critical review of Aboriginal literature in our libraries
 - Books, DVD's with appropriate Aboriginal content.
 - Invite readers to "I Love to Read", e.g. Wab Kinew
- ### Art, Music and Dance
- Establishing drumming and singing opportunities
 - Divisions Fiddling program continues to expand



Getting Involved.

"Tell me and I'll forget.
Show me, and I may not
remember. Involve me, and
I'll understand."

Professional Development that Builds Perspective

Photos provided by Dave Force

Did you know that in 1972 Margaret Atwood was looking to create a Canadian Anthology that included works written by Aboriginal peoples but she couldn't find anything written from Aboriginal peoples? Did you know that not so long ago if a First Nations person wanted to attend University they had to give up their Indian status and all rights under their treaty provisions. Fortunately, over the past 40 years there has been an explosion of literature written by Aboriginal peoples about Aboriginal peoples!

This year Seven Oaks School Division provided a professional learning series that aimed to support the integration of Aboriginal literature into middle year classrooms. This ongoing professional development series included opportunity for teachers' to develop their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal topics by reviewing literature and creating opportunities for teachers to dialogue, lesson plan and learn from one another. In addition, teachers had opportunities to hear from a number of local Aboriginal

