

## OFFICE OF INDIGENIZATION



FALL **2021** 

# NEWSLETTER

Dear Students,

Greetings from JIBC's Office of Indigenization (OI). On behalf of our team, we send our respects and hope you and your relations are healthy and well during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we have passed through the Autumn Equinox, you may find yourself noticing the sun setting earlier, the nights becoming darker earlier, and the weather getting colder. Give yourself gratitude for all that you are and all that you have surrounding you, celebrate your achievements so far this fall with your own advancement in education and personal growth.



JIBC staff wearing Orange Shirts

### WHAT IS THE OFFICE OF INDIGENIZATION AND WHAT SUPPORTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INDIGENOUS LEARNERS?

The Office of Indigenization (OI) works across the Institution to support JIBC's commitment to Indigenous Education and implementation of its five-year Indigenization Strategy.

When studying at JIBC, the OI offers Indigenous learners holistic services and supports designed with student balance in mind. Students have access to the Elders-in-Residence, the OI Team, the Aboriginal Gathering Place, Indigenous Garden and Traditional Medicines. Throughout the calendar year, the OI organizes events and learning opportunities to observe significant Indigenous occasions and to celebrate and strengthen the active presence of Indigenous ways of knowing, being, relating, and doing at JIBC.

The Aboriginal Gathering Place (AGP) is in AD 135 near the gymnasium at the New Westminster campus. The AGP is open for Indigenous students. If you would like to use the space for studying or to connect with the OI staff, please drop by or email <a href="mailto:indigenization@jibc.ca">indigenization@jibc.ca</a> We look forward to you visiting the AGP soon.



#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Office of Indigenization logo is created by Haida Gwaii artist James Cowpar, and reflects a concept of social justice and the design acknowledges the diversity of Indigenous Peoples.









#### **ELDERS-IN-RESIDENCE LEARNING SERIES**

The OI held our Fall Elders-In-Residence Virtual Learning Series in October and November. If you are interested in any future learning engagements or have an area of interest that you would like to know more about, let the OI know by emailing: <a href="mailto:indigenization@jibc.ca">indigenization@jibc.ca</a>

### Indigenous Perspectives on Indigenous Justice with Elder Caroline Buckshot & Elder Ken Pruden

An Introduction and comparison of concepts and practices of Indigenous Justice and Canadian-Settler Criminal Justice. By examining known causal factors for the disproportionality of Indigenous populations within the criminal justice system and why the re-imagining of the justice system to operate in a fundamentally different way is thought to address and reconcile systemic discriminations, inequities, and injustices in the justice system experienced by Indigenous Peoples. With an overview about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy (BC First Nations Justice Council, February 2020)

### Perceptions of Indigenous Peoples, Policy, and Progress with Resident Elder Larry Grant.

A discussion of personal views of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (2015) Calls to Action and the concept and practices of Indigenization to more deeply understand how these constructs work with reconciliation and ways First Responders can become increasingly culturally responsible in respective disciplines.

### Living Indigenization at JIBC with Elder Phillip Gladue in collaboration with Daniella Sieukaran

Elder Phillip Gladue and Daniella Sieukaran facilitated a dialogue to examine personal understanding about Indigenization and co-construct ideas on how to move Indigenization forward at JIBC in a good way.





### CANADA'S NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

The creation of this statutory day by the Government of Canada responds to Call #80 of the Calls to Action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (2015). Together with the OI and our JIBC family, we mourn together with everyone from across the four corners of our country. We commit to ReconciliAction! If you are interested in learning more about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action, drop by the OI for a copy.

We started out the week when the OI hosted Meet Nicole Day for staff, students, and faculty to drop by the OI meet our new program planner and pick up an Orange T-shirt to wear on campus. We had more than 55 people come by the OI, and we are so pleased that all our campuses across the province participated with us on Sept 29 wearing our Orange T-shirts in unity.

### Engaging in Actions on Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30 is a day to listen, learn, reflect, act and participate. To honor this day, we started the week off with the invaluable knowledge from our Elders-In-Residence of how we can engage in Actions on Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in meaningful ways.

We are grateful to have the wisdom and experience of our Elders-In-Residence to help us act and engage in meaningful ways. We have shared their recommendations on observing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation through our social media channels. Thank you for listening, reflecting, and passing on their teachings for September 30 – and every day.

### NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS (MMIWG2S)

Monday, October 4 was the annual National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), also known as Sisters In Spirit Day. We were joined by the esteemed Honorable Marion Buller, former Chief Commissioner of the National Inquiry into MMIWG, and supported by JIBC Resident Elder Caroline Buckshot for this informative session. As the Honorable Marion Buller so gently reminded us, we have inherited the mess of colonialism and it is upon us all to clean it up. Imagine the change if we all did just one thing. Check out this link to learn from the exceptional leadership and prudent wisdom of the Honorable Marion Buller and be inspired to take actions of any kind in the redress of genocidal violence towards Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2S+ Peoples.

#### RESEARCH

Did you know that the OI conducts and supports ethical research by and with Indigenous Peoples and communities which prioritizes Indigenous knowledge systems, methodologies, and experience? The most recent achievements are two publications:

### **Pathways Partnerships with Indigenous Post-Secondary Institutes Prepared for BCCAT**

Jennifer Anaquod, Jason La Rochelle, Heather Simpson, Dawn Ursuliak. 2021

The goal of this study was to explore current practices that help support and enhance Indigenous students' experiences in post-secondary education. This research emphasized themes of relationships, visibility, geography, and identified barriers that weaken transfer credit pathways. https://www. bccat.ca/pubs/reports/PathwaysPartnerships2021.pdf

### Forming strong cultural identities in an intersecting space of indigeneity and autism in Canada, the United States, Australia, and New Zealand

Heather A. Simpson 2021

This article discusses culturally responsive interventions aimed at supporting strong cultural identity formation and safeguard Indigenous and autistic people from stigmatization, misrepresentation, and erasure of identity. This research paper can be found in JIBC's Vault.

#### **FUNDING FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS**

The OI works with <u>JIBC's Financial Aid Office</u> to communicate funding options and support application processes for student financial aid. If you have any questions about any of these funds or wish to apply, please email financialaid@jibc.ca or call 604.528.5762.

- 1. Indigenous Emergency Assistance Fund. For Indigenous post-secondary learners who are in difficult and emergency situations. You can apply at any time in the calendar year.
- 2. Marvin and Colette Storrow Award. This award provides tuition support for Indigenous students enrolled in a JIBC certificate (6 credits or more), diploma or degree program. Value: \$1,000 awarded annually.
- 3. JIBC General Student Bursary. The maximum disbursement of funds to any one student in a calendar year is \$2000.
- 4. Chief Joe Mathias British Columbia Aboriginal Scholarship. For Indigenous students who are pursuing post-secondary education.

There are external funding opportunities that are administered outside of JIBC. For more information check out: https://www.jibc.ca/student-services/financial-aid-awards/ externalawards#aboriginal.



### **CULTURAL METAL HEALTH SUPPORTS IN AT THE JIBC AND COMMUNITY**



Support is available to all JIBC students by contacting the Senior Manager of Learning Support and Disability Resources, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday to Friday, by phone at 604.528.5884 or 1.877.275.4331, or by email at studentresources@jibc.ca.

The BC Crisis Line is also available 24/7 at 800.784.2433.

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) provides a resource, supports, and services during the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, visit: https://www.nwac.ca/covid19-support/.

Métis Counselling Connection program: Contact mentalhealth@mnbc.ca.

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**New Westminster Campus** Qayqayt, Musqueam and Coast Salish **Traditional Territories** 

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