

May 2007

Aboriginal Education



SD 79/250-748-0321



Punhwe'mun 2007

'The time when the blue camas blooms'



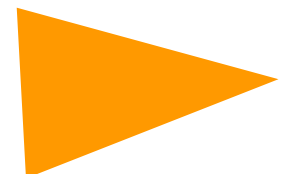
RavenTales Series in District Resource Centre

The first six episodes of the award winning series RavenTales are now available in the DRC. These 25 minute videos use Raven, Eagle and Frog to tell stories based on west coast First Nation legends and characters. These first six episodes are the first installment of a partnership with the creators of the series and School District 79. The next six will be arriving over the next few months. Check it out...students will love it!!

To book this kit contact **Rebecca at the District Resource Centre (748-0321—ext 244)**

KIT 970.00497 RAV

- 1—HOW THE RAVEN STOLE THE SUN
- 2—RAVEN AND THE FIRST PEOPLE
- 3—THE SEA WOLF
- 4—GONE FISHIN
- 5—LOVE AND WAR
- 6—BALD EAGLE



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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.sd79.bc.ca

Integrating Aboriginal Content: Bone Game

About our Department

The Aboriginal Education Department is committed to supporting the goals of the Enhancement Agreement.

These goals are:

- Increasing the presence of Aboriginal culture, language, and history in schools for all students
- Increasing access to and skill level in the use of technology for Aboriginal students
- Increasing attendance
- Increasing academic achievement for Aboriginal students
- Increasing academic preparedness of Aboriginal students

For more information on the Enhancement Agreement, please contact the Aboriginal Education Department.



On May 22nd teachers had the opportunity to participate in a hands on workshop to learn how to use Bone Game in their classrooms. Guessing where your opponent is holding the female bone is a game where 'chance and uncertainty' are incorporated along with 'statistics and probability', 'shape and space'. For more information contact Debbie Paige at the Aboriginal Education Department.

Cowichan Secondary Hosts Suptitul

On May 24, Cowichan Secondary played host to the third annual Hul'q'umi'num contest. Organized by Student Support workers **Darlene and Claudia Sylvester**, this year's contest featured students from School Districts 79 and 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith), Maxwell Bahai International and Quwutzun Smuneem. The students showed their growing knowledge of the traditional language of the territory and represented their schools very well. Our hands are raised in thanks to the students and their teachers who work so hard to revitalize the language through the next generation. A particular congratulation goes out to the students of Koksilah Elementary who place first this year.



NAIG NEWS

With the North American Indigenous Games coming to the Cowichan Valley in 2008, there is an opportunity for teachers and students to learn more about these games. One particular site of interest is the virtual museum featuring interactive student games, a teacher's corner and a history of the event and many of the sports involved. Find out more at www.virtualmuseum.ca/Exhibitions/Traditions/English/index.html



FRANCES KELSEY POLE UNDER WAY

As part of their efforts to integrate Aboriginal content into the school, Frances Kelsey Aboriginal students been working with Student Support Worker **Ken Savard** and local carver **Jacob Joe** to carve a totem pole in their courtyard. The students have roughed out the pole, which features two characters, a killer whale topped by a wolf.

While carving the pole, students have the opportunity to learn about the traditional territory on which the school stands as well as traditional teachings involved with such a project. The raising ceremony is planned for the second week of June. For more information on this project, please contact the school at 743-6916.





Aboriginal Curriculum
Integration Project

The Aboriginal Curriculum Integration Project (ACIP) team recently traveled to the Northwest Aboriginal education region on April 27th to conduct a presentation at Prince Rupert's "Culture in the Classroom" conference that featured Dr. Martin Brokenleg as it's keynote speaker. The ACIP team also traveled to Kootenays region to collaborate with Sinixt educator Marilyn James to begin the process of constructing Middle School Socials lesson plans. These multi-media lesson plans will soon be completed and accessible on the ACIP website for teachers to use in their classrooms.

Available, as of May 18th, is a **new ACIP Socials 7 lesson entitled "Human induced Changes on Communities"**. This learning resource emerged from footage received from Ft. Ware teacher Maria Constandinou. School District teachers **Karen Evans and Linda Moore** worked with ACIP staff to construct this lesson.

To view these and other lesson plans, North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) athlete profiles and information please visit the ACI Project website at www.sd79.bc.ca/programs/abed/ACIP/sample_science_lessons.html

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW COWICHAN TRIBES?

Question:

How many traditional villages make up Cowichan Tribes and what are their names?

Email answer to: dpaige@sd79.bc.ca - Will post answer in next newsletter!

