

Indigenous Education Policy

Approved: September 2025

Rationale

Our school's posture towards Indigenous education, truth and reconciliation is formed by our faith as well as our commitment to IB education. In addition, the IB develops inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through education that builds intercultural understanding and respect.

While our school may not be directly responsible for the harm inflicted on Indigenous Peoples in Canada, this is sadly part of our greater faith community's legacy, and we can follow the example of Ezra who mourned and confessed the sins of his people (Ezra 9). The Truth and Reconciliation Commission provides guidance for the path of reconciliation, through "an awareness of the past, an acknowledgement of the harm that has been inflicted, atonement for the causes, and actions to change behavior."

Policy Statements	Regulations
1. Indigenous Education will be taught at WRCA as part of the BC Curriculum.	1.1 Develop a consistent approach to teaching and learning through BC Indigenous Knowledge and Perspective curriculum, both in curricular and inter-disciplinary areas. 1.2 Develop a scope-and-sequence for Indigenous education with practical elements and age-appropriate resources. 1.3 Seek advice from an Indigenous Education consultant.
2. We will seek ways to better understand the meaning of Truth and Reconciliation in regards to our indigenous community.	2.1 We will provide staff with professional development relating to incorporating Truth and Reconciliation in teaching and learning. 2.2 We will provide staff with relevant resources to better understand the meaning of Truth and Reconciliation in teaching and learning. 2.3 We will consult with the Semiahmoo First Nation and other Indigenous communities and consultants for direction, ideas and support.

3 Our land acknowledgement will be used at pre-determined times.	3.1 We will use the following land acknowledgement statement: <i>“White Rock Christian Academy acknowledges that the land on which we live, learn and play is the traditional territory of the Semiahmoo First Nation.”</i> 3.1 The land acknowledgement statement may be used during the following times: 3.1.1 The day the school designates to observe Truth and Reconciliation Day (Sept 30); 3.1.2 Prior to lessons on Indigenous Education at the teacher’s discretion; 3.1.3 During student assemblies or chapels, if directly applicable (i.e. the topic of truth and reconciliation and/or Indigenous Education is being addressed). 3.2 No member of the WRCA community will be compelled to read the land acknowledgement if their conscience precludes them from doing so.
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The school leadership team through consultation with the school staff developed this policy, and it was approved by the WRCA Board of Directors. It will be communicated to the school community and made available on the school website. The leadership team will review the policy and the WRCA Board of Directors will approve suggested revisions every two years.