



FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION JURISDICTION IN BC *FULFILLING THE PROMISE*

STATUS REPORT

BC FIRST NATIONS JURISDICTION OVER FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION

Activity	Status
Sign Suite of BC First Nations Education over Jurisdiction Agreements	 July 5, 2006
Federal Enabling Legislation Passed	 December 12, 2006
Provincial Enabling Legislation Passed	 November 29, 2007
School Certification and Standards	 Implemented through the First Nations Schools Association since 2003
Teacher Standards and Certification	 Piloted Fall, 2008
Curriculum and Exam Standards English 12 First Peoples	 Completed April, 2008 English 10 & 11 initiated for implementation 2009
Conclusion of Canada-First Nations Education Jurisdiction Agreements	 Completed May, 2008
Canada-First Nations Education Jurisdiction Funding Agreements	 Inadequate resourcing offered. No agreement.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

About First Nations Education Jurisdiction

- 1. What is First Nations jurisdiction over education in British Columbia?** Jurisdiction over education is formal recognition, through signed Agreements, by the federal and provincial governments of a First Nation's right to make decisions about the education of its children.
- 2. What is the scope of First Nations education jurisdiction in British Columbia?** The scope is jurisdiction over Kindergarten to grade 12 (K4-12) education offered in First Nations schools on reserve. *Only First Nations choosing to opt in will be affected.*
- 3. Who will have jurisdiction over education under this agreement?** The Participating First Nation will hold the jurisdiction and can make laws in accordance with its First Nation Law Making Protocol, which sets out procedures for the passage/amendment of First Nation Education Laws.
- 4. What are the benefits of education jurisdiction in British Columbia?** First Nations will gain recognition of what is already being implemented in First Nation schools, and, building on provincial standards, will create standards that meet the specific needs of their learners. Other benefits are community and parental control over K-12 education on reserve, the ability to create a better learning environment, the teaching of First Nations languages, culture and values and the ability to grant our own graduation certificates as well as having access to the British Columbia graduation certificate (Dogwood Diploma).
- 5. Whose education standards will be used in First Nations schools?** In order to ensure a seamless transition between First Nations and public schools it has been agreed that First Nations schools will use the provincial learning outcomes for the core courses leading to graduation. For all other courses First Nations will determine the curriculum standards.
- 6. How will First Nations schools be funded for education jurisdiction?** Funding for First Nations schools will continue to be provided by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada through the Band-operated Funding Formula.
- 7. Where can I find more information?**
Visit www.fnesc.ca/jurisdiction or call t: 604-925-6087 or toll-free in BC: 1-877-422-3672.
(Watch for a new jurisdiction website, coming soon!)