

SD 63 Indigenous Education Monthly Bulletin October 2024

The Saanich Moons



October 2, 2024 to October 31, 2024

 [ĆENQOLEW - The Dog Salmon Return to...](#)

[ĆENQOLEW - Audio File](#)

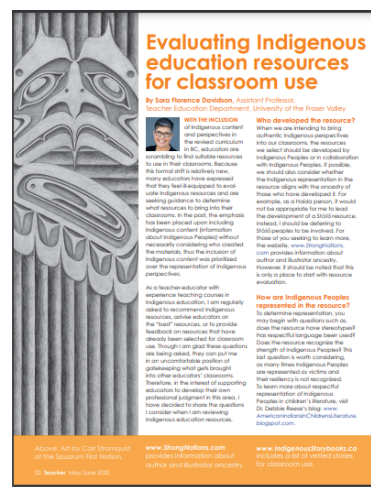
Check out more information about this new moon from the [WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council](#). You can find more information about all the [Saanich Moons on our website](#).

Choosing Authentic Texts

We regularly receive inquiries about whether texts are appropriate for use in a classroom.

[FNESC](#) has good reminders about why to use authentic resources and how to evaluate them.

[“Evaluating Indigenous education resources for classroom use.”](#) written by Sarah Florence Davidson, also provides excellent guidance on resource evaluation.



Beyond September 30

The BCTF has created a fantastic resource for educators outlining ways we can continue to advance Truth and Reconciliation, help carry the weight of the work within our schools, and offer greater support to Indigenous colleagues. [Beyond September 30: Doing the work](#) is a three-page document with specific ways we can all do our part.

One small action I can take to advance truth and reconciliation:

Educate self: “Keep reading and keep listening. It informs me on what my next actions should be in my personal life, in school, and in union spaces.”

Move from learning to action:
*"Move forward on my own journey
 and move through the hard
 emotions to functional action.
 Start conversations with other
 white people about truth
 and reconciliation."*

Support Indigenous colleagues:

"Make genuine space to listen to Indigenous colleagues and to ask the teachers how I can walk with them, step in to give space when time is needed for their own learning."

Keep own positionality and privilege top of mind: *"I can become curious about my reactions and think about my positionality in relation to Indigenous colleagues. I will consider this in my interactions and actions."*

Normalize using the term 'white': "Use the term *white* in a more normalized way to balance it against the term *Indigenous*."

Educate students: “I can teach my students about the achievements and successes of Indigenous peoples to show the vibrancy and strength of their cultures and the resiliency of the individuals.”

Relationship building: *"Making regular contact with the families of my Indigenous students with the aim of developing a positive relationship with them."*

Land acknowledgements: "Learn more about the history (past and current) of the nation I live on and include that in my land acknowledgements." ♦ "I have been writing a new land acknowledgement for every meeting I chair, to share from a place of learning and discomfort, with a focus on what it means to be on stolen land."

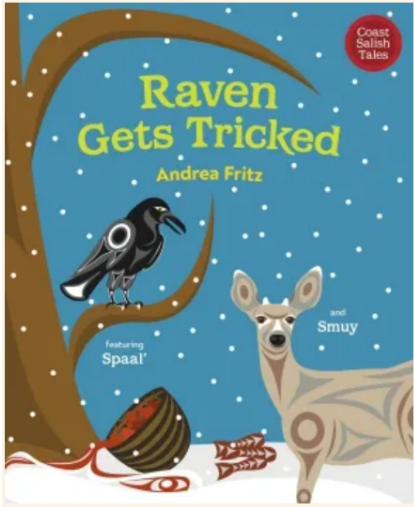
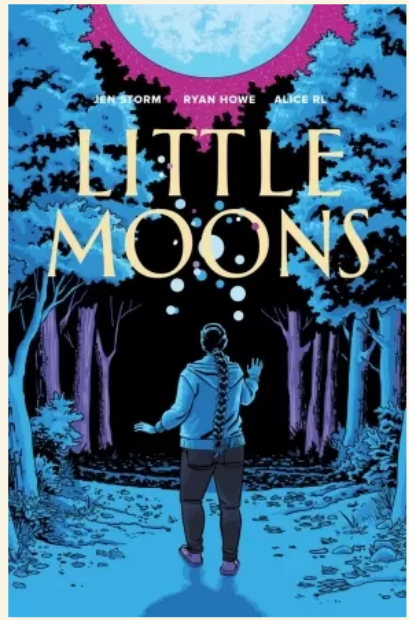
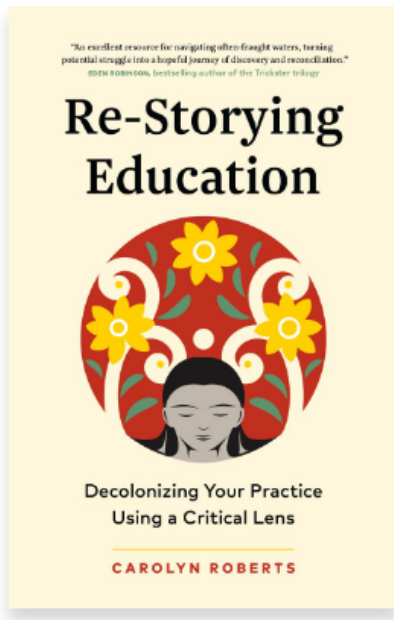
Monetary donations: "I have donated my full day's pay for Thursday, Sept 30 to an Indigenous organization." • "I can regularly donate to the Indian Residential Schools Survivors group [Society]."

Incorporate Aboriginal Ways of Knowing and Being: *"Weave Indigenous ways of being and teachings into day-to-day teaching."*

Continue wearing and displaying orange shirts throughout the year: *"Always have an orange shirt on display in my classroom."*



Recommended Reads

		
Raven Gets Tricked by Andrea Fritz	Little Moons by Jennifer Storm, Ryan Howe, and Alice RL	Re-Storying Education by Carolyn Roberts

Upcoming Dates to Remember - November 8th, Indigenous Veterans Day

Indigenous Veterans Day is observed each year on November 8th. Please check out the extensive resources available on the [Indigenous Education website](#) which include SENĆOTEN phrases, links to and articles about local Indigenous war veterans, classroom resources and more.

Resources to Extend your Learning



The National Center for Truth and Reconciliation has released Youtube versions of its recent Lunch and Learn series on the following topics:

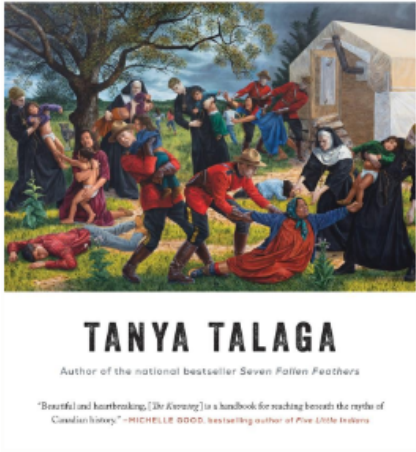
- [Health related impacts of Residential Schools](#)
- [Allyship and Unconscious Bias](#)
- [Indigenous Identity Fraud](#)
- [UNDRIP](#)

The Outdoor Learning School will be offering [4 Seasons of Indigenous Learning: A Personal Journey toward Truth and Reconciliation](#). The program runs from October to May; teachers interested in participating should consult their school-based Pro-D Reps to understand the funds available for this kind of learning.



Find lessons on [Indigenous Mathematical Art](#) shared by youcubed out of Stanford University.

Community Opportunities

	Tanya Talaga at Bolen Books Sunday, October 27th, 7 - 8:30 pm In <i>The Knowing</i>, “Talaga explores her family’s story, beginning with her great-great grandmother, while retelling the history of the country we now call Canada. Deeply personal and meticulously researched, The Knowing is a seminal unravelling of the centuries-long oppression of Indigenous People that continues to reverberate in these communities today”
---	---

	Cree playwright and performer, Cliff Cardinal, presents The Land Acknowledgement or As You Like It. Described as “a devastating yet laugh-out-loud examination of land acknowledgements as cultural and political practice,” the play runs from October 10th to 12th.
---	--

If you have resource recommendations or know of community opportunities you would like to add to the bulletin please email Sally at smorgan@saanichschools.ca.