

---

The Board recognized five students who won medals at the Skills Canada Provincials held on April 17 in Abbotsford.

- Chemainus Secondary students Brandon Young and Haiden Huberdeau captured a silver medal, demonstrating their expertise and commitment to excellence in the Wind Turbine Junior Skills competition;
- Tayden Ross from Cowichan Open School claimed a silver medal in Carpentry, showcasing exceptional craftsmanship and skills;
- Cowichan Secondary student Haruki Ikemura won the gold medal in Cabinetmaking, showing unparalleled precision and creativity in his work;
- Esther Popma from Cowichan Open School was awarded the gold medal in Hairstyling, demonstrating outstanding talent and flair in her craft.

Gold medal winners Haruki Ikemura and Esther Popma have earned the honour of representing the Cowichan Valley School District at the upcoming Skills Canada Nationals in Quebec at the end of May. The Board



: The Moosehide Campaign is a movement of Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys working together to end gender-based violence.

---

Acknowledgements/Appreciation:

- Thank you to all who were involved in the April 15 Non-Instructional Day. The morning focused on literacy and numeracy, with school teams working on their Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) in the afternoon;
- May 1 was School Principals' Day, which recognizes the importance of Principals, from elementary through high school, and all the work they do for the betterment of the school.

National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S), also known as Red Dress Day: May 5 is the national day of awareness where red is worn or red clothing displayed to honour and remember missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people.

Expansion of Integrated Child and Youth Teams: Cowichan Valley will be one of seven new communities to have Integrated Child and Youth (ICY) teams in November 2024. The teams will be based on school district boundaries and will serve the communities within the boundary. ICY teams are part of – the provincial strategy for improved mental health and substance use care in B.C. ICY teams provide services to all children and youth up to age 19 and their families including those attending First Nations-operated schools, independent schools, alternative school environments, and those not in school. Children and youth can connect with ICY teams through various access points including community service providers, school staff, primary care providers, mental-health and addictions services, Foundry centres, and organizations that support First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people.

Provincial Assessments: The June assessment dates for Literacy (Grades 10 and 12) and Numeracy (Grade 10) have been extended from one week to two, June 3-14.

Catalyst Update:

- The District Intermediate Drama Challenge was held at Quamichan School on May 2, with judging by secondary students. Teams of up to five students in Grades 4/5 and 6/7 competed in two categories: "Perform a Scene" and "Improvisation."
- The District Chess Tournament on April 9 saw almost 100 students play multiple rounds and make friends while they honed their skills. Many volunteers from the community as well as teacher leaders helped to make the day a huge success.

Transportation Registration: May is Transportation Registration month. Information on changes to our annual registration process is being sent to parents and is available on the District's website. Registration for 2024-2025 can be completed online from May 1-31.

Canadian Mental Health Week: The Canadian Mental Health Week from May 6-12 is centered on the healing power of compassion. The Health and Wellness Manager is sending out information to District staff.

Pride Month: June is Pride Month. Join the Cowichan Valley School District group at the on Sunday, June 23 at 10 a.m. We will have flags, stickers and a banner to walk behind.



