ANNUAL REPORT ON
Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives
AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

2016

OFFICE FOR ABORIGINAL PEOPLES
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Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge the traditional territories of the local First Peoples, on whose lands the Simon Fraser University campuses reside. These include the Squamish (Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw), Tsleil-Waututh (səll̓ilw̓ ətaʔɬ), Musqueam (x�戕m̓̕aθk̓̕ʷəy̓əm), Kwikwetlem (kʷikʷəƛ̓əm), Katzie, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, and numerous Stó:lō Nations. Traditional names and spellings are mentioned as so far provided.

We also wish to acknowledge Mythic Messengers which is the title of the regular First Nations-style image making up the page border on the previous pages. Local artist Jerry Grey – born in Vancouver and attendee of the Vancouver School of Art - created the original image, which was then cast into a separate bronze frieze by Haida artist Bill Reid.

The sixteen mythic creatures squeezed into curious positions in Mythic Messengers include:

- The Bear Family, a human woman married to the Bear Prince, and their twin cubs.
- Nanasimget, his wife, and her Killer Whale abductor.
- The Sea Wolf who kills and devours three whales a day.
- The Dogfish Woman and her mythic dogfish.
- The Eagle Prince.

Other images and photographs used in this document were provided by community friends and Simon Fraser University colleagues, including SFU Galleries, photographers Greg Ehlers and Dale Northey from SFU Creative Studio, and the Bill Reid Centre.

Cover photography by Greg Ehlers, SFU Creative Studio, “Welcome Figure Installation, March 9th, 2017”
Introduction

This Annual Report concerns Aboriginal strategic initiatives that took place at Simon Fraser University over the course of 2016. Much of this work has been based on the Aboriginal Strategic Plan for the University, which can be viewed on the Office for Aboriginal Peoples website. The successes recorded in this Annual Report have very much been a collective endeavor.

We are providing a report that is not meant to provide extensive details regarding ‘all things’ Aboriginal happening at SFU. It is meant, instead, to be more of a snapshot document, detailing ongoing or new activities happening from year to year. This kind of concise report is similar to what others are doing around the University and in the community.

Hence, with no particular order of initiatives in place, please enjoy the Annual Report on Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives at Simon Fraser University for 2016.

William G. Lindsay
Director
Office for Aboriginal Peoples
Aboriginal Student and Alumni News

- Aboriginal student numbers continue to show steady progress at SFU. The most recent and complete statistics (for 2014/15) show 676 Aboriginal students attending our university. Included in this number are 165 graduate students of Aboriginal heritage.

- A third cohort of the Executive MBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership is now underway.

- The recipients of the 2015/16 Graduate Aboriginal Entrance Scholarships — awards initially established by the Office of the Vice President, Academic — are: (1) Skye Augustine for $54,000 over three years. Skye’s PhD research is in the field of Marine Science, and (2) Elena Pennell for $30,000 over two years. Elena master’s degree is being undertaken in the Anthropology program.
• Nadine Caron, SFU alumnus and medical doctor, is recognized as Canada’s first female Indigenous surgeon. Nadine was featured in a 2016 story on CBC’s The National:  http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/831079491663

• Kelvin Redvers, an SFU alumnus and Aboriginal film-maker, received great acclaim in 2016 for his WE MATTER national video campaign. This initiative is designed to assist in breaking the cycle of depression and suicide amongst Indigenous youth, by providing messages of hope and love from Aboriginal celebrities. A story on Kelvin’s work was featured in the SFU News, Aboriginal Edition for 2016/17.

• Denise Augustine, SFU alumnus and educator, was given a national Indspire award in 2016 for educational leadership. This was a result of her groundbreaking work in the Cowichan school district where she implemented ambitious changes to the district’s Aboriginal cultural knowledge and curriculum. As a result, the school district’s Aboriginal graduation rates have soared from 30 to 58 percent. A story on Denise’s work was featured in the SFU News, Aboriginal Edition for 2016/17.
Aboriginal Staff, Faculty, and Appointee News

• There are currently fourteen (14) Aboriginal faculty members working in various Faculties around the university. These include tenured, tenure track, lecturers, and visiting faculty.

• New faculty member, Cliff Atleo (Tsimshian/Nuu-chah-nulth), has joined SFU’s School of Resource and Environmental Management and Governance. He will be researching Indigenous governance, community development, and political economy.

• June Scudeler (Cree-Métis) joined SFU as the Indigenous Graduate Student Coordinator. She replaces Rupert Richardson who left to pursue doctoral studies.
- Chris Lewis, Band Council Member for the Squamish Nation and SFU alumnus, continues his Board of Governor appointment until the end of 2018. Chris is also currently serving as co-chair of the Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (SFU).

- Squamish language teacher, Khelsilem, began leading the first adult immersion Skwxwú7mesh language program at Simon Fraser University.

- Lyn Daniels, Director of Instruction – Aboriginal Learning, Surrey Schools, has accepted an appointment to the Aboriginal Steering Committee (SFU) as a community representative.

- Tanu Gamble (Haida/Tsimshian) has joined the Indigenous Student Centre for a one year appointment as the Indigenous Clinical Counsellor.

- Elder Evelyn Locker passed away in 2016. Elder Evelyn was long associated with the SFU Aboriginal Transition/Bridge Programs. Her memorial and funeral services were attended by SFU faculty and staff in both Alberta and Vancouver.
Ongoing/Annual Initiatives

- The following offices and staff all continue on with their good work at SFU: Office for Aboriginal Peoples; Bill Reid Centre; Bill Reid Gallery; First Nations Studies Department; First Nations Language Program/Centre; EMBA Program in Aboriginal Business and Leadership; CIHR-Institute of Aboriginal People’s Health; Hakai Network for Coastal People, Ecosystems, and Management; Office of Indigenous Education in the Faculty of Education; Indigenous Student Centre; Indigenous Research Institute; Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology; Aboriginal Transition Programs; Coordinator for Indigenous Graduate Students; Indigenous Initiatives Librarian; First Nations Student Association; Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE) Program; and the Aboriginal Co-Op Coordinator.

- The Indigenous Student Centre (ISC) continues to provide support services to Indigenous students. The ISC offers holistic student support services to First
Nations, Métis and Inuit students at SFU. The ISC continues to collaborate with partners across campus, including FNSA, the Student Success and Strategic Support Division, Student Affairs, Athletics and Recreation, and The Learning Commons to build holistic programming and services to support the academic success and well-being of Indigenous students. The ISC continues to offer Peer Mentorship support, tutoring services, student welcome events, community gatherings in the ISC, the annual Indigenous Honouring Feast, and the Elder’s Program.

- The Coast Salish Drumming and Singing Workshops, sponsored and organized by SFU's Vancity Office for Community Engagement, continues at SFU Woodward's.

- A regular Big Drum group continues on the Burnaby campus. All community members and skill levels are welcome to join, as the Big Drum is a ‘teaching’ drum. The Big Drum sessions are organized by the Indigenous Graduate Student Coordinator, Graduate Studies.

- SFU Woodward’s continues to host performances associated with the annual Talking Stick Festival, with SFU Woodward’s Cultural Programs co-hosting.

- The SFU Vancouver Harbour Centre campus has a First People’s Gathering Place that is Aboriginal in form and appearance with art and signage of the First Peoples gracing the room. Designed as a place for intermingling, discussion, and learning about the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples it is well used by Harbour Centre campus attendees. It is a public study/lounge space but it can be booked (and is) by Aboriginal staff/faculty/students for special events.

- The Faculty of Education (Burnaby campus) also has an Aboriginal Gathering Space. It, too, is Aboriginal in form, appearance/art, and signage. It is fairly new but is so far well-used by the Aboriginal community in Education. It also hosted National Aboriginal Day celebrations on the Burnaby campus in 2016.
A SFU-SSHRC partnership grant on First Nations language documentation and revitalization - approved for funding by SSHRC in 2013 for $2.495 million over seven years - continues its work. SFU researchers, led by Dr. Marianne Ignace, work with more than twenty First Nations community organizations and more than twenty academic co-applicants and collaborators to document First Nations languages, develop digital media and storage, and to support learners. As part of this project, the first of a series of First Nations language apps will be ready for testing in 2016.

Science AL!VE, a student-run, not-for-profit program, managed by the Faculty of Applied Sciences strives to provide interactive opportunities for youth to explore STEM education. Through outreach programs, Science AL!VE reaches students all across British Columbia, including over 1570 Indigenous youth from communities in Haida Gwaii and Northern B.C. Workshops and summer camps focus on incorporating Traditional Knowledge into science activities through community mapping activities and inclusion of Indigenous language and terminology. Science AL!VE also has an ongoing partnership with the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society, providing after-school science
activities, as well as exciting field trips and STEM career mentorship. Science AL!VE endeavours to stimulate interest and foster confidence by making science accessible to indigenous youth province-wide.

- The Pacific Institute for Mathematical Sciences, SFU’s Big Data Hub, the SFU Faculty of Science and Department of Mathematics, SFU Recreation, and the Office for Aboriginal Peoples partnered up in July 2016 to offer the third annual Academic Camp for Aboriginal Youth. Math/Science and English academics, lab experience, peer mentoring, and cultural and recreational activities took place during this camp, which involved twenty-six Aboriginal youth from around southern British Columbia. For the third consecutive year, 100% of youth participants completed the camp, which is a remarkable achievement.

- A one week summer camp involving Aboriginal youth from the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre took place on the Burnaby campus during August 2016. A big ‘thank you’ to SFU Recreation for organizing and hosting this camp which has now taken place for four consecutive years.

- Fraser International College continues to offer First Nations Studies 101 as part of its general course offerings to the international student body attending FIC. The course has proven so popular that FIC now offers it every semester i.e. three times annually.

- The Indigenous Research Institute continues to provide a forum for special events, guest speakers, and communication amongst SFU researchers. A list of these initiatives is prepared by the IRI Chair, Dr. Eldon Yellowhorn, in an annual report to the Vice President, Research. These annual reports can be seen on the Office for Aboriginal Peoples website.

- The annual Lecture Series on Aboriginal Issues once again took place at SFU Woodward’s in March 2016. Hosted and organized by the Indigenous Research
Institute, Office for Aboriginal Peoples, and SFU’s Vancity Office of Community Engagement, it featured four SFU researchers from the Indigenous Research Institute. Presenters this year included: William Lindsay who lectured on *Dragons and Tricksters: An Intersection of Chinese and First Nations Culture, Philosophy, and Leadership* (March 2nd); Cindy Holmes, Bon Fabian, Elizabeth James, Sandy Lambert, and Chase Willier who presented on *Two-Spirit and Indigenous Transgender Stories and Photos of Safety, Belonging, and Well-Being* (March 9th); George Nicholas who presented his lecture *Pragmatism at the Intersection of Indigeneity, Cultural Property, and Intangible Heritage* (March 16th); and Eldon Yellowhorn who presented on *Finding Mile Zero on the Powwow Trail* (March 23rd).

- A tutoring program, involving SFU student volunteers, continued on for a fifth year at the Native Education College in Vancouver. Through this program, free tutoring is provided in math and some of the sciences to Aboriginal adult learners (ABE students) at the college. Veselin Jungic, from the SFU Department of Mathematics, arranges for SFU tutors, who are graduate students in math and sciences.
The SFU News, Aboriginal Peoples’ Edition for 2015-16 was once again published in online and hard copy editions. This annual issue is a great marketing/PR and recruitment tool. New this year are some individual recruitment ads from some participating Faculties/offices (Education, FCAT, Aboriginal Co-op, and FNST). This is a pilot initiative and if it works well, small recruitment ads from other offices/Faculties may also be included in future issues.

Graduate Studies, through the Indigenous Graduate Studies Coordinator, continues to offer stipends for Aboriginal graduate students who would like to present at academic conferences. The fund for this is currently set at $5,000 annually. Applicants may apply for up to $1000. This opportunity is seen as a way for Aboriginal graduate students to present their research in formal conference settings and is a way to encourage their career development as researchers.

Protocol documents concerning Cultural and Research Protocols & Territorial Acknowledgements, the Elder’s Program, and use of the Big Drums – all three campuses now house Big Drums - have been updated and are available on the Office for Aboriginal People’s website.
Special Program Reports

The Bill Reid Gallery

- It has been an extraordinary year for the Bill Reid Gallery. Our special exhibitions celebrated two remarkable artists, Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas and Judy Chartrand, and addressed issues of identity, racism and poverty. We engaged artists Corey Bulpitt and Robi Geary to create a participatory public art project to stimulate public dialogue about reconciliation. We also offered education programs providing participating students with a deeper understanding of Indigenous values and culture. In addition, we secured the funding to mentor several Indigenous and non-Indigenous interns.

- The Gallery Shop continued to profile Indigenous makers and make a meaningful contribution to their livelihood. We also refreshed our galleries to increase the flexibility and aesthetics of our exhibition space, and improved our collections storage areas to meet international museum standards.

- On behalf of the Board and staff of the Bill Reid Gallery, I would like to thank you, our partners, donors, members, sponsors and funders, for contributing so generously to our ability to share Bill Reid’s legacy and provide a platform for Indigenous artists to share their stories and knowledge with the general public.
Aboriginal University Transition Programs (AUTP) Report for 2016

Status:

- Nine Aboriginal University Prep graduates were offered admission to SFU in 2016: seven students enrolled in undergraduate courses in Summer & Fall; and two students deferred admission to a later term.

- The current 2016-2017 cohort has a total of nine students.

New Indigenous course:

- A MOU has been signed with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and approval obtained from the English Department to offer ENGL 112W (3) Literature Now: Canadian Aboriginal Literature in the Aboriginal University Prep Program Spring 2017. This new course examines the ways in which Canadian Aboriginal authors have adopted the forms of the short story and the novel, including popular sub-genres such as fantasy and the graphic novel, and adapted them to Indigenous storytelling conventions.

AUTP Graduate Highlights:

- Sheryl Thompson, Aboriginal Pre-Health Program alumna and honours student in the Faculty of Health Sciences, has co-authored two journal articles for the Global Tobacco Control Project and is featured in an inspirational recruitment video along with Natalie Wood-Wiens, AUTP program coordinator, that was created by SFU’s University Communications team. Sheryl is also a member of SFU’s Aboriginal Reconciliation Council.

- Kye Smith, a graduate of the inaugural offering of the Aboriginal Pre-Health Program in 2009-2010, completed a teaching degree at UBC last year at the top of her class. She credits AUTP math professor Dr. Veselin Jungic as being the first person to validate her dream of being an educator and states that his encouraging words helped shape the trajectory of her life. Ms. Smith is now teaching at the Aboriginal Focus School at MacDonald Elementary.
Math Catcher Program Report for 2016

The Math Catcher Program is a science outreach initiative at Simon Fraser University. Its primary objective is to promote mathematics among elementary and high school students, as well as members of the Aboriginal communities, both in urban settings and on reserves. The program is coordinated by Dr. Veselin Jungic, Teaching Professor and a 3M Teaching Fellow, Department of Mathematics.

Here is a short summary of the Math Catcher Outreach Program activities in 2016:

School Visits
Twenty-six schools across the province; sixty-four sessions with about 1700 students from Grades K to 12

Sample comment:

_The Math Catchers program came to our school, Outreach Alternative, which is a program for students of Aboriginal heritage connected to Britannia Secondary in Vancouver. Professor Jungic gave an active presentation that had students solving math questions from the get-go. We also heard inspiring stories from two volunteers and former students of Jungic, who had struggled with math in school._
They were able to overcome their aversion to math once given the opportunity to solve problems from their own perspectives. The team provided students with many learning opportunities and we had a wonderful afternoon solving math puzzles and doing hands on math activities. The students were very engaged as they connected their minds and bodies to accomplish the tasks. As a teacher, it was exciting to see students engaging with math, doing hands on activities, and impressing the Math Catchers team with their quick problem solving skills. I look forward to having them back soon! - Sarah James, Outreach Alternative Teacher, Britannia Secondary, Vancouver, B.C.

New Small Number Stories
“Small Number and the Old Totem Pole” and “Small Number and the Kiti Foxes”

Sample comment:

My name is Carlito and I am seconded for a job called First Nation Student Success Program Coordinator at North Peace Tribal Council High Level, Alberta. I watched all your stories about Small Number. I like the idea of incorporating numeracy in the story and at the same time with FNMI content. I am asking your permission if I can share this link to our First Nation school members. I love teaching math. I hope that I can see more math lessons with Aboriginal content.
– Carlito Somera
New Animated Films:

- Three films in the English language narrated by Buddy Willard Joseph of the Squamish Nation and Bethani L’Heureux of the Cree Nation.

- Two films in the Squamish language narrated by Setálten (Norman Guerrero Jr.) of the Squamish Nation.

- Two films in the Hul’q’umi’num’ language narrated by Swustanulwut (Delores Louie) of the Chemainus Nation and Siwut (Thomas Jones) of the Snuneymuxw Nation.

- One film in the Sliammon language narrated by Ochele (Betty Wilson) of the Sliammon Nation.

Sample comment:

This is wonderful Veselin. You’ll be happy to know however that I plan to use all the Squamish Language stories in my full-time Squamish Language immersion program starting next week at SFU! Iy, na yewán ha7lh kwi a sts’its’ap ten kwúpíts Setálten! Ha7lhshen ti nch’ú7. An chen wenáxwestumi. (And, amazing work my brother Norman. I really like this one. Lots of respect to you!) – Khelsilem Rivers, Squamish Nation

Conference Presentations and Workshops - Ten in total.

Sample comment:

I would like to take thank you once again for such an informative, engaging and inspiring workshop. The staff enjoyed your presentation and the fun hands-on activities. We look forward to applying what we learned today into our classroom. - Terrie Low, Grade 2/3 teacher, Thunderbird Elementary School, Vancouver, B.C.

Articles and Blogs:


We also had a report on the reception of European mathematics among the Indigenous people of Western Canada, and on efforts to overcome the resistance to European mathematics resulting from its associations over decades with education designed to eradicate indigenous cultures (see Archibald and Jungic in this volume). Perhaps more obviously ethnographic studies of this sort might supply a model for reading the cultural position of mathematics in other classrooms. - Brendan Larvor, Reader in Philosophy at University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom
Third SFU Academic Summer Camp for Aboriginal High School Students

Sample comment:

The camp was incredible for my son, and I watched the video of his thank you speech, and saw a part of him that I hadn’t in some time! Passion, humor, confidence and appreciation. There is not one thing he didn’t enjoy! He told me that the kids at the camp, were among the nicest people he has ever met. He loved the teachers, yourself included. It opened his eyes to areas of science he didn’t know existed. Math has been a struggle for him, in terms of keeping his interest, and not being such a chore...and now he has a different outlook on it thanks to this camp! I think he would quite possible have gone the ENTIRE summer if he could have! He desperately wants to return next year, as does my 11-year-old when she is of age!

This camp met so many different needs for the kids...spiritual, social, intellectual, and physical. Not all of these needs are met through traditional classrooms or family life. You and the others have made a difference in my son, the way he sees himself and others in the world. – Mother of one of the camp participants
Sixth Aboriginal Students in Math and Science Workshop.

Presenters:
- Shawn Desaulniers of the Métis Nation, UBC.
- Robert Cardinal of the Blackfoot Nation, University of Calgary.
- Edward Doolittle of the Mohawk Nation, First Nations University of Canada.
- Kyle Bobiwash of the Mississauga Nation, SFU.

Students had the opportunity to meet with these four prominent Aboriginal scientists who presented at the workshop. Brooke Peters, a grade 10 student who experienced the SFU campus for the first time thoroughly enjoyed the workshop:

_The campus was beautiful and most people were very friendly to us. Overall it was a really good experience for me to go…_

Also: _Events such as this go a long way in promoting university as a friendly and welcoming place for our students to achieve their post secondary aspirations._

- Gerry Brach, MEd, First Nations Leadership Coordinator, Brooks Secondary School, Powell River, B.C.
It was the sixth year of the SFU-Native Education College Volunteer Tutor Initiative. More details are available at http://mathcatcher.irmacs.sfu.ca/ 

- In 2016 the Math Catcher Program has been supported by generous donation for the general public and the following institutions: the SFU Office for Aboriginal Peoples, the SFU Faculty of Science, PIMS, NSERC, the SFU Department of Mathematics, the IRMACS Centre, the SFU Department of Linguistics, the UBC Department of Mathematics, the Indigenous Student Centre, the SFU Library, and the Teaching and Learning Centre.

First Peoples Accelerator and Awards Program

- A $1.3 million gift to SFU from RBC continues to help prepare Aboriginal leaders in entrepreneurship and innovation. The gift is used to fund two separate initiatives at SFU designed to further Aboriginal business and social enterprise: the RBC First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator and the RBC Award in Aboriginal Business and Leadership. The RBC Foundation provides $100,000 a year to establish the RBC First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator at SFU. It supports the development of Aboriginal entrepreneurs and advance early stage businesses.
and social ventures that contribute to the development of sustainable, healthy economies. The accelerator has been developing partnerships with local Aboriginal groups and First Nations to deliver leading edge incubation programming and technical assistance for entrepreneurs, coupled with a strong research and evaluation process. It is being facilitated by RADIUS, the Beedie School of Business’ social innovation lab and venture incubator, in partnership with the EMBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership at the Beedie School of Business. As well, the RBC Award in Aboriginal Business and Leadership provides SFU with ten years of scholarships worth $30,000 per year to encourage Aboriginal undergraduate and graduate students to consider entrepreneurship as a career option.
Highlights from SFU’s Vancity Office of Community Engagement

• Annual Speaker Series on Aboriginal Issues (March 2016).

• Regular Coast Salish drumming and singing workshops with Russell Wallace.

• Continued partnerships with Karen Jamieson Dance, True Voice Theater, Heart of the City.

• Festival and the TBD Residency Project which has significant Indigenous involvement.

• Film screening and panel discussion with emerging Indigenous filmmakers Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers and Banchi Hanuse (November 9, 2016).

• Red-x in partnership with the Trudeau Foundation (November 17, 2016).

• Documentary film release and concert with First Nations singer/artist Willie Thrasher (November 18, 2016).

• Talk and discussion on community-owned solar energy with Melina Laboucan-Massimo (November 23, 2016).
New Initiatives and Activities

- **SFU strikes a task force to develop a strategic initiative in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action.** The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) called upon Canadians to engage in an ongoing process of reconciliation. Responding to this call, and building on its Aboriginal Strategic Plan, Simon Fraser University undertook a strategic initiative in 2016-17 to help the university better address the needs of Aboriginal students and communities. The Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (ARC), as it was soon called, undertook consultations with the goal of developing recommendations for a three-year program that would reflect the principles and spirit of the TRC Report. The group – which included representatives from across SFU - conducted both internal and external consultations. It was co-chaired by Kris Magnusson, Dean, Faculty of Education, and Chris (Syeta’xtn) Lewis, Squamish Nation Councillor, SFU alumni, and SFU Board of Governor’s member. The ARC final report will be released in mid-2017.
• An Aboriginal People’s Gathering Place – official name to be decided - is being prepared at the SFU Surrey campus. It will also have Aboriginal signage, recognition of traditional territory, art and cultural artifacts, and educational signage regarding the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples of Canada. The space will be place to safely mix and mingle, study, and learn about the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. It will have an official opening in the Fall of 2017.

• Progress continues to be made regarding the creation of a Residential School Memorial and Education Project in the Faculty of Education. This is being done in conjunction with an overall renovation of the Faculty wing/buildings.

• In the Fall of 2016, Squamish language teacher, Khelsilem, began leading the first adult immersion Skwxwú7mesh language program at Simon Fraser University. In its first year, the program has fifteen students who meet for class at SFU Harbour Centre campus. A second cohort is being planned for the Fall of 2017.
• Indigenous Day took place in Convocation Square on the Burnaby campus (September 28, 2016). This celebration showcased vibrant Indigenous cultures through a variety of traditional song and dance performances, storytelling, lessons in hoop dancing, and the playing of sla-hal (an Indigenous drum/hand game). As well, almost forty artisans displayed their wares. Hosted by the First Nations Student Association, the now annual event attracted hundreds of onlookers and participants. The cultural performances, elders, traditional vendors, traditional foods, and table presentations made for a memorable and educational day for the whole community.

• The President’s Dream Colloquium on _Returning to the Teachings: Justice, Identity, and Belonging_ took place from September 8 - November 24, 2016. Colloquium speakers included Chief Robert Joseph, Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, Wab Kinew, Manulani Aluhi-Meyer, Stephen Reicher, Rupert Ross, Jennifer Llewellyn, John Borrows, and Wade Davis. A special Closing/Honoring Ceremony took place in December at the conclusion of the series.
A new Simon Fraser University app showcasing Indigenous art pieces on the Burnaby campus gives users a glimpse of the unique worldviews represented by Indigenous art. It also creates a stronger awareness of the Coast Salish territories on which SFU is situated. The app is just one example of how SFU is working to Indigenize various aspects of its campuses and curriculums. Bryan Myles, director of the Bill Reid Centre for Northwest Coast Studies in the Department of First Nations Studies, was charged with developing the app, called ímesh — meaning “to walk” in Skwxwú7mesh sníchim (Squamish language). Available for Apple iOS mobile devices, the ímesh: Indigenous Art Walk app is a self-guided walking tour that describes the Indigenous art pieces on the Burnaby campus and at adjacent Burnaby Mountain Park. The app also connects Aboriginal students and visitors to the myriad of Indigenous services and offices available to visit on the campus. Information concerning the app can be found on the Bill Reid Centre and Office for Aboriginal Peoples’ websites.

National Aboriginal Day was celebrated in the Aboriginal Gathering Space in the Faculty of Education (June 21, 2016). Aboriginal food, drumming, music, and words made up the festivities. The event was co-hosted by the Office for Indigenous Education in the Faculty of Education, the First Nations Student Association, and the Office for Aboriginal Peoples. Bannock tacos, bison burgers and other refreshments were served. The formal program included cultural sharing by Khelsilem from Kwi Awt Stelmexw (Squamish Nation) as well as words from Mr. Christopher (Syeta’xtn) Lewis, Elected Councillor Squamish Nation & SFU Board of Governors; Dr. Richard Vedan, Elder, Faculty of Education, SFU; Dr. Kris Magnusson, Dean, Faculty of Education, SFU; and Ms. Megan Rosso, Council Member, First Nations Student Association, SFU.

The Office for Aboriginal Peoples/SFU once again partnered with the Native Education College (Vancouver) in organizing and hosting a Native Basketball Tournament in May 2016. Thirty-two Aboriginal teams, over 300 players, and hundreds of spectators attended from BC, Alberta, and Washington State. Games took place in the Burnaby campus gymnasiums. Most of the funding and organization was provided by the Native Education College, allowing this tournament to take place for the third time at SFU. The Office for Aboriginal Peoples provided some funds for the gym rentals and some organizational
support. Two basketball workshops for Aboriginal youth also took place as part of the tournament. These were facilitated by SFU varsity basketball men’s and women’s coaches and players. The tournament received some excellent media coverage, including a story on CBC’s *The National*.

- SFU hosted the first HaiCo World Indigenous Basketball Challenge the week of August 10-13, 2016. The tournament featured ‘Indigenous teams’ – that is, peoples with a history of being colonized by Europeans much like Canada’s Indigenous peoples - from around the world. This included a team from New Zealand, who performed the famous Haka dance before their games. The tournament took place in SFU’s West Gymnasium. According to the tournament organizer, over 20,000 people watched the games online and over 3000 people attended the games in person, including Dr. David Suzuki. The tournament also received widespread media coverage. SFU Student Services/Recreation and the Office for Aboriginal Peoples were amongst the co-sponsors for this event. The tournament had many other sponsors and was completely organized by members of the Haida Nation.
• The second SFU-UBC Indigenous Graduate Student Symposium took place at the UBC First Nations Longhouse in March 2016. Herein, Indigenous graduate students from both universities presented their current research in a conference format. Partnering offices within SFU include Graduate Studies, Faculty of Education/Office of Indigenous Education, Office for Aboriginal Peoples, Indigenous Research Institute, and the Department of First Nations Studies. Each of these units contributed funds and some organizational skills to the endeavor. The symposium mixed academia and culture, and had a Friday night social for the first time. The keynote speaker was acclaimed First Nations academic, Dr. Pam Palmater, from Ryerson University.

• The annual Gathering of the Salmon People orientation/welcome was again hosted by the SFU Faculty of Education on September 29, 2016. Composed of an elder welcome, a panel of Aboriginal experts, breakout sessions, and lunch, the day served a fun, memorable, and educational purpose for participating staff, faculty, and students.

• The Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology had a first time Aboriginal-oriented welcome/orientation event called Hile’kw. This took place at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster in September 2016 and was arranged for FCAT students, staff, and faculty. Cultural presentations and Aboriginal information sessions of all kinds took place. Please see http://www.sfu.ca/fcat/first-year-experience/fcatwelcome.html

• The Indigenous Student Centre collaborated with Residence and Housing to pilot the Indigenous Student Cultural House (ISCH), a new living and learning community available in SFU Residences (Burnaby Campus). The program began in September 2016 with a cultural ceremony facilitated by a local Coast Salish spiritual leader. This was to honor and recognize local Coast Salish ceremonial practices. The ceremony also provided the house community members the opportunity to begin their semester with a strong foundation of cultural care and support. Four SFU Indigenous students are living as a community in one townhouse. ISCH community members develop leadership and peer mentorship skills, participate in cultural activities and work together to plan one Indigenous
A new guidebook has been created for designers and merchandisers. *Think Before You Appropriate* can help these ones avoid the pitfalls of cultural appropriation, and reap the benefits of collaboration with First Peoples. The guidebook, available online as a PDF, was created by members of the IPinCH Project — Intellectual Property Issues in Cultural Heritage, directed by SFU professor George Nicholas. The international IPinCH Project team spent eight years exploring the rights, values, and responsibilities of material culture, cultural knowledge and the practice of heritage research. The group is now applying what it has learned to help both non-Indigenous and Indigenous designers, product developers, and policy-makers make more informed decisions about their own and others’ heritage. To date, IPinCH has posted more than 70 videos, as well as reports and resources, on its website that explore and explain issues related to cultural heritage and appropriation.
On March 9, 2016 Aboriginal students Grades 9-12 visited SFU’s first *Aboriginal Preview Day*. During the one-day event, students from twenty-two schools toured the Burnaby campus, met Aboriginal faculty and staff, and learned about the diverse program offerings and support available at the university. Activities also included an Indigenous Jeopardy trivia game, a Zumba class, information booths with Aboriginal members of staff and SFU faculties, and a keynote presentation by Amy Parent, an education professor who studies Indigenous students transitioning from high school to university.

A special cohort of SFU’s *Master of Arts for Teachers of English* (MATE) program, was offered in 2016. The two-year, full-time program is offered through SFU’s Department of English for high school English teachers wishing to earn a graduate degree. For the first time, the program focuses on Aboriginal literature. Professor Deanna Reder hopes this new emphasis will encourage more English teachers to teach English 12 First Peoples, an alternative academic English course for all students that was incorporated into the B.C. high school curriculum in 2008.
The SFU-SFUFA Collective Agreement for 2014-18 contains language in section 28.18–28.22 that allows for Indigenous faculty to anticipate how their non-traditional scholarly production might be assessed. For example, under the heading, *Criteria for Assessing Non-Traditional Scholarship*:

28.18 Without diminishing the requirement of faculty to demonstrate a record of achievement consistent with the relevant provisions above, the parties recognize that certain faculty members or groups of faculty members may engage in non-traditional forms of scholarship.

28.19 Examples of such contributions include but are not limited to:

28.19.1 Indigenous or other non-Western forms of scholarship and/or teaching.

28.22 A faculty member may request that one external referee have expertise consistent with the non-traditional work to be reviewed; where appropriate, and with agreement of the TPC, this referee may be a person with expertise and stature who may not have academic credentials.
Ancillary

- The publication, *Roundup: The Voice of the BC Museums Association*, had a special ‘Indigenization – Embracing Indigenous Worldviews’ theme for their Spring 2016 issue. SFU staff/faculty contributed two articles: “Creating a Digital Landscape” (Barbara Winter, Curator of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, et al.) and “Indigenizing Simon Fraser University” (Bryan Myles, Director of the Bill Reid Centre, and William G. Lindsay, Director of the Office for Aboriginal Peoples).

- Dr. Rudy Reimer/Yumks, Assistant Professor in the Departments of First Nations Studies and Archaeology, had a contributing/hosting role in APTN’s *Wild Archaeology* show. The Vancouver Sun article in the link below provides details concerning the show and Dr. Reimer. A similar article appeared in The Province newspaper. [https://connect.sfu.ca/service/home/~/?auth=co&loc=en_US&id=285296&part=2](https://connect.sfu.ca/service/home/~/?auth=co&loc=en_US&id=285296&part=2)
In October 2016, the prestigious Financial Times published a very complimentary article on SFU’s EMBA Program in Aboriginal Business and Leadership:
https://www.ft.com/content/09dbc20e-8177-11e6-8e50-8ec15fb462f4

In November 2016, a Globe and Mail newspaper special supplement listed Canada’s Top 100 Employees for 2017 and included a photo from the SFU Black Eagle Canoe installation ceremony for the supplement’s cover: http://www.canadastop100.com/national/

SFU Woodward’s, the Vancouver International Film Festival, and Telefilm partnered up to present the documentary *Haida Gwaii: On The Edge of the World*, on October 20, 2016. The film played in the Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema in the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts.

*Indigenous Science: Science Literacy Week @ SFU Library* was hosted at SFU Harbour Centre on September 22, 2016. Western science typically sees itself as outside human culture. From this position it may seem to be in opposition to Indigenous systems of knowledge about the natural world. Yet both systems are culturally conditioned and both attempt to understand, explain, and predict natural processes. Indigenous sciences and Western science have evolved differently, but what is the relationship between them and how might they work together? The presentation’s panel of speakers – Kyle Bobiwash (Anishinaabe), Lindsay Heller (Cree), and Shirley Turner (British settler) — investigated this relationship from the perspectives of science education and scientific research. Moderated by Jenna Walsh, Indigenous Initiatives Librarian at SFU, this event was designed to be of interest to researchers and educators.

Reports are regularly prepared by SFU Aboriginal staff/offices for the Ministry of Advanced Education. As examples, a 2016 report on *Culturally Welcoming Spaces for Aboriginal Learners* was prepared for the Teaching Universities, Institutes, and Aboriginal Programs Branch, B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education. In 2016, AVED also requested a report on ‘leading Indigenous
practices’ from SFU (which was provided). For this purpose, leading practices was defined as practices that lead to successful outcomes. These practices were gathered from the collective wisdom, knowledge and experience of Aboriginal education practitioners and policymakers and leaders within British Columbia’s Aboriginal post-secondary education system.

- The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) has compiled a list of ways to acknowledge First Nations/Aboriginal territories and peoples at institutions across B.C. and Canada. SFU has contributed to this list.
Conclusion

Please note that there are numerous other exciting Aboriginal initiatives that have begun but are, as yet, too early to include in the Annual Report for 2016. These will certainly be included in the report for 2017.

Comments or questions about anything in this Annual Report can be directed to the Office for Aboriginal Peoples at http://www.sfu.ca/aboriginalpeoples.html