SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY-WIDE STRATEGIC PLAN

REPORT SUMMARY

2010
Appendix A
First Nations Five Year Action Plan 2010-2015

An articulated vision is recognizably a critical first step towards establishing the future for First Nations at Simon Fraser University. Equally important, however, is the roadmap for accomplishing that vision. Following is a concise five year action plan that will form the operational strategy of the new Office For First Nations and which will be the basis upon which annual progress reports and the ultimate evaluation of the Office’s success will be measured.

Introduction:

The SFU First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan was passed by Senate in 2007. The implementation of points within the plan have proceeded slowly as the hiring of a new Director, Office for First Nations was deemed a necessity to begin work on implementing the plan as a whole. It should be stated here, however, that the prior work of others here at SFU — including members of the First Nations Student Centre, student services, and various Aboriginal staff/faculty — either laid the groundwork for the current implementation of the Strategic Plan or they were directly responsible for implementing aspects of it.

In 2009, the first Director, Office for First Nations was hired and in January 2010 he began his tenure at SFU. The office’s Administrative Assistant began work at the same time. The Office for First Nations was thus staffed, set up, and open for business as of January 2010. The First Nations Five Year Action Plan title (above) thus has its dates changed above from 2007-2012 to 2010-2015 to better reflect the realistic unfolding of the Strategic Plan, as the new Director is now on board. A First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee document was prepared in January 2010 by the Director, Office for First Nations in consultation with the Vice President, Academic and Provost, which formed the basis for the formation of a First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee, which was in place by March 2010. In April 2010 the Office for First Nations changed its name to the Office for Aboriginal Peoples.

The First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee has representatives from all of the Faculties at SFU, as well as, from Graduate Studies and Continuing Studies, from Student Services, and the First Nations Student Association. An Aboriginal Elder is also part of the committee. Please see Appendix C for a list of committee members. This committee has been formed for the following purposes: (1) It will provide ongoing direction regarding the implementation of the SFU First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan (2) It will serve as a liaison group regarding Strategic Plan initiatives vis-à-vis the rest of the SFU community.

Note: The places highlighted in black below indicate completed or current areas of movement in the SFU First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan.
1. **Academic Program Development:**

Goal: Integrate innovative First Nations culturally relevant content into the curriculum and assist academic departments or units in the development of courses and programs that include a First Nations perspective.

Actions:

- Support the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in its evaluation of First Nations programming at the SFU Kamloops campus.  
  *This program is currently under review.*
- Support the development of distance education based course delivery to First Nations students
  1. The Faculty of Education is already doing programming in this area.
  2. Continuing Studies is currently in the beginning stages of the development of an on-line Cross Cultural Communications course which when completed can/will be a part of the Aboriginal University Prep Program - now Aboriginal Bridge Program.
- Support Continuing Studies development of a new university-wide Aboriginal Preparatory program
  
  Senate has approved an updated and improved Aboriginal Bridging Program. Students will now get actual SFU credit for the credit courses that are part of the AUPP (Aboriginal University Preparation Program) curriculum. They will also get a conditional acceptance into SFU. That is, if they successfully complete the program/credit courses, they are then accepted as SFU students should they wish to continue at SFU. Previous students who successfully completed the program will now get credit for those courses. In other words, the credits and conditional acceptance are retroactive.
- Identify academic units of strategic potential for developing new academic programming and seek to develop new programming in those areas
  1. The SFU Senate approved the First Nations Studies Program as a program “major” in April 2010.
  2. In March 2010, three senior Aboriginal (Chiefs) and three non-Aboriginal community and business leaders completed the inaugural offering of the *Leadership Exchange Program*. The Learning Strategies Group (LSG) at SFU Business and the Industry Council of Aboriginal Business (ICAB) launched the program in November 2009. This is the first university-based business relationship development program in Canada to bring Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal senior leaders together to learn from each other.
  3. The SFU School of Business also has several students, both graduate and undergraduate, working on projects with First Nations, and plans to expand that aspect of their work. Also in the works is a planned version of the Executive EMBA, which will focus on Aboriginal Business.
  4. A project the SFU Faculty of Business is involved in with the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation and the federal and provincial governments, called the *Aboriginal Leadership Initiative*, is working to promote social and economic development by supporting pilot projects in three communities of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council in British Columbia.
(5) **Literacy Lives** is a project that will begin to be rolled out in the spring of 2010 through SFU’s Community Education Program in Continuing Studies. The main component of the project is to develop an approach and model for delivering literacy and essential skills that are embedded in material on HIV/AIDS. The long term goal is for people to have some literacy, essential skills, and outreach skills related to supporting people with HIV/AIDS. They will gain capacities that can lead to further education, employment, and/or community involvement. The development piece will take some time, as there will be community consultations held to find out what type of method and approach would work for the diverse, multicultural learners in the DTES who experience multiple and complex barriers and social exclusion. Collaboration with Aboriginal agencies such as the Aboriginal Front Door Society and Vancouver Native Health will be explored. Aboriginal people will be included in the consultative process and in the pilot testing phase that will come later in the project. Project partners include: Dr. Peter Centre, BC Centre for Excellence, Literacy BC, and Pacific AIDS Network, all of whom have Aboriginal clients.

(6) **Stepping Stones** is another twenty-four month project that includes Community Education Programs, 7th Floor Media, and the Research and Evaluation Unit in Continuing Studies. This project will design an innovative model and approach for an interactive and mixed mode on-line delivery of an academic literacy program for Aboriginal people living in remote communities. Partners include Sto:lo Nation Human Resources Development, the Lower Stl'atl'imx Tribal Council, Literacy BC, First Nations Technology Council and BC Campus. The program will be developed in consultation with First Nations community members and tested in partner communities to ensure an approach that is appropriate and culturally relevant.

(7) **Community Education Programs, 7th Floor Media, and the Research and Evaluation Unit in Continuing Studies** are also creating an interactive on-line module that will be incorporated into the above projects, called “Cross-Cultural Communication Skills for Aboriginal Students.” The tool will support and acknowledge the challenges of negotiating cultural differences encountered by many Aboriginal students in post secondary institutions.

- Identify needs of First Nations peoples and communities for graduate programming and seek initiatives to develop and support the development of these programs within academic units across the university.
- The Faculty of Education has been involved in this work for some time.
- Work with all areas currently offering First Nations programming, including First Nations Studies, to determine how the Office For First Nations might support their initiatives.

(1) The Director, Office for First Nations will be sitting on the Steering Committee responsible for the First Nations Studies Program, to provide his input and support to this committee.

(2) The Director, Office for First Nations is currently in discussions with the First Nations Studies Program, with the goal of perhaps offering a course in Inuit Culture and History in the program in 2011.
• Strive to develop a First Nations Visiting Scholar series
• Work with the Library, Student Learning Commons and Student Services offices to develop the necessary culturally relevant resources and academic tools necessary for the success of First Nations students
(1) The SFU Library’s Student Learning Commons (under the direction of Moninder Bubber) has been working with the First Nations Student Centre to provide ongoing academic support and workshops to the Aboriginal student body.
(2) The SFU Library already has an extensive collection of Aboriginal resources available to find and use on their “First Nations Research Resources” subject guide webpage, and will continue to expand such. A library person is dedicated, as a First Nations liaison, to expanding and looking after resources in this area (Elaine Fairey, Associate University Librarian).
(3) The Office for First Nations will be working with SFU Library personal to establish a “SFU Library Services for Aboriginal Students” website page.
(4) Discussions are also ongoing regarding putting all Aboriginal or Aboriginal oriented master’s and doctoral theses in one easy-to-find online location.
• Increase the number of Aboriginal public school teachers province wide.
The Faculty of Education has programs in Aboriginal education, for both pre-service and in-service teachers. The faculty also offers courses in Aboriginal education at the undergraduate and graduate studies levels.
• Support in-service teacher’s needs in order to better address the specific learning needs of Aboriginal students in the schools.
• Increase visibility of Aboriginal peoples, faculty, graduate and undergraduate students and Aboriginal community members and issues at the center of academia and in educational contexts.
(1) This is being accomplished through the work of individual faculty members, staff, and students; through events like the Honoring Feast; and through the presence and work of the First Nations Student Centre, the First Nations recruiter, the First Nations Student Association, and the Office for First Nations.
(2) Note: It is the recommendation of the Director that the name of the Office for First Nations be changed to the “Office for Aboriginal Peoples”, this to better reflect the current reality of the term “Aboriginal” in Canada; to be more inclusive of the groups associated with this title i.e. First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and others; and to increase the visibility on campus of all such groups.

2. Research Development:
Goal: Establish a comprehensive framework for the promotion, encouragement, and support of First Nations research
Actions:
• Work with faculty across the University to develop research networks, centers and Institutes that will work to create new connections among students, researchers and First Nations communities and advance innovation in First Nations research.
Individual faculty members and graduate students continue to work in this way. Institutional development is still to come. The Office for First Nations has two short term plans:
(1) To create a website out of the Office for First Nations, for easy public access, which will highlight all the Aboriginal programs, services, staff, faculty and their research interests here at SFU.

(2) A proposal regarding the creation of an Aboriginal Research Committee was sent to SFU Aboriginal faculty in March 2010. In such a committee setting, Aboriginal faculty and others could talk about their various research projects, share funding and research information, build camaraderie, and discuss how they can reach out to the Aboriginal community. This research committee could thus take the lead in some of the initiatives mentioned in the “Research Development” part of the First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan.

- Collaborate with First Nations peoples and communities to identify priority areas for research and establish research initiatives in these strategic areas.

(1) As the Director, Office for First Nations does outreach and liaison work in the Aboriginal community, priority areas for research are discussed and will continue to come up. The formation of an Aboriginal Research Committee at SFU, as outlined above, can lead to research initiatives in these areas.

(2) The SFU Department of Mathematics is involved in numerous initiatives in the First Nations community, including some at Britannia Elementary School in East Vancouver. Drs. Tom Archibald and Veselin Jungic are the faculty members taking the lead in these endeavors.

- Create awareness and visibility for researchers in First Nations at Simon Fraser University through the development of a communications strategy, research infrastructure, and promotional materials.

- Develop partnerships with First Nations peoples and communities to inspire increased community-based research opportunities for faculty and students engaged in First Nations research.

(1) Different SFU professors are already involved in research projects in the Aboriginal community.

(2) The upcoming Office for First Nations website will (with the cooperation of relevant researchers) have a link to where these research projects are highlighted.

- Develop a Visiting Scholars series and First Nations research symposium series, to expand knowledge and awareness of First Nations research.

- Identify opportunities for and support the development of experiential research learning experiences for undergraduate and graduate First Nations students.

- Identify and develop funding opportunities for researchers working in First Nations areas and provide support to the development of successful funding proposals and initiatives.

- Work with Grant Facilitators to identify potential research funding opportunities for First Nations research.

- Initiate and support the development of research directed to the enhancement of First Nations academic programming, pedagogy, curriculum content and academic experiences.
3. **Student Recruitment, Support, and Retention**:

**Goal:** Improve the recruitment, retention and successful participation of First Nations students with a goal to increase First Nations undergraduate enrolment by over 50% and First Nations graduate enrolment by over 25% by the year 2012.

*Note: The SFU three year Academic Plan for 2010-2013 calls for a 10% increase in Aboriginal student enrolment at SFU over the course of this plan. This is a more realistic target considering the current state of the economy and university finances, and the fact that the first Director, Office for First Nations (responsible for implementing the First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan) began his tenure in January 2010.*

**Goal:** Develop a comprehensive infrastructure to support and advise undergraduate and graduate First Nations students from the time of University selection through to alumni relations.

**Actions:**
- Develop a university-wide First Nations recruitment and retention plan and work with Student Services, academic units, and First Nations peoples and communities to implement this plan.

  The work regarding recruitment and retention has been and is being done on an ad hoc basis in different campus units and settings. Components of these endeavors are found throughout this strategic plan. However, some specific examples of this work include:

  1. A First Nations Recruitment Coordinator is already on staff, whose main role is to increase the number of Aboriginal students at SFU. The Director, Office for First Nations has been meeting with the First Nations recruiter to discuss strategies regarding recruitment and bridge-building to the Aboriginal community.

  2. The SFU Residence and Housing office currently has a “Priority Access” policy which puts a priority on accepting Aboriginal applicants into SFU residences (along with other special interest groups i.e. varsity athletes and scholarship winners). This “First Nations” priority designation includes First Nations, Métis, and Inuit applicants, who need single or family residences.

  3. The First Nations Student Centre has a Director and a First Nations Student Life Coordinator. They work together to offer Aboriginal students a plethora of services, designed to assist them to complete their education at SFU. Such includes the student lounge space itself, cultural workshops e.g. drum-making, various study skills workshops, and the organization of social events e.g. Welcome Back luncheons at the beginning of the fall and winter terms and a Christmas celebration.

  4. A second draft proposal for a SFU *Aboriginal Admissions Policy* is currently being worked on between the Registrar’s Office and the Office for First Nations, in consultation with others.

  5. There is currently a designated person in SFU Financial Aid and Awards who is the liaison/contact person for Aboriginal students and others re: Financial Aid and Awards issues (Gail Hirsch, Manager, Student Aid).
(6) Career Services has designated a liaison/contact person (Jo-Anne Nadort) who will be responsible for services and initiatives in this department involving Aboriginal students and relevant others.

(7) The Office for First Nations and SFU Counseling Services are working together to discuss how to better improve services to Aboriginal student clients i.e. the offering of specific workshops to Counseling Services personnel that deal with Aboriginal student issues, and the potential designation of one of the department’s counselors as the go-to person for Aboriginal student needs (short of hiring an Aboriginal person as a counselor, as has been discussed, such a designated person would educate themselves about Aboriginal-specific issues).

- Develop a university-wide strategy to expand First Nations student services and support to all Simon Fraser University campuses.

The Office for First Nations is currently in the process of developing a centralized website located in the Office for First Nations that will highlight and provide easy access to all Aboriginal people, programs, services, initiatives, and research at SFU. This will make information access concerning all of these things (including student services) much easier for the on and off campus communities.

- Expand academic advising to First Nations students through the creation of a new graduate student support position and through the creation of an integrated academic advisory committee of First Nations faculty members from across the University.

The Director, Office for First Nations has recommended in a report to the Dean of Graduate Studies that a coordinator position for Aboriginal graduate students be created in Graduate Studies at SFU (either a new full-time position or such position duties added to that of a current or future staff member). The Dean considers the creation of such a role likely within the next two years, as new staff members are hired in Graduate Studies.

- Work with the Dean of Graduate Studies and First Nations peoples and communities to develop competitive recruitment strategies to attract graduate students to Simon Fraser University and to develop comprehensive scholarship and financial support packages to ensure graduate student success during the course of their programs.

Graduate Studies is in the process of two specific initiatives:

(1) Updates to the Graduate Studies website will include a link for current Aboriginal students and interested Aboriginal applicants. Provided therein will be information concerning Aboriginal people and services at SFU, information on financing one’s education, Priority Access housing information, and steps to applying for graduate studies.

(2) Ms. Mary Anne Pope, has been established as a liaison/contact person in Graduate Studies for interested Aboriginal applicants and others. She will be listed as such on the Graduate Studies website.

Other potential Graduate Studies initiatives include:

(1) Offering Aboriginal-specific university scholarships and fellowships to Aboriginal graduate students. A memorandum was presented to the Dean of Graduate Studies by the Director, Office for First Nations in this regard in February 2010.
(2) Having someone in Graduate Studies assume the responsibility for being a Coordinator for Aboriginal Graduate Students.

- Develop a SAGE (Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement) program modeled on those located at Universities throughout the province, to provide a strong inter-University support network for First Nations graduate students.
- SFU Aboriginal students are already participating in province-wide undergraduate and graduate SAGE (Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement) Programs.
- Support First Nations students through the development of a peer mentoring program and the development of an SFU First Nations Alumni Association.

Regarding Aboriginal alumni issues, a few things have occurred:
(1) The First Nations Student Centre and the SFU Alumni Office will work together to maintain an updated list of SFU Aboriginal alumni and their current contact information.
(2) The First Nations Student Centre will send out their weekly e-mail newsletter of SFU events, as they concern Aboriginal people, to the list of Aboriginal alumni they have on file.
(3) In February 2010, the Director, Office for First Nations sent out an initial Letter of Introduction to SFU Aboriginal alumni to introduce the Director, explain his role, mention the First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan, and to mention that some SFU Aboriginal alumni initiatives would soon be starting.
(4) Aboriginal alumni will be invited to the Honoring (Graduation) Feast held for SFU Aboriginal graduates each June.
(5) There will be an upcoming meeting held with interested Aboriginal alumni, at which time information will be provided concerning the formation of an SFU Aboriginal alumni group. A special Aboriginal alumni component to the 45th anniversary celebrations of SFU (is such occurs) could also be discussed.

- Support the growth of First Nations culturally appropriate activities and develop new initiatives in partnership with the First Nations Student Association.
  (1) The First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee Terms of Reference, calls for membership for two representatives from the First Nations Student Association, one each from undergraduate and graduate studies, respectively.
  (2) The Director, Office for First Nations attends and supports FNSA events as he is able.

- Work with Continuing Studies and First Nations peoples and communities to develop university preparation programs for First Nations students and to develop the tools for success in graduate programs.
  (1) As mentioned earlier in this document, under “Academic Program Development”, the SFU Senate has approved an improved Aboriginal University Preparation Program, with credit courses, automatic SFU admission, and retroactive credit and admission for previous attendees.
  (2) The Director of SFU’s Community Education Program and the Coordinator of the Aboriginal Bridging Programs are preparing a proposal to present to the Dean of Continuing Studies. Herein, it will be proposed that the Aboriginal Bridging Program become a university core funded program. This will free up future fund-raised monies to create new “pre-bridging” type programs to offer to the Aboriginal community. Aboriginal groups like “The Aboriginal Front
Door Society” on Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside are asking for such programming to be created.

- Identify and secure increased financial support, cooperative education opportunities, and community-based experiential learning opportunities for First Nations students.

Off campus organizations e.g. the federal government, are contacting the Office for First Nations regarding co-op opportunities for Aboriginal students. The Office for First Nations is working with SFU Career Services and the First Nations Student Centre in making Aboriginal students aware of these opportunities.

4. **Liaison and Outreach to First Nations Peoples and Communities:**

   Goal: Strengthen and increase our partnerships, collaborations, and engagement with First Nations peoples and communities

   Actions:

   - Reaffirm a commitment to the President’s First Nations Advisory Council.
     Once the new SFU President (Dr. Andrew Petter) starts his tenure in September 2010, he will be approached by the Director, Office for First Nations regarding the formation of a new Aboriginal Advisory Council, which will involve invited Aboriginal community and political leaders.
   - Increase visibility of SFU Kamloops and its role in serving remote First Nations communities
     This program is currently under review.
   - Develop increased opportunities for Elders participation in the academic and non-academic life of First Nations students at Simon Fraser University through a permanent commitment to the creation of an Elders-in-Residence program.

   Regarding Elders and their role at SFU, three items can be mentioned:

   (1) According to the First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee Terms of Reference, an Aboriginal Elder will serve as an official member of the committee.
   (2) The Office for First Nations has offered its meeting room as a potential Elder’s Room, a place where an Elder-in-Residence can meet to serve the SFU population for some time each week.
   (3) The Office for First Nations and the First Nations Student Centre are working together to arrange for an on-site Elder at SFU Burnaby.

   - Work with First Nations peoples and communities to identify priority areas for research development.
     (1) A First Nations/Aboriginal Research Committee mentioned above under “Research Development” could begin and continue work in this area.
     (2) The Director, Office for First Nations is meeting with a series of local and semi-local First Nations’ Chiefs and Councils. The Director is mentioning in these meetings that SFU would like to know what research projects these First Nations are interested in and that SFU would be delighted to partner with them on such projects.

   - Work with First Nations peoples and communities to identify priority areas for program development at both the undergraduate and graduate level.
     (1) The Native Education College’s Criminal Justice Program and the SFU Department of Criminology are discussing a private agreement, in which SFU
transfer credit would be granted to courses in the NEC Criminal Justice
Program.
(2) A “Cross-Cultural Skills for Aboriginal Students” focus group, hosted and
partnered by the SFU Aboriginal Bridging Program and the Native Education
College, is being planned.
(3) The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology-Vancouver campus’ Criminology
Program currently has a credit/course transfer agreement with the SFU
Department of Criminology.
(4) The Director, Office for First Nations sent an introductory letter to local band
Chiefs and Councils. He will be visiting said Chiefs and Councils, personally,
over the course of the 2010 year to begin building ties to these important
community leaders. Met with so far: Tsawwassen Band (March 2010).
(5) A liaison committee composed of members of SFU (including the Director,
Office for First Nations) and the Surrey School District (including the District
Principal for Aboriginal Education) regularly meets to discuss issues of common
relevance and concern, including a discussion of district and university
programming, and concomitant Aboriginal issues.

- Work with First Nations peoples and communities to develop the cultural resource
  functions of the new Office for First Nations.
When Aboriginal Elders have a permanent presence on the SFU Burnaby campus,
these Elders, the Office for First Nations, and the First Nations Student Centre can
work together to develop Aboriginal cultural resources to be used on SFU campuses
 e.g. offering services to students, offering cultural workshops, teaching in
classrooms, etc.
- Work with First Nations peoples and communities to develop university preparatory
  programs, and graduate program success strategies and tools.
  (1) As mentioned earlier in this document under “Academic Program
      Development”, the SFU Senate has approved an improved Aboriginal
      University Preparation Program, with credit courses, automatic SFU
      admission, and retroactive credit and admission for previous attendees.
  (2) Also mentioned earlier in this document under “Student Recruitment,
      Support, and Retention”, SFU Aboriginal students are already participating in
      province-wide undergraduate and graduate SAGE (Supporting Aboriginal
      Graduate Enhancement) Programs.
  (3) As mentioned earlier, members of the SFU Aboriginal Bridging Program and
      the Office for First Nations are meeting with community members e.g. the
      Native Education College and the Aboriginal Front Door Society, to talk about
      increasing programming in the Aboriginal Bridging program and potential
      pre-bridging program areas.
- Work with First Nations throughout the province to develop community based Aboriginal
teacher education opportunities.
The Faculty of Education has been involved in this work for some time and such
work is an ongoing commitment.

5. International Engagement and Global Development:
Goal: Expand opportunities for First Nations peoples to share their expertise and emerge
as intellectual leaders on global issues.

Actions:
- Assess opportunities for synergy between existing SFU research strengths and global issues being advanced by Aboriginal organizations worldwide
- Explore with First Nations peoples and communities opportunities for intersection with the global context (an example includes current networking with Center of Excellence for Maori development and advancement in New Zealand)
- Develop strategies for expanding the role of First Nations peoples into global initiatives

6. **Indigenous Knowledge and Resource Development:**

**Goal:** Support the development of Indigenous knowledge systems within the University and an understanding and respect for First Nations cultures, histories, knowledge, languages, traditions, and communities among non-Aboriginal members of the University community to create bridges between cultures.

**Actions:**
- Develop a cultural resource facility within the Office for First Nations.
- Host professional development and cultural awareness forums for faculty, students and community members about First Nations.
  
  (1) A priority of the new Director, Office for First Nations will be to seek out ways to establish an Elders’ Program at SFU. Such Elders can then have a role in various cultural and educational programs on the SFU campus.
  
  (2) The Director, Office for First Nations is also in preliminary discussions with various campus partners about the future offering of workshops dealing with Aboriginal students and classroom climate issues at SFU. Note: The current Director, Office for First Nations (William G. Lindsay) has published two papers regarding this issue in the Canadian Journal of Native Studies. He has offered to present this information to counselors in the SFU Counseling Office and can do so in other settings in the future.

- Continue and enhance the First Nations Graduation Ceremony, and develop other programs and initiatives that will positively profile First Nations peoples and communities.
  
  (1) SFU Aboriginal alumni will henceforth be invited to the “Honoring Feast” graduation event.
  
  (2) The Director, Office for First Nations will also be attending to give his office’s support to the event.

- Develop a comprehensive university-wide communication strategy to raise the profile of First Nations programming, research, and students across Simon Fraser University’s academic units and various campuses.
  
  (1) The Office for First Nations will be working with “SFU News” to make sure that relevant stories concerning Aboriginal issues and people at SFU are regularly profiled.
  
  (2) The Office for First Nations will work with the *Simon Fraser University News* and others to prepare a yearly “First Nations” insert/supplement in the *SFU News*. Such an insert/supplement will feature Aboriginal people, initiatives, programs, and services at SFU.
(3) The Office for First Nations will compile an updated report that will inform the SFU community about completed and ongoing initiatives in the First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan. This report will be available on the Office for First Nations website.

7. Infrastructure and Facilities Development:
   Goal: Develop a comprehensive university-wide infrastructure to support the First Nations vision and strategy for Simon Fraser University.
   Goal: Ensure that Simon Fraser University attracts resources from the public and private sector, and from agencies and organizations supporting research innovation so that the research, education and student support goals outlined above can be accomplished in accordance with the University’s overall reputation for program and research excellence and comprehensive support for students.

   Actions:
   - Create a greater presence for First Nations on campus through the development of a capital resource plan to build a new First Nations House at Simon Fraser University.
     (1) The Director, Office for First Nations views this as a key priority for attracting and retaining Aboriginal students, staff, and faculty to the SFU campus. A second draft proposal for an Aboriginal Peoples House on the SFU Burnaby campus is currently being worked on between the Office for First Nations, Facilities Management, and the university architect.
     (2) The SFU Advancement Office has established a special holding account for contributions for an Aboriginal Peoples House at SFU. A few small contributions have already been received.
   - Develop in partnership with the Vice President, Academic, Faculty Deans, and academic Chairs and Directors a comprehensive First Nations faculty recruitment and retention strategy.
   - Develop Guidelines for First Nations strategic planning as part of the integrated three year academic planning process of Simon Fraser University.

   The SFU three year Academic Plan for 2010-2013 mentions that the First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan will continue to undergo implementation as part of this plan.
   - Develop a comprehensive advancement strategy in coordination with the SFU Advancement office.

   The Director, Office for First Nations met with the SFU Vice President, Advancement (Cathy Daminato) in February 2010. Therein, three principal areas were discussed as targets for fund-raising as they concerned Aboriginal initiatives:
     (1) A First Nations House at SFU
     (2) More Aboriginal-specific scholarships and bursaries
     (3) Aboriginal Bridging Program funding

   In the wake of this meeting, the Director, Office for First Nations was asked by the Vice President, Academic and Provost (Jon Driver) to prepare a proposal for the eventual construction of a First Nations House on the SFU Burnaby campus.
   - Increase Simon Fraser University’s profile in First Nations areas at provincial, federal and local governance tables to facilitate recognition of SFU’s strengths and capabilities when resource allocations are being directed to First Nations initiatives.
The Director, Office for Aboriginal Peoples has met with:

(1) George Abbott, the B.C. provincial Cabinet Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation and Arlene Paton, Deputy Minister (April 2010).

(2) Sara Cousins, Advisor-Education, Intergovernmental Affairs, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (April 2010).

(3) Paul Lorilla, Regional Advisor, Aboriginal Affairs, Department of Canadian Heritage (April 2010).

- Seek out funding from Provincial and Federal governments to support the First Nations undergraduate and graduate student recruitment goals outlined in this report.

8. Integration and Leadership Development:

Goal: Develop a model for First Nations programming, research, and student support that integrates First Nations issues throughout the academic areas of the University.

Actions:

- Work with First Nations faculty members, present and future, to establish them as leaders in their Faculties for First Nations activities, to ensure the ongoing integration of the university-wide strategy into academic areas of the University and to develop a critically important bridge for the flow and support of First Nations initiatives originating in academic units.

- Identify a strategy for increasing participation of First Nations faculty at Simon Fraser University and in attracting these individuals to senior administrative leadership positions across the University.
Appendix B
First Nations Guiding Principles

i. The University recognizes the unique educational needs and identities of First Nations.  
As First Nations acquire increased control over governance, education, health care and other social and economic dimensions of their communities, the educational contribution of the University to First Nations should support their efforts in this process.

ii. Full and equitable participation by First Nations people at SFU. 
Based on this principle, SFU will work to increase First Nations student enrollment to a proportion commensurate with that of the representation of First Nations people in the general population of British Columbia.

iii. Provide a supportive academic and community environment for First Nations people at SFU.  
First Nations enrolled at SFU will have access to financial support programs, such as grants and fellowships, and non-financial support programs, such as mentorship and a supportive social context.

iv. Acknowledge, respect and incorporate First Nations values and traditions in the programs of the University, subject to Senate approval.  
As an institution dedicated to discovering and transmitting knowledge, the University should make good use of the traditional knowledge developed over the years by First Nations people, and will support academic work that incorporates indigenous knowledge.

v. Address the higher education needs and aspirations of First Nations communities.  
The University recognizes the range of educational needs of First Nations communities as they strive to protect their ancestral cultures and languages and as they develop new forms of governance.

vi. Collaborate and form partnerships to serve First Nations’ educational objectives.  
This principle guides SFU to seek out alliances with First Nations and with other institutions in the broader community to achieve educational objectives that benefit First Nations.

vii. Affirm the ongoing institutional commitment to higher education among First Nations’ communities.  
This principle is implemented through the First Nations Advisory Council of SFU.
# Appendix C

## Current First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee Membership (2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Representing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Dr. Jon Driver</td>
<td>Vice President, Academic and Provost</td>
<td>Vice President, Academic</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>William G. Lindsay,</td>
<td>Director, Office for First Nations and Chair, First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee</td>
<td>Office for First Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Dr. Eldon Yellowhorn</td>
<td>Director, First Nations Studies Program</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Dr. Felix Breden</td>
<td>Chair, Department of Biological Sciences</td>
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<td>Dr. Fred Popowich</td>
<td>Associate Dean of Applied Sciences</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Dr. Mark Selman</td>
<td>Program Chair and Professor Learning Strategies Group, Segal Graduate School of Business</td>
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<td>Dr. Mary Ellen Kelm</td>
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<td>Mary Ann Pope</td>
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<td>Graduate Studies</td>
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<td>Dr. Rochelle Tucker</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Jenna LaFrance</td>
<td>Director, First Nations Student Centre</td>
<td>Student Services (First Nations Student Centre)</td>
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<td>Evylyn Locker</td>
<td>Elder, Aboriginal Bridging Program</td>
<td>Committee Elder</td>
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<td>Natalie Wood-Weins</td>
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<td>m.d. caroline lefebvre</td>
<td>Aboriginal Graduate Student, SFU</td>
<td>First Nations Student Association</td>
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<td>Dr. Tim Rahilly</td>
<td>Associate Vice-President, Students and International</td>
<td>Student Services</td>
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<td>Dr. Vicki Kelly</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Faculty of Education</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Angela Semple</td>
<td>Aboriginal Undergraduate Student, SFU</td>
<td>First Nations Student Association</td>
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<td>Dr. Colin Browne</td>
<td>Professor, School of Contemporary Arts</td>
<td>Faculty of Communication, Art &amp; Technology</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Dr. Evelyn Pinkerton</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Faculty of Environment</td>
<td>Faculty of Environment</td>
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