Background

The SFU Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (SFU-ARC) engaged in discussions about how the 94 recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will be addressed at the University.

The final report, *Walk This Path With Us* was presented during a ceremonial event on October 16, 2017 at SFU's Burnaby campus. The ceremony, rooted in Coast Salish Indigenous tradition, celebrated and witnessed the work of everyone who contributed. SFU has committed $9M toward projects to promote reconciliation within the SFU community. The real work begins now as the University begins implementing the report’s 34 calls to action.

In addition to the important reconciliation and decolonization work being done at SFU by various individuals and departments, this Quarterly Report summarizes the progress on the report’s 34 calls to action since the release of the report and specifically from Jan–Mar 2018. The SFU Reconciliation Working Group* will report out on a quarterly basis and will also produce an annual report.

“The process of reconciliation is one of the great national undertakings of our time, and affords us an opportunity to be part of a generation that helps to right the wrongs of the past and to produce a brighter future for all Canadians.”

— SFU President, Andrew Petter
CLUSTER 1
Safe and Welcoming Indigenous Spaces

ISC EXPANSION PROJECT**
To support the expansion of the Indigenous Student Centre, work is underway to design the space. ISC and Facilities leads have been engaged in consultations regarding the development of the plan. The final plan is scheduled for sign off in 2018.

EVENT
WHY ART MATTERS: ART, SFU AND ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION WITH DANA CLAXTON, RICHARD WILLIAM HILL AND JOHN O’BRIAN
SFU articulated art as an essential component in the dialogue around reconciliation and calls for a meaningful engagement with the work displayed on campus. Bringing together artist Dana Claxton and the art historians/curators Richard William Hill and John O’Brien, this panel considered why and how art matters in this discussion. Beyond illustration and propaganda, how does art’s complex thinking support our changing landscape and the representation of Indigenous culture? In the context of a pedagogical institution, what is art’s role? This event was co-presented with First Nations Studies and supported by SFU’s Department of External Relations. A full recording is available on the SFU Galleries website.

WELCOME FIGURE FOR VANCOUVER CAMPUS
Last fall SFU erected a new welcome figure at Harbour Centre foyer (Vancouver campus). The figure was carved by Musqueam artist Brent Sparrow, the figure honours the Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and Musqueam territories on which SFU Vancouver is located.
DECOLONIZING TEACHING:
AN INTEGRATED SEMINAR SERIES AND GRANT PROGRAM (DTSS) Institute for the Study of Teaching and Learning in the Disciplines (ISTLD)**

This grant program is focused on faculty development for decolonizing teaching. Faculty members participating in the DTSS will: discuss the implications for teaching, including their intersection with disciplinary knowledge, and facilitating student discussion related to them; craft a project proposal for implementing and evaluating the changes they wish to make to their teaching; receive feedback from fellow seminar participants and facilitators on their designs. The program will be offered for the first time in Spring 2018.

CONTACT: Sheri Fabian › sfabian@sfu.ca

INDIGENOUS CULTURAL SAFETY TRAINING FOR EMPLOYEES

Human Resources (HR) has made the Provincial Health Services Authority’s San’Yas: Indigenous Cultural Safety Training available to SFU employees (Managers/Supervisors). The training is a unique on-line program designed to increase knowledge, enhance self-awareness, and strengthen the skills of those who work directly and indirectly with Aboriginal people. The online modules are dynamic, interactive and self-paced over a 6-week period. At this time, more than 100 SFU employees have registered or completed the program through HR, starting in March, 2018. HR has also shared information about UBC’s Reconciliation through Indigenous Education online MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) as an additional learning opportunity.

CONTACT: Tara Black, Director People Development › tara_black@sfu.ca

INDIGENIZING THE CURRICULUM
Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) **

This grant program: a) focuses on indigeneity, collaboration, and the sharing of knowledge, b) supports Indigenous and non-Indigenous faculty members with their initiatives towards indigenizing the curriculum. The planning for this grant program has been completed. The TLC will be putting out calls for proposals and dispensing funds to selected proposals from faculty/faculty teams.

CONTACT: Brad Johnson › bfjohnso@sfu.ca
EVENT RECONCILIATION POLICY FORUM
This event was hosted by SFU Public Square and the School of Public Policy on March 16, 2018. It attracted 132 participants representing a broad range of sectors and stakeholders from across the country. These included Chief Robert Joseph and 44 Aboriginal Community member participants, as well as B.C. Premier John Horgan, the Hon. Jody Wilson-Raybould, Attorney General of Canada, the Hon. David Eby, Attorney-General of B.C., and SFU President Andrew Petter.

The day’s dialogue comprised three key questions:

1. Social policy: How do we shift from expenditure concerns to investment commitments on Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls, education, health and social development?

2. Economic policy: Where does B.C. find the political will to reconcile conflicts about land, resources (fish, forests, ministers), FPIC (Free, Prior, and Informed Consent), and UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)?

3. Political/government machinery: What has to change in government operations to achieve Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples calls, treaties, self-government agreements and true reconciliation?

A full report on the responses and suggested solutions will be available on the SFU Public Square website later this spring.

CROSS-CULTURAL AWARENESS TRAINING
To support the indigenization of curriculum, cross-cultural training, prepared by William G. Lindsay (Cree-Stoney), is also available to SFU staff. The first workshop entitled, "In the Context of Colonialism: The Indian Act, the Residential School System, and Reconciliation - A Primer," is a three-hour presentation facilitated by William. Work on two more workshops is underway. William is working with the TLC to make these workshops available online.

CONTACT: William Lindsay › wlindsay@sfu.ca

FIRST NATIONS STUDIES
First Nations Studies has continued to partner with Indigenous and other communities and individuals to build dynamic relationships that restore and revitalize traditional knowledges, ancient and modern aesthetics, languages and literatures. As a community of learners, they connect and honour academic rigor and Indigenous perspectives through activist research, creative production, and community engagement. Find out more here.

INDIGENOUS FACULTY RECRUITMENT
SFU has been actively recruiting Indigenous faculty who can help the university bring Indigenous perspectives to the classroom and support the university’s efforts to address issues of decolonization and reconciliation. See more in the February 2018 OAP Newsletter which highlights new Indigenous faculty hires across a broad range of SFU departments in 2017. In addition to the over 20 Indigenous faculty currently working at SFU, there are several more appointments anticipated in 2018/19.
INTERIM ABORIGINAL UNIVERSITY PREPARATION PROGRAM (IAUPP)

SFU’s IAUPP helps Aboriginal students pave the way for a successful transition to undergraduate studies. This program offers first-year academic credit courses that integrate humanities and social sciences with Indigenous perspectives. The IAUPP also offer literacy and quantitative classes (non-academic credit). Upon successful completion, students are granted admission to SFU. Applications are open now until April 28th for the Fall 2018 intake.

CONTACT: Ted Wilson > iaupp@sfu.ca

CLUSTER 4
Administration, Hiring and Project Implementation

ARC IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT MANAGER**
The hiring process is underway for the ARC Implementation Project Manager.
Upcoming Events

INDIGENOUS HONOURING FEAST—SPRING CONVOCATION

SFU is committed to conducting ceremonies and events respecting Indigenous protocols and practices. On June 13th, the Indigenous Student Centre, supported by the President’s Office, External Relations and Ceremonies and Events, will host an Honouring Feast for Indigenous graduates and their families to celebrate their achievements. This event occurs annually during the Spring Convocation for all Indigenous graduates from the past year.

ARC GATHERING

The SFU community will have an opportunity to come together to share the progress on the ARC Calls to Action and our commitment to reconciliation. The event is planned for the morning of June 13th (time to be confirmed).

UPDATES CAN BE ACCESSED AT: https://www.sfu.ca/reconciliation.html  Email: sfuarc@sfu.ca

* SFU RECONCILIATION WORKING GROUP:

Ron Johnston
Pro-Term (Acting Director)
Office of Aboriginal Peoples
ARC Co-Facilitator

Sobhana Jaya-Madhavan
Associate Vice-President
External Relations
ARC Co-Facilitator

Joanne Curry
Vice President
External Relations

Peter Keller
Vice-President
Academic and Provost

** Funded by Aboriginal Strategic Initiative (ASI) funding