



SPRING  
2021

# NEWSLETTER

Dear Students,

Greetings from JIBC's Office of Indigenization (OI).

On behalf of our team, we send our respects and hope you and your relations are doing well as we navigate so many things right now.

We want to express our deep sorrow and profound sadness in light of the recent discovery of the remains of 215 Indigenous children on the grounds of the former Kamloops Indian Residential School. We share our condolences to the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Nation, Survivors, Families, and communities across Turtle Island grieving this tragic revelation. Seeking Truth for justice and healing is a painful and difficult process. We extend our support and services to our esteemed Students and your kin, to walk this shared journey in solidarity and commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.

We believe that this grim finding was no coincidence as June 2021 marks several important occasions; National Indigenous History Month, National Indigenous Peoples Day, the anniversary of the final report from the National Inquiry Into MMIWG. Let this be a reckoning for change in the memory and honour of our deceased Indigenous relatives.



**215**

## WHAT IS THE OFFICE OF INDIGENIZATION AND WHAT SUPPORTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INDIGENOUS LEARNERS?

The Office of Indigenization (OI) works across the Institution to support JIBC's commitment to Indigenous education and implementation of its five-year Indigenization Strategy.

When studying at JIBC, the OI offers Indigenous learners holistic services and supports designed with student balance in mind. Students have access to the Elders-in-Residence, the OI Team, the Aboriginal Gathering Place, Indigenous Garden and Traditional Medicines. Throughout the calendar year, the OI organizes events and learning opportunities to observe significant Indigenous occasions and to celebrate and strengthen the active presence of Indigenous ways of knowing, being, relating and doing at JIBC. To connect with the Office of Indigenization, please email [Indigenization@jibc.ca](mailto:Indigenization@jibc.ca).



## DID YOU KNOW?

The Office of Indigenization logo is created by Haida Gwaii artist James Cowpar, and reflects a concept of social justice and the design acknowledges the diversity of Indigenous peoples.



Dr. Michel Tarko, Métis-Cree, President & CEO Statement to Honour the 215 Indigenous Children On behalf of JIBC, Dr. Michel Tarko released a statement to acknowledge and pay respects to the 215 children found in a mass grave on the grounds of the Kamloops Residential School and remind that JIBC must be a part of recognizing and deconstructing systemic racism and violence in its multiple forms that affect Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island in their daily lives.

To read Dr. Michel Tarko's statement, please visit: [https://www.jibc.ca/news/article/statement-missing-children-kamloops\[1\]indian-residential-school](https://www.jibc.ca/news/article/statement-missing-children-kamloops[1]indian-residential-school).



## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS AT JIBC

Support is available to all JIBC students by contacting the Senior Manager of Learning Support and Disability Resources, 8 AM to 4 PM, Monday to Friday, by phone at 604.528.5884 or 1.877.275.4331, or by email at [studentresources@jibc.ca](mailto:studentresources@jibc.ca).

The BC Crisis Line is also available 24/7 at 800.784.2433.

## FUNDING

- Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries
- Indigenous Emergency Assistance Funding

For more information please email: [financialaid@jibc.ca](mailto:financialaid@jibc.ca).

## COMMUNITY CULTURAL SUPPORTS

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) provides a resources, supports and services during the the COVID-19 pandemic.

NWAC offers Elders Support, aimed at providing culturally relevant emotional support and building resiliency.

For more information, visit: <https://www.nwac.ca/covid19-support/>



Truth and Reconciliation  
The Indian residential school system or more appropriately referred to as residential incarceration, operated in Canada for over seven generations. It is thought that reconciliation will take as long, if not longer. The Office of Indigenization (OI) goes on record to proclaim that without Truth there is no Reconciliation and any hope for redress of the devastating and persisting impacts of colonial violence will require the full and immediate implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (2015) Calls to Action, the Province of British Columbia's (2019) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, and the National Inquiry Into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (2019) Calls for Justice. The OI will be releasing JIBC's next Indigenization Plan in Fall 2021. One of its main goals is to support the complete alignment across JIBC to implement all actions legislated to post-secondary Institutes and all citizens of Canada.



## NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

The Office of Indigenization and JIBC began observation and celebration of National Indigenous History Month with an Opening Ceremony led by our newest Resident Elder, Caroline Buckshot. Throughout the month of June the OI is hosting a series of weekly events and activities. From Elder-led teachings to Inuit storytelling, we are offering many online opportunities to get involved. Please join us in celebrating Indigenous excellence and to learn about the rich diversity and distinction of First Peoples. To learn about upcoming events, check out JISU's social media or visit:

<https://www.jibc.ca/news-and-events>

## WELCOME ELDER CAROLINE BUCKSHOT

In May 2021, JIBC welcomed Elder Caroline Buckshot to the Elders-In-Residence Program. Please join us in welcoming Elder Buckshot to JIBC! Elder Buckshot is a respected Elder from Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation of the Algonquin Nation in Maniwaki, Quebec. Elder Buckshot's traditional name is KaNigan a Pit meaning "Woman who teaches." Currently, Elder Buckshot works for Correctional Services Canada as an Indigenous Elder and Spiritual Advisor. Elder Buckshot is a Gladue writer since 2011 for Legal Services Society (LSS) and presently for British Columbia First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC). Before working in Corrections, Elder Buckshot worked as an addiction counsellor and Native Liaison for ten years and four years in the community as an addiction counsellor. Elder Buckshot is eager to share her teachings and perspectives so JIBC's graduates will be better prepared to work with Indigenous Peoples and communities in a good way



## INDIGENOUS YOUTH CAREER CAMP 2021

This summer, JIBC will be holding an Indigenous Youth Career Camp between July 14, 2021 - July 22, 2021. The OI will be partnering with JIBC Schools and Divisions across the institute to provide online and on-campus experiences with the aim to build youth resiliency, establish positive relationships, and introduce youth to the broad spectrum of careers in justice, public safety and health care. We look forward to meeting the youth and their families and being apart of their exciting and rewarding journey to careers in justice and public safety! If you are interested in volunteering or being a mentor to the youth, please email [Indigenization@jibc.ca](mailto:Indigenization@jibc.ca). For more information and the online application visit [www.jibc.ca/iycc-2021](http://www.jibc.ca/iycc-2021)

Please stay safe and well ❖ All our relations

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