

Indigenous Peoples' Learning

Surrey Board of Education

May 12, 2021

Presenters: Dr. Lyn Daniels, Director of Instruction and Juanita Coltman, Principal



Land Acknowledgement

- [Land Acknowledgement from
Surrey Schools Students](#)



Indigenous Peoples' Learning

We would like to propose changing the name of the department from Aboriginal Learning to Indigenous Peoples' Learning.



Aboriginal

1982 Canadian Constitution.

"Aboriginal" is an oversimplification.

Aboriginal can be interpreted to mean "*not original*."

Doesn't recognize the diversity within the Indigenous communities in Canada.

Why Indigenous Peoples?

Recognizes that there is more than just one group.

Means “sprung from the land; native.”

Connection to traditional territories and experiences of colonization.

Addressing all Indigenous groups as a collective.

The term Indigenous was chosen by Indigenous leaders.

Shift in Language

United Nations uses “Indigenous.”

Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.

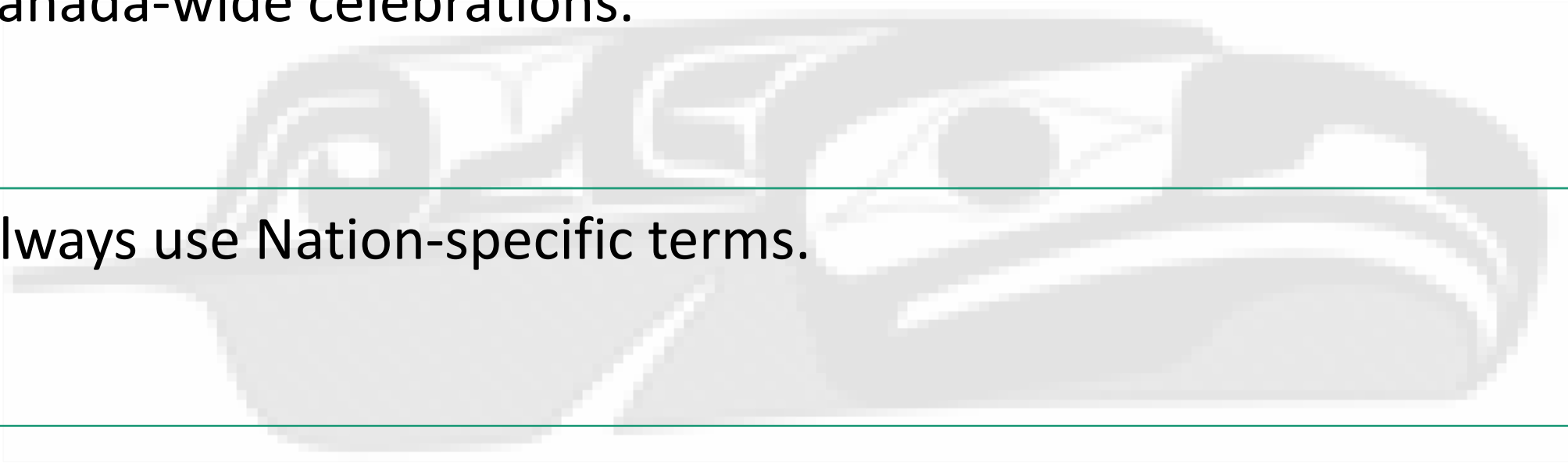
Indigenous Peoples’ Assembly of Canada.

The BC Ministry of Education has moved to using Indigenous Education.

Understanding Self-Identification

Canada-wide celebrations.

Always use Nation-specific terms.



Language Matters

Language is about identity and symbols.

Move towards reconciliation and a renewed relationship.

Leaders are already calling for such change.

Process

Discussions with Indigenous staff within the department.

Discussions with local First Nations and Metis Nation.

Discussions with students and parents/guardians.

Recommendation brought forward to Aboriginal Education Council.

Motion to the Surrey Board of Education.

Question for Consideration

What might be the implications of making this change?



Questions

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