

# NATIVE STUDIES

2010 SECONDARY SCHOOL SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, April 29, 2010  
9:00 a.m.  
University of Windsor



Sessions include:

**DRUMMING**  
**STORYTELLING**  
**WOMEN'S CULTURAL RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**JEWELRY MAKING**  
**ORAL TEACHINGS**  
**CULTURAL CRAFTS**  
**500 MISSING WOMEN**  
**LACROSSE**  
**ONE FOOT IN... ONE FOOT OUT**

All those GECDSB students who identify as Aboriginal, First Nation, Metis and Inuit are welcome to attend. Please contact

for more information.

## 2010 GECDSB Native Studies Symposium

### For Your Information/Action:

Greater Essex County District School Board is pleased to sponsor the 2010 Secondary Native Studies Symposium on April 29, 2010 at the University of Windsor. This symposium is dedicated to promoting an increased awareness, understanding and appreciation of the rich histories, cultures and perspectives of First Nation, Metis and Inuit peoples.

We would like to invite your school to participate in this symposium. Please encourage any students enrolled in the Grade 11 Native Studies courses to attend and any GECDSB secondary students who identify themselves as Aboriginal, First Nation, Metis or Inuit. Workshops will include such topics as women's cultural responsibilities, story telling, drumming, traditional First Nation teachings, jewelry making, significance of oral traditions, cultural crafts, missing First Nation women, navigating two cultures as well as the history and evolution of lacrosse. Students will have the opportunity to select two workshops from a total of ten offered sessions. Please encourage students to select a variety of workshops so that the school as a whole can participate in all that the symposium has to offer.

Transportation to and from the symposium, lunch and supply teacher costs will all be covered through the *Journey of Learning* funding grant. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Teacher Consultant, Lisa Bott, in the Program Department.

### Action:

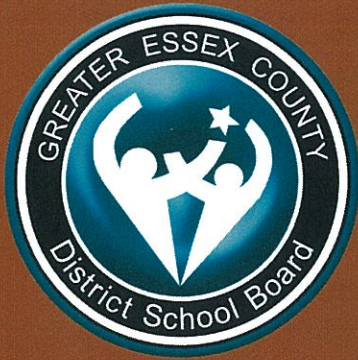
- Each school is responsible for collecting registration forms from participating students. Registration forms are due by **Friday, April 23, 2010 to your secondary Native Studies Teacher or Teacher Consultant Lisa Bott, in the Program Department.**
- Distribute enclosed symposium materials to your Native Studies teachers and/or other interested self-identified First Nation, Metis or Inuit students who are interested in attending.

### Included in this package:

- Symposium Agenda
- registration form
- copy of poster- Hard copy of the posters have be sent in the courier to your attention

**2010 GECDSB Native Studies Symposium Agenda**  
**April 29, 2010**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 8:45-9:00    | Bus arrival and registration                             |
| 9:00- 9:15   | Introductions and opening presentation by Theresa Sims   |
| 9:15-10:00   | Key Note address- Darren Thomas                          |
| 10:00-11:15  | Morning workshop session                                 |
| 11:15- 11:45 | Lunch (provided)   |
| 11:45-12:00  | University of Windsor-Aboriginal Education Studies       |
| 12:00-12:45  | First Nation Student Panel discussion                    |
| 12:45-1:45   | Afternoon workshop session                               |
| 1:45-2:15    | Closing ceremony- Drumming- Blue Wolf and Mona Stonefish |
| 2:15         | Bus departure and return to school                       |



# GREATER ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



I Am First Nations  
I Am Métis  
I Am Inuit

The Greater Essex County District School Board is dedicated to providing quality programs to create conditions for success for all learners.

# Draft



“Native Studies courses and other programs like the Aboriginal Leadership Program allow students to get to know who they are so that they can connect to their family’s history and legacy. To me, it is important to know the past in order to understand the present and have a vision for the future.” - **ShelbyLynn Loyal**

“I feel very fortunate to know who I am and where my family came from so that I can identify myself. I am very proud to be who I am.” - **Nicole Wyatt**



“It is important that the people who are native to this land are able to self-identify. We should want to declare our heritage with pride.” - **Benjamin Barrette**



“For me, Self-Identification is important because I need to know who you are to be able to offer my services to you. I would like to give you the choice of participating in the Aboriginal Leadership Program and to assist you in using any resource or support that the Greater Essex District County School Board has to offer in order to see you succeed! - **Jaimie Kechego, Aboriginal Leadership Program Counsellor**



## Rationale

Learning aspirations and potential of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students can be realized through a responsive, transparent and accountable policy focused on improved programs and services built on strong partnerships with parents and their communities.

It is the policy of the Greater Essex County District School Board to provide programs as a means to assist students in their education by providing responsive programming. All First Nations, Métis and Inuit students, or their parents, have the right to voluntarily self-identify.

### Why self-identification?

The self-identification process provides data that leads to increased funding for use in supporting specific programs in schools to promote improved success of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

### What happens to the student information?

Student achievement data related to the performance of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students needs to be collected and aggregated to determine the success of programs currently delivered, and provide information for future decision-making surrounding success for all students.

All data is secured to respect privacy and used only as a means to enhance First Nations, Métis and Inuit education programs. Individual data gathered is used in the aggregate only – not communicated, and is treated in the same manner as Ontario Student Records, protected and governed by the Freedom of Information Act.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who can self-identify?

You may choose to self-identify if you are a student over 18 years of age and have any degree of Aboriginal ancestry. If you are under 18 years of age, your parent(s) or guardian(s) will need to identify for you. You can identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit. We encourage status and non-status students to self-identify. No proof of ancestry is required.

### Will I be treated differently if I self-identify as First Nation, Métis or Inuit?

No. Schools ensure that all students are treated with respect. You may, however, be entitled to some additional supports as an identified First Nations, Métis or Inuit person.

### How was the Self-Identification Policy created by the Board?

The GECDSB consulted with parents and local organizations, teachers and administrators, Board staff, Ministry of Education personnel, and other School Boards to develop the policy.

# VOLUNTARY AND CONFIDENTIAL SELF-IDENTIFICATION



Please complete the following and return it to your school.

For the purposes of supporting the First Nations, Métis and Inuit student achievement objectives of the Board and the Ministry of Education, I/we choose to voluntarily self-identify this student's ancestry as:

First Nations

Métis

Inuit

**Note:** For students under 18 years of age, the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification form requires parent/guardian approval.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Date of Birth (year/month/day): \_\_\_\_\_

# Draft

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature (if student is under 18 years of age)

This information is collected pursuant to the Greater Essex County District School Board Privacy Policy and Regulation HR-14 as set out in the Education Act and its regulations. This information will become part of the Ontario Student Record (OSR) and opportunities will be provided to update this information annually. Self-identification can be withdrawn at any time upon written request to the Principal. This information is collected for educational, transportation and safety purposes and is within guidelines set out in the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 1989. Select information will be shared as required and will be used for educational purposes for planning and programming, and to assist with transitions into secondary school. Any questions with respect to this information should be directed to the Principal of the school in which the student is applying and/or registered.

**For more information, you can contact the Principal at your school or the Teacher Consultant for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education at the GECDSB (519-255-3200 x10235).**

# 2010 Native Studies Symposium Student Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher/Staff Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select four of the workshop titles listed below. Prioritize your workshops in order of preference. Two workshops will be assigned based on availability.

- A) First Nation Women's Cultural responsibilities- Georgina Thompson
- B) First Nation Storytelling- Boshk Agounia
- C) Drumming- Blue Wolf
- D) Traditional Teachings- Mona Stonefish
- E) Jewelry Making- University of Windsor Aboriginal Mentoring Program
- F) Sisters in Spirit: 500 Murdered First Nation Women- Theresa Sims
- G) Oral traditions- Duck Petahtegoose
- H) Cultural Crafts- Bruce South
- I) Lacrosse Teachings- Tim Elijah
- J) One Foot In...One Foot Out- Navigating Aboriginal Culture in Today's World- Darren Thomas

## Participant selection:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_



**DRAFT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** May 15, 2012  
**Prepared by:** Rachel Olivero

**G.E.C.D.S.B. OFFERS NATIVE STUDIES EXPO**

On Thursday, May 17, 2012 the GECDSB is pleased to offer a one-day Native Studies Secondary School Student Expo at the University of Windsor, WinClare Room A, Vanier Hall from 9am to 2:15 pm with break out sessions in Erie Hall.

Workshop break out sessions include Drumming, Storytelling, Oral Teachings, Cultural Crafts and Lacrosse Demonstrations. Opening Ceremonies and Closing Ceremonies will be led by local Wisdom Keeper Mona Stonefish.

The Symposium is open to all GECDSB Secondary Students taking Native Studies courses and those secondary school students who identify as Aboriginal, First Nations, Inuit and or Métis. The Native Studies Student Expo is generously funded through a special grant from the Ontario Ministry of Education's Aboriginal Education Office under the direction of GECDSB Teacher Consultant Jana Rohrer and GECDSB Diversity Officer Rachel Olivero.

Aboriginal Education has been identified as a key priority in Ontario by the Ministry of Education. The government of Ontario recognizes the important role that education can play in improving lifelong opportunities for Aboriginal children and youth. It is also aware of the myriad of barriers faced by Aboriginal students. According to 2001 Census Data, only 16% of Aboriginal persons living in Windsor and Essex County aged 25 and over have a high school diploma or equivalency.

For further information on the Native Studies Student Expo please contact Rachel Olivero, Diversity Officer at 255-3200 extension 10213 or Jana Rohrer, Teacher Consultant at 255-3200 ext. 10235.

**2012 GECDSB Native Studies Expo Agenda**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 8:45-9:00am    | Bus arrival and registration                             |
| 9:00- 9:15am   | Introductions and opening presentation by Mona Stonefish |
| 9:15-10:00am   | Community Drum<br>Key Note address-Duane Jacobs          |
| 10:00-10:15am  | Break  |
| 10:15- 11:00am | Importance of FNMI Studies and Self Id-Darren Thomas     |
| 11:00-11:30am  | Lunch  |
| 11:30-11:45am  | GECDSB Aboriginal Leadership Program-Jaimie Kechego      |
| 11:45-1:00pm   | Concurrent Breakout Session                              |
| 1:00-1:45pm    | Student Panel Discussion                                 |
| 1:45-2:00pm    | Closing Ceremony-Wisdom Keeper Mona Stonefish            |
| 2:00-2:15pm    | Bus departures and return to school                      |