

To: Indigenous Members of the UVic Community

Date: May 31st, 2024

Subject: Share your thoughts: Indigenous Citizenship Declaration policy, survey + engagement sessions

We are writing to invite you to participate in an important survey and consultation process led by [Etalew'txw | ÁTOL, ÁUTW - The Office of the Vice-President Indigenous](#) (OVPI) regarding the development of an Indigenous Citizenship Declaration policy. As shared in the April Memo, this policy will revise the eligibility process for opportunities at UVic designated for Indigenous People. Your input and engagement are vital in ensuring that this policy reflects the diverse voices within our community and respects the unique laws and traditions of all Indigenous Nations, Peoples and communities.

This engagement process is open to all Indigenous members of the UVic community, including: Indigenous students, staff, faculty, librarians, alums and community partners

PHASE I: SURVEY – Closing July 28th, 2024

Chaired by the VPI, the Indigenous Citizenship Declaration (ICD) Committee invites you to participate in this process and share your thoughts through an online survey, available here: <https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/8KQWHR3>.

We invite you to complete this survey by July 28th. Upon completing the survey, you may enter into a draw for the chance to win one of four \$50 gift cards for the UVic Bookstore. One gift card will be awarded on each Friday that the survey is open.

PHASE I: ICD IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS – June 19th (11am-2pm) and June 27th (11am-2pm)

During the survey period through the month of June, the ICD Committee is holding two drop-in engagement sessions at the First Peoples House, Ceremonial Hall, scheduled for June 19th (11am-2pm) and June 27th (11am-2pm). Students and alums are encouraged to attend the session on June 27th. **Please hold one of these dates in your calendar and pre-register here:** https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/ICD_Register.

Indigenous counselling, wellness and cultural supports will be provided during these sessions. We encourage you to review the engagement questions which will be shared on our webpage: <https://www.uvic.ca/ovpi/ways-of-knowing/policies-and-guidelines/indigenous-citizenship-declaration-icd/index.php>.

WELLNESS RESOURCES

KUU-US Crisis Line: The KUU-US Crisis Line Society operates a 24-hour Indigenous BC wide crisis line for adults, Elders and youth.

Adults/Elders: 250-723-4050 | **Child/Youth:** 250-723-2040 | **Toll Free Line:** 1-800-588-8717

Native Youth Crisis Hotline 1-877-209-1266

Vancouver Island Crisis Line 1-888-494-3888

Métis Crisis Line is a service of Métis Nation BC 1-833-638-4722

SupportConnect: SupportConnect is a free, confidential mental health support service for UVic students. You can connect with qualified counsellors, consultants and life coaches by phone or online 24/7. Video or in-person options are available.

Toll-free (calls from North America): 1-844-773-1427

International collect calls: 1-250-999-7621

We strongly encourage you to participate in these engagement opportunities. Together, we can ensure that the policy accurately reflects the values and perspectives of our Indigenous community.

For information about ICD committee membership, project timelines, upcoming engagement opportunities and frequently asked questions, please visit our regularly updated webpage: www.uvic.ca/ovpi/ways-of-knowing/policies-and-guidelines.

For any questions, concerns, or additional feedback, please contact us at vpiicd@uvic.ca.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your participation.

Warm regards,

Vice-president Indigenous, Qwul'sih'yah'maht, Robina Thomas
Chair, Indigenous Citizenship Declaration Committee
The Office of the Vice-President Indigenous
vpiicd@uvic.ca