

Subject: ICD Policy: Invitation to Fall Engagement Sessions

Good morning,

I am writing to invite you to participate in the second phase of a year-long engagement process led by [Etalewtxw | ÁTOL, ÁUTW - The Office of the Vice-President Indigenous](#) (OVPI) regarding the development of an Indigenous Citizenship Declaration (ICD) policy.

Over the Summer, we received 270+ responses to the Phase One survey and we heard from 40+ participants over the two drop-in engagement sessions at the First Peoples House. Your continued participation in this process vital to ensuring that a revised eligibility policy for Indigenous-specific opportunities reflects the diverse voices within our community and respects the laws and traditions of distinct Indigenous Nations, Peoples and communities.

Building on what we learned during Phase One, this Fall, the ICD Committee invites Indigenous members of the UVic community to participate in second phase of the engagement process.

UPCOMING ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

The ICD Committee will host three drop-in engagement sessions in the Ceremonial Hall at the First Peoples House during October and November, with lunch or dinner provided. To accommodate remote participants, a fourth session will be held via Zoom.

- STUDENTS & ALUMS: October 1 (11am-2pm)
- EVERYONE WELCOME: October 16 (5pm-7:30pm) ****evening**
- STAFF & FACULTY: October 24 (11am-2pm)
- EVERYONE WELCOME: November. 7 (11am-1pm) ****zoom/online**
 - *Pre-registration is required to receive a zoom link for the November 7 session.*

Pre-register for the session(s) here: https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/ICD2_Register.*

** Those who pre-register will receive an additional entry ticket to win one of many exciting door prizes!*

Indigenous wellness and cultural supports will be provided during the in-person sessions.

We encourage you to review the engagement questions which will be shared in the weeks leading up to the sessions on the [ICD webpage](#).

If you would like to schedule a private, one-on-one session with a member of the ICD Committee, please connect with us at: vpjicd@uvic.ca. We would be happy to meet with you and hear your feedback!

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 committee membership, project timelines, upcoming engagement opportunities and frequently asked questions, please visit our regularly updated [webpage](#).

For questions, concerns, or to set up a private one-on-one session, please contact us at: vpicd@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