



ONTARIO PUBLIC
SCHOOL BOARDS'
ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES IN INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

School Board_ Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Contact Person and Email Address Heather Truscott (heather.truscott@tldsb.on.ca)

Name of Program/Initiative/Strategy Imagine Canada Camp

Hyperlinks to Documents or Website(s) Describing this Program/Initiative/Strategy

<https://www.metowe.com/leadership-programs/indigenous-leadership-education>

Description of Program/Initiative/Strategy

The focus is on practices that excite, engage and increase student confidence, achievement and well-being. In the brief description please provide answers to the following questions: Where the program/initiative/strategy is delivered (school/board locations)? Who is responsible for delivering and monitoring the program/initiative/strategy? Who is the target audience? Are there any community partnerships involved? Are there any staffing or budget implications? Are there any special resources required? What are your indicators of successes etc.?

Trillium Lakelands DSB partnered with Me to We in order to foster greater awareness of the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls To Action. The camp took place on April 6-8/17 at the Me to We Leadership Centre in Bethany, Ontario. Both elementary (Grade 5/6) and secondary students (Grade 11/12) came together to explore history, culture, current events, issues, privileges, perceptions, leadership and the TRC Calls to Action.

The first day of the program was focused on developing the participants understanding of their individual strengths. Me to We Facilitators worked on team building exercises. As an example, students took part in the Blanket Exercise, and had an interactive workshop on connecting the dots of Canada's history. During the second day of camp participants built on their knowledge about communication and privilege. Focus was placed on developing leadership skills, developing personal action plan and taking part in cultural activities.

There was a TRC module which was designed to have participants start thinking about how they as Canadian citizens could address some of the TRC Calls To Action. Day three was focused on an action plan that the students committed to as they moved forward from camp. Each student developed a personal action plan and classes together came up with

plans as to how they would help to further enhance the knowledge and awareness of other students at their school and parents and community members about the TRC Calls to Action.

What has been the impact on Student Learning?

As a board we feel tremendous student learning has taken place through this project. As evidence of the learning our students, that were involved, had the opportunity to present their learning at our annual First Nation, Metis and Inuit Parent and Community Evening event in May. Our keynote speaker this year was Mike Downie. The information that the students presented to Mike and to the audience, as well as the actions that they have already undertaken and continue to undertake, has been nothing short of impressive. Both schools have indicated a desire to meet again in the fall and continue moving forward with action planning into the 2017/2018 school year.

We have been so impressed with the student and educator response to this program that we feel we would like to offer it twice next year as an opportunity for other schools to take part in.

We are also very proud of the fact that this program was a locally developed one designed and implemented by TLDSB staff in conjunction with facilitators from Me to We and has now become a standard program offering through Me to We.