

To: All Aboriginal Education Department Staff
Fr: Slynxleg, Principal AB Ed.

This is an FYI document as it affects our nations across BC.



First Nations Jurisdiction over Education in British Columbia Act

The *First Nations Jurisdiction over Education in British Columbia Act*:

- Was tabled in the House of Commons on November 22, 2006
- Received all party support in the House of Commons
- Received Royal Assent on December 12, 2006

The Act:

- Recognizes First Nations jurisdiction (law-making powers) over K-12 education
- Enables individual Canada – First Nation Education Jurisdiction Agreements subsequently negotiated between Canada & First Nations in British Columbia
- Establishes a First Nation Education Authority (FNEA) to assist participating First Nations in developing capacity to provide education. In addition, FNEA will
 - Establish standards for curriculum and examinations
 - Provide a teacher certification process
 - Provide a process for certifying schools operated by a participating First Nation
- Allows for participating First Nations to establish a Community Education Authority (CEA) to operate, administer and manage their school system
- Results in sections 114 to 122 of the Indian Act ceasing to apply to a participating First Nation and their members once the First Nation passes a law under this Act

A copy of the *First Nations Jurisdiction over Education in British Columbia Act* can be found at:

http://www2.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?Language=E&Parl=39&Ses=1&Mode=1&Pub=Bill&Doc=C-34_4

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