

Understanding Histories, Cultures, and Worldviews of Alberta's First Nations, Metis, and Inuit People

This workshop on April 28th was meaningful professional development for me as we explored **identity**—who are we and how are we connected, the importance of naming in my own upbringing, and how we can better understand the possible many names (and naming significance) of our FNMI students.

We also explored **terminology** from the Canadian Constitution Act, 1982 and were able to ask questions about **life on reserve** in terms of structure, cultural values and communication styles. Very helpful was the list “*What Teachers Can Do*” and “*Tips for Talking with Aboriginal Parents/Caregivers of Aboriginal Students*” as well as an informal time of asking (many!) questions and discussing how we can best support all learners in the classroom when it comes to sharing and teaching about culture. I would highly recommend that teachers participate in this workshop when given the opportunity. Many thanks to Stacey Running Rabbit for facilitating such a meaningful afternoon.

Wilderness Medical Associates Wilderness First Responder Re-Certification

I also participated in Wilderness Medical Associates Wilderness First Responder Re-Certification training. In addition to wilderness first aid training, this course focuses on decision making when in **leadership of groups** in emergency situations as well as communication with outside emergency services, record keeping, working with the public, and group management. This training is invaluable for my teaching with the Canadian Rockies Outdoor Learning Center, a program of Canadian Rockies Public Schools. Many thanks again to the ATA for the PD funds and for the opportunity to participate in these important professional development opportunities.

Submitted by Coleen Lee, 2016-2017