

First Nations Schools Association
14th Annual Conference & AGM

VALUING & CARING FOR ALL

April 23-24, 2010 Vancouver, BC Coast Plaza Hotel and Suites



Event Summary

At the First Nations Schools Association (FNSA) 14th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting, participants gathered to network and to explore strategies that promote excellence in First Nations schools in British Columbia.

Valuing and Caring for All was this year's conference theme and the event featured subjects of interest to teachers, school administrators and all others who contribute to the important work of First Nations schools.



We were privileged to begin the conference with an opening from **Mary Charles**, an Elder from the Musqueam Indian Band. Mary has served as a Musqueam Councilor for 30 years and she is the recipient of the Queen's Medal. She welcomed all of the participants to her traditional territory and

began the conference with an opening prayer.

Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, B.C.'s first Representative for Children and Youth, delivered a powerful keynote address. She spoke of her experiences as a mother and a Cree woman, and how First Nations children still face challenges when it comes to having their unique histories and cultures recognized



350 regular participants,
plus staff and exhibitors
for a total of more than
400 attendees

34 workshop sessions

31 exhibit booths

95% of participants
registered using the new
online registration
system

About the FNSA

The First Nations Schools Association (www.fnsa.ca) is a registered society and charity directed by First Nations schools in BC. It works with First Nations schools to create nurturing environments that develop learners' pride and competence in their First Nations language and heritage and equips students to realize their full potentials.



and respected in the public education system.

Here is a selection of the 34 workshop sessions that were offered this year:

- Dinosaur School: Developing Social, Emotional & Problem-Solving Skills in Young Children
- Youth Apprenticeship Initiatives
- Fitness and Conduct in Hiring and Firing
- Collaborative Approach to Challenging Behaviour
- A Reading Fluency Model
- Increasing Student Engagement in 21st Century First Nations Schools
- A Framework for Family Engagement/Empowerment
- Tech Tools for First Nations Language Instruction
- Using Assessment for Learning Practises to Develop an Effective Writing Program

At the **Annual General Meeting**, the membership addressed agenda topics that included a summary of the FNSA organizational evaluation, news about a new INAC Education Information System, and a review of the 2010/11 Work Plan.

An update on the recent **First Nations education jurisdiction** negotiations was offered by Nathan Matthew and Deborah Jeffrey.

The membership filled three board positions, based on the FNSA's regionally representative structure. The Board for 2010/11 is as follows:

Greg Louie, President

Nuu-chah-nulth/Coast Salish

Ernie Hill, Vice-President

Haida/Tsimshian/Hakla/Nisga'a

Victor Jim, Secretary

Gitksan/Wet'suwet'en

Len Merriman, Treasurer

Nuu-chah-nulth/Coast Salish

Andreas Rohrbach, Regional Rep

Kaska/Dene/Tahltan/Tagish/Inland Tlingit Region

Robert Matthew, Regional Rep

Secwepemc/St'at'imc/Nlaka'pamux

Karen Aoki, Regional Rep

Kwakwaka'wakw/Heiltsuk/Nuxalk/Oweekeno

Barb MacLeod, Regional Rep

Secwepemc/St'at'imc/Nlaka'pamux

Margaret Mattess, Regional Rep

Tsihlot'in/Carrier/Sekani

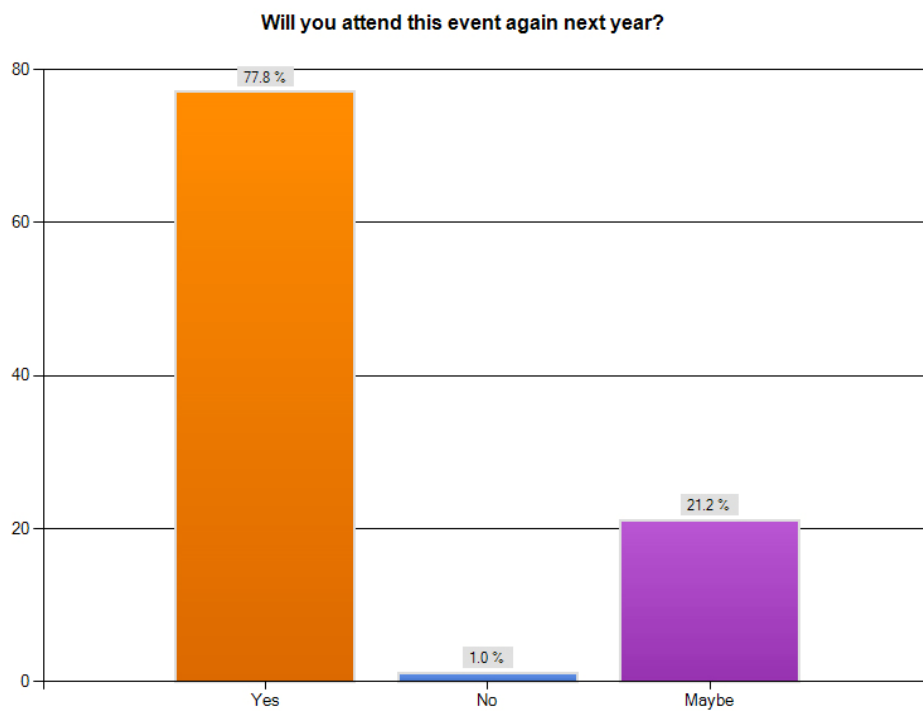
Sharon Lindley, Regional Rep

Kootenay/Okanagan

The closing plenary event included **A School Measures and Data Collection Presentation**, presented by Andreas Rohrbach from the FNSA Board and a **Shared Learnings Project Overview**, by Denise Williams of FNEESC.

The event closed with closing remarks and door prizes.

Evaluation Summary



Please rate this event on the following:

