

NEWS RELEASE

November 1, 2016 For Immediate Release

SCHOOL DISTRICT APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR OF ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND LEARNER ENGAGEMENT

COWICHAN VALLEY, BC – The Cowichan Valley School District has appointed current District Principal Denise Augustine to the position of Director of Aboriginal Education and Learner Engagement effective immediately.

Ms. Augustine has been the District Principal of Aboriginal Education since 2013 and was the District Vice-Principal of Aboriginal Education for two years. Prior to that she was the Curriculum Coordinator of Aboriginal Education and a teacher in the district for ten years. Ms. Augustine is a highly respected member of our community.

Earlier this year it was announced that Ms. Augustine would be a recipient of a 2016 Guiding the Journey: Indigenous Educator Award. She will be honoured with this year's Indspire Award for Leadership during the National Gathering for Indigenous Education on November 4, 2016 in Toronto, Ontario. The awards recognize Indigenous professionals who demonstrate outstanding career achievement and represent the highest honour the Indigenous community bestows upon its own achievers.

Board Chair, Candace Spilsbury, says "The Board of Education has released its Strategic Priorities Plan for the School District and made Aboriginal Education a top priority. We have every confidence that Denise Augustine has the leadership capacity to accomplish the goals in the Plan and improve Aboriginal student success in our schools."

"Ms. Augustine has been a strong advocate for students and learning throughout her career," said Rod Allen, Superintendent of SD79. "She is seen as a leader both in the district and throughout the community. I know she will bring all her passion into her new role."

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