



You can contribute to building a more vibrant

Indigenous community at Okanagan College

Supporting Aboriginal student access to and success in post-secondary school is essential to the future prosperity of our region. Okanagan College is committed to enhancing Indigenous education and outcomes for Aboriginal students through a number of projects and initiatives including providing culturally relevant spaces at each of our campuses.

Fast facts:

- Okanagan College has one of the fastest growing rates of Aboriginal student participation of any post-secondary institution in Canada
- More than 1,700 Aboriginal students currently enrolled
- Approximately 10 per cent of Okanagan College students have Aboriginal ancestry
- Over \$60K available in scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

We invite you to join our community. You can help us continue to enhance access and invest in the future of Aboriginal students in the region.

A holistic Health Sciences Centre

The design for the new Health Sciences Centre was developed through a holistic and collaborative approach involving representatives from the College's Indigenization Task Force as well as members of the Westbank First Nation.

The concept of weaving is important to the Syilx Okanagan people and was integrated into both exterior and interior elements. Indigenous art and storytelling will be infused into the building connecting it to Syilx Okanagan perspective on health and well-being.

Our students, your health



Foster an inclusive environment for all

A number of opportunities exist to help the College further Indigenize the new Health Sciences Centre.

✓ Four Food Chiefs Metal Sculpture

The feature wall in the student gathering area will include a three-storey high sculpture. The sculpture will tell the a story of the Four Food Chiefs, and will provide an excellent opportunity to learn about Syilx Okanagan ways of knowing and doing.

✓ Story poles

Story poles will be carved with pictographs and painted with ochre by a local Indigenous artist using reclaimed wood from the Health Sciences Centre site. Pictographs have been used by Syilx Okanagan people for thousands of years and are found throughout the entire Syilx Okanagan Nation.

The story poles will be situated in the Indigenous garden adjacent the building. The garden will celebrate and recognize the rich history and knowledge of the Indigenous people of the region.

✓ Art glass panels

Spaces for Indigenous art have been designated inside the building including glazed guardrail panels on all three floors.



Images shown for design reference purposes only - Actual installment will vary.

To learn more, please contact us:

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ourstudentsyourhealth.ca

