

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

On behalf of the entire staff at Sundre High and Learning Centre, I extend a warm welcome to all students and parents as we embark on the 2024-2025 school year. We are excited to have you back and look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, and exciting opportunities.

Building School Spirit:

We are particularly enthusiastic about the initiatives being planned by our student leadership group. Their focus on increasing student involvement in extracurricular activities and cultural events promises to further enrich the school environment and foster a strong sense of community.

Welcoming New Staff:

We are delighted to welcome three new members to the SHS/SLC team this year:

- **McKenzie McElhinney** will be joining us teaching both Physical Education and Foods.
- **Shauna Rodbourne** brings a wealth of experience and will be teaching Social Studies, Leadership and CALM at the High School as well as English/Social Studies at our Learning Centre.
- **Nathan Schoenthaler** brings his trades expertise to the classroom, teaching Industrial Arts and Math.

Staying Connected:

We encourage all parents and students to stay informed about school happenings by regularly checking our website at www.sundrehigh.ca, following us on Facebook as well as Instagram.

~ Scott Saunders

IMPORTANT DATES

- TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY - SEPT. 30 (NO SCHOOL)
- ORANGE SHIRT DAY - OCT. 1
- NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY - OCT. 11
- THANKSGIVING - OCT. 14
- PICTURE RETAKES - OCT. 16
- PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS - OCT. 17
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY - OCT. 25



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

This is a national holiday created in response to Number 80 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. It is a day for Canadians to commemorate and honor survivors of Canada's residential school system and to learn more about Indigenous perspectives. All schools in CESD will be observing this holiday. In honor of this day we encourage all students and staff to wear orange shirts on Thursday, September 29th.



TERRY FOX RUN

The Sundre schools will be participating in the Terry Fox National School Run Day on September 26th. We will be joining RVS where approximately 1000 students and staff will do a 3km run/walk around the schools and neighbouring areas. Anyone wishing to donate a loonie or toonie to cancer research can put them into the containers in the main office/classrooms.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP AT SUNDRE HIGH

We are very proud to have a strong group of students in our Leadership Program this year. These students all have a dedication to our school and greater community that is impressive. We look forward to a year of culture building through a series of well thought out events that are meant to engage the wider school body.

Already this year they have taken on organizing the Terry Fox Run and an Indigenous Games event. We look forward to what the rest of the year will bring! Our Leadership Group consists of Danna, Liam, Chloe, Eric, Clark, Ryan, Ryder, Vinuka, Halle, Natasha, Chyanne, Claire, Cole, Violette, Drew, and David with guidance from Ms. Rodbourne.



Chinook's Edge Adopts New Safety Program

While schools are considered to be one of the safest places in our communities, in reality emergencies can occur anywhere, at any time. Chinook's Edge takes seriously the responsibility to maintain readiness to respond to emergencies, and prioritize student and staff safety in our buildings.

Starting in September 2024, Chinook's Edge has adopted the use of Hour-Zero, which is a school emergency program, used by agencies throughout North America.

While we have always had safety plans in place, through Hour-Zero we have access to the same language used by emergency responders in our community. Also, Hour-Zero's ongoing staff training and support are valuable tools for us.

Each school has an on-site emergency response team, which is supported by the division emergency response team. Staff is trained on emergency protocols with drills being practiced at each school to ensure students and staff are prepared to act quickly and to minimize confusion and fear in a real emergency.

We invite you to take a moment to review [this guide](#) for parents / guardians, which outlines protocols and language we will use in emergency situations, as well as how we will communicate with you. Also, on the Chinook's Edge website [here](#), there is a video summary of what you can expect.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your school's principal or vice-principal.





CESD proudly presents the 4 Seasons of Reconciliation Course

What is 4 Seasons of Reconciliation?

4 Seasons of Reconciliation is a unique 3-hour online course that promotes a renewed relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canadians through transformative learning about truth and reconciliation.

This multimedia course provides a basic, foundational knowledge on truth and reconciliation that nearly all Canadians missed during their education journey, and is intended for Indigenous and Non-Indigenous learners. The course and its bonus video library shine a bright light on the contributions of Indigenous peoples, debunk myths, stereotypes and racism while meeting the Calls to Action in the workplace and our lives from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC). Watch this video to learn more.

How can I access this learning opportunity?

- CESD staff have been engaged in this learning for the past year and we are pleased to be able to offer this amazing online learning experience free to our School Council members and parents in this final year of our contract with 4 Seasons of Reconciliation!
- You can sign up for the fall intake to this course by clicking on and completing this [Fall Intake Registration](#) form by October 11, 2024.
- Your name and email address will be shared with 4 Seasons of Reconciliation and you will receive a welcome email with login information and instructions on how to access your course by October 21st.
- Simply follow the instructions and dive into the course. You may complete the course in one sitting (yes, it's that engaging!) or go in and out as many times as you like.
- You have until June 27, 2025 to complete the course.
- If you miss our fall intake deadline of October 11, you can sign up in January.

On behalf of CESD and the Indigenous Learning Team, we thank you for taking the time to join our staff in this learning and the work of reconciliation. If you have any questions about the course, please feel free to contact your school administrator or myself at cmuncer@cesd73.ca.

Respectfully,

Carolynne Muncer, CESD Indigenous Learning Coordinator