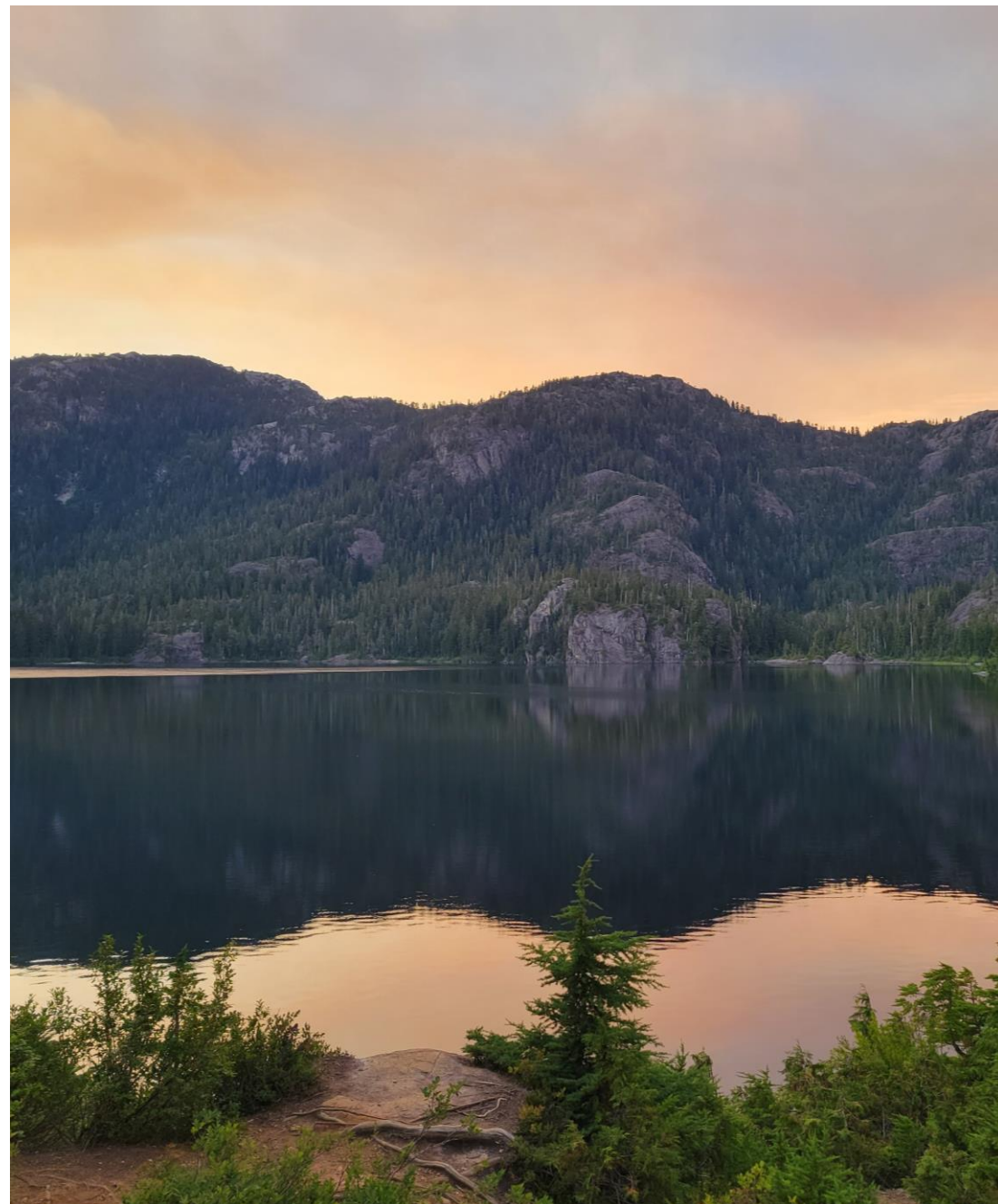

**BEING AND BELONGING:
IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY**

**BCTELA CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 25, 2024**



I am honoured to work and learn on the unceded, traditional territories of *the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.*

I acknowledge my responsibility to learn about the histories and cultures of the peoples who have lived here since Time Immemorial, and to live in ways that promote good relationships with the land and to honour its gifts.



Jen Barsky (she/her)

- settler guest
- English/Leadership teacher
- 24th year
- trail running, books, cats





My EFP Journey

- arrived at BMSS in Sept. 2020
 - Ministry mandate May 2021
 - ran eleven EFP courses in 2021/22
 - given .5 prep that year to develop program
 - taught EFP New Media 10, EFP Writing 11,
EFP 12 (last year and this year)
 - SFU (6 years) and Bby Pro-D opportunities
-

COURSE THEME DECISION MAKING

10s: representation in media, appropriation vs appreciation, family connection, identity intro

11s: connection to and with land

12s: identity and community (the interplay between these)

What will help students better understand the experiences of Indigenous people and communities?

What will help students better understand themselves as they embark on adulthood?

How can I provide an opportunity for students to celebrate success and show pride in the communities where they feel they belong?

PRINCIPLES OF LEARNING & THE HONOURABLE HARVEST

- Sk'ad'a Principles as examples of learning through story
- students write summaries and examples of how the principle might be applied in a school setting
- Honourable Harvest guides our classroom interactions (agreement on how to treat each other, using these principles) - infographic
- Grouse Mountain First Nations Cultural Experience to build and solidify relationships

Personal and Social Identity

- privilege and positionality
- identities and identifiers
- intersectionality

Identity Box Assignment

Identity Narrative

Synthesis Assignment



USING INDIGENOUS TEXTS TO EXPLORE IDENTITY

- In what way might our clothes reflect our identity?
- What happens when we feel torn between or unsure about two (or more) identities?
- When is it acceptable to question someone's identity?
- Why are people often stereotyped based on their identity?
- Where do I see my identities represented in media?

USING INDIGENOUS TEXTS TO EXPLORE COMMUNITY

What are the elements of a community of belonging?

What happens when a community feels threatened or targeted?

What results when we respond to challenges as a community?

How can we use art to teach about and celebrate community?



Literature Circles: community as theme

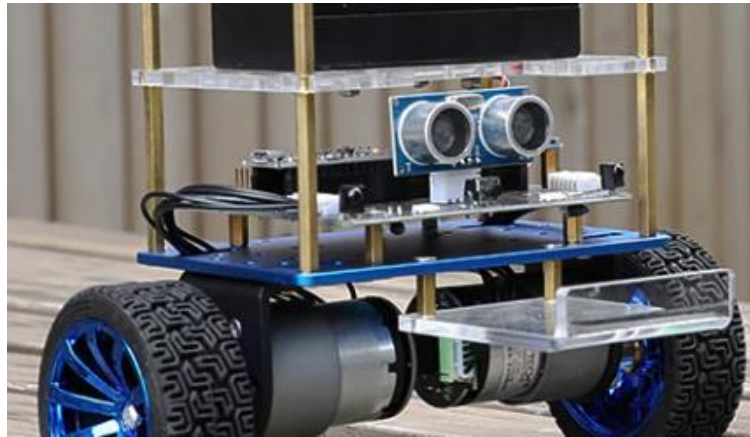
Art as celebration of community

What is a community you belong to and why is it such an important part of who you are?

- Artifact share (practice)
 - Class presentation (demonstration of learning and skills)
-



Artifact Share and Class Presentations



CELEBRATIONS AND STRUGGLES...

- building a program vs isolated courses
- university prep?
- International students with little to no background

- one-on-one conferences; cyclical opportunities for learning
- self-reflective, self aware, connected to others

What questions do you have?
What are you celebrating or struggling with?

THANK YOU!

Jen Barsky

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