February 2023

EDUCATION JURISDICTION

# What's next?

## Developing an Education Governance Model for Cowichan Tribes

The Education and Culture Committee has recommended that Cowichan Tribes establish a new legal entity, a **Community Education Authority** (CEA), to operate, administer, and manage its education system. An Education Jurisdiction Working Group has been established to develop Education Law for Cowichan Tribes.

The Working Group is comprised of:

- Chief Lydia Hwitsum
- Councillors Dora Wilson and Stephanie Atleo
- Quw'utsun Smuneem Elementary Principal
- Acting Associate Director of Education
- Acting CAO Cindy Daniels (ad-hoc member).

The Education Jurisdiction Manager and Administrative Assistant will support the Working Group to liaise with legal counsel on the development of the draft law.

The Education Law will describe:

- the source of authority
- delegation of accountability to a Community Education Authority (CEA)
- the qualifications, duties, and powers of CEA governors
- the scope of the CEA mandate, and
- the CEA's accountabilities to community members and to Cowichan Tribes leadership.

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The Education Law puts in place a foundation for a quality and effective Cowichan Tribes education system. The manner in which the governance of the Community Education Authority operates is informed by effective education governance practice. It ensures alignment between the governance function of the CEA, system operations, and the goals and aspirations of the community to foster children and youth who are grounded in their language, culture, and community practice, while having the foundational skills and knowledge to achieve their dreams and to fully participate in society at home and away.

Our community will have an opportunity to review the proposed law and there will be a community ratification process.

The Working Group will meet monthly and regular updates will be provided in the Cowichan Tribes newsletter and on our website.

If you have any questions regarding Cowichan Tribes Education Jurisdiction, the creation of a Community Education Authority, or our Education Law, please contact us:

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