



March 8, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to inform you that we will be introducing smudging practices at Annie Foote School. Beginning on Monday, March 11, our Indigenous students are invited to smudge on Monday afternoons at the school between 12:55 – 1:10. The smudge space offered is in the area outside of the learning commons across from our naturalization area/garden. When the weather cooperates, we will begin smudging outside.

Smudge involves burning a small amount of dried plant such as sage, sweetgrass or cedar inside a cast-iron dish or abalone shell. Participation in smudge is informed, voluntary, and always connected to learning.

The inclusion of Indigenous perspectives and experiences in the school is supported and encouraged by:

o [The Education Act, Section 16](#): Provincial regulations for schools. This learning experience connects directly to Section 16: Diversity & Respect

o [Teaching Quality Standards](#): Professional standards which all Alberta teachers are expected to meet. This learning experience connects directly to: Applying Foundational Knowledge about First Nations, Métis & Inuit

o [Alberta's Education for Reconciliation](#) : This experience connects to various outcomes in the Alberta Programs of Study which demonstrates Alberta's commitment to First Nations, Metis and Inuit Perspectives and experiences in curriculum

We are honoured to offer this opportunity to our students who self identify as First Nations, Metis and Inuit. For additional information and questions, please contact me.

Kind Regards,

H. Scholz

Heather Scholz
Principal
Annie Foote School
t | 403.777.6680