



# FORED BC

*Community  
Projects Report*

**2025/26**

**[www.foredbc.org](http://www.foredbc.org)**

**[@foredbc](https://www.instagram.com/foredbc)**



# FORED BC HIGHLIGHTS 2025 TO 2026

FORED's sustainability programs have immeasurable contributions & leadership from our volunteers, directors, staff & donors from business, education, accounting, law, Indigenous communities, youth groups, public relations, academia & diverse racial backgrounds.

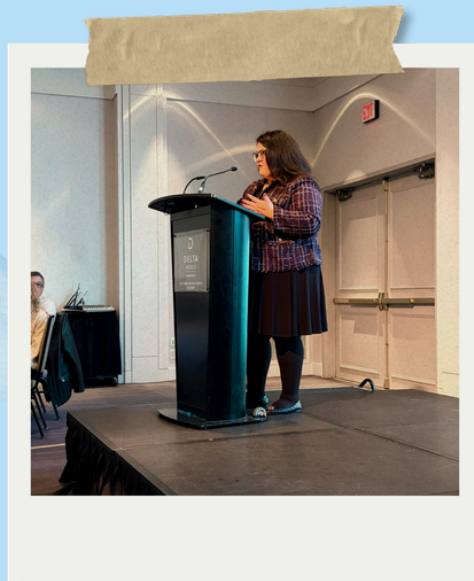
- **Sustainable Communities & Neighbourhoods (SCAN):** Best practices in sustainable living are free at our website. FORED's blog offers tools & original educational lesson plans, such as our new social media safety resources for kids, used and promoted by parents & teachers, NGOs and Indigenous leaders.

- **Education:** At the invitation of the Langley School District, FORED BC judged high school youth forest fire prevention projects, profiled in [Education News Canada](#). Fored BC workshopped our latest [social media safety lessons](#) for the Okanagan Teachers' Association & Surrey Teachers Association, led by Melanie Reyhart a digital marketing expert and teacher from Sri Lanka.



- **Events:** FORED BC Exhibits

1. Squamish Days children's festival, offering free nature games.
2. Big Marche public fair (Coquitlam), offering forest fire prevention games.
3. FORED co-organized a "Facts vs. Fears" Victoria event with the Macdonald-Laurier Institute and Indigenous partners, addressing rising rhetoric around a recent land claim court ruling. Speakers included Karen Restoule (Ojibwe Band), who provided historical context, lawyer Tom Isaac explained reconciliation and David Molinski, Resource Works (BC), covered natural resources partnerships.



**Fundraising:** \$7,000 in new donations plus provincial funding of \$165K. Majority of our funding, 99%, is from government, Vancouver Foundation & our own investment earnings.





**Aboriginal Heritage, Education & Dialogue (AHEAD):** To celebrate cultural & heritage traditions of BC's Indigenous people, FORED offered its annual Traditional Knowledge (TK) & Medicine artwork [contest](#) for K-12 Indigenous youth with \$150 cash prizes. Winners on our [website](#), & also featured for National Indigenous People's Day.

**Winners: Adelynne Gr. 10, Ayana Gr. 4, Cree Gr. 11, Holden Gr. 2, Isaiah Gr. 10, James Gr. 9, Lily Gr. 4**



Indigenous support worker Emily Clark told the [Columbia Valley Pioneer](#) June 24/25: "It's important to integrate Indigenous perspectives into the school curriculum. The FORED BC competition was one way to do so."



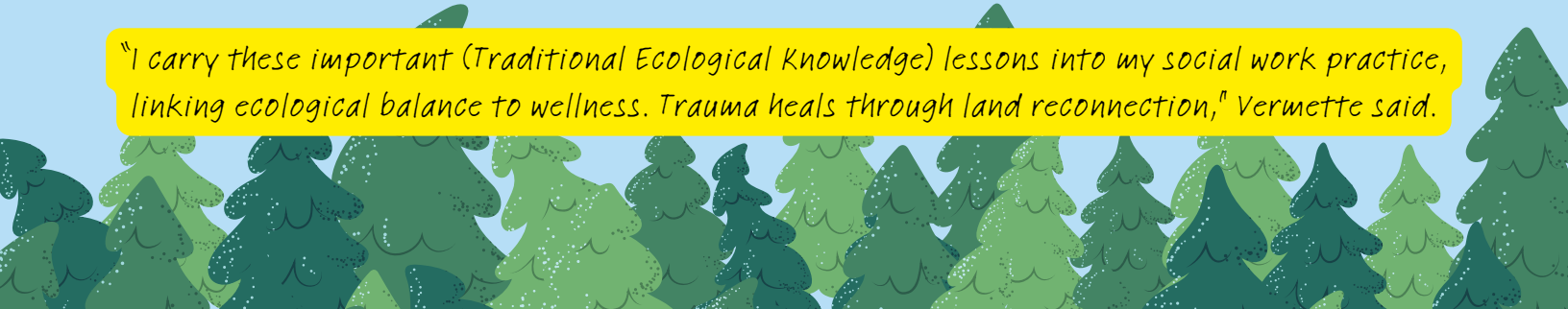
- The Ministry of Advanced Education promotes our [YouTube channel](#), (over 16,000 subscribers) featuring First Nations volunteers highlighting their natural resources careers. [UBC Indigenous Education](#) K-12 promotes FORED's Our Journeys profiles.

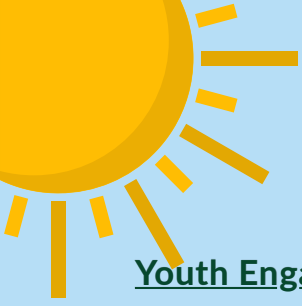
Shalynn Vermette, 33, of Sqwa First Nation in Chilliwack, is this year's winner of FORED's annual \$500 bursary 💰 for Indigenous students who share traditional knowledge, selected by the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT). Vermette is in her third-year of the Bachelor of Social Work degree 📖.

She shared how the Sto:lo First Nation connects to the Fraser River and salmon, using dip nets to select only mature fish to avoid over harvest.



"I carry these important (Traditional Ecological Knowledge) lessons into my social work practice, linking ecological balance to wellness. Trauma heals through land reconnection," Vermette said.





**Youth Engaging Sustainability (YES) program:** FORED BC's annual [youth art, video & photo contest](#) for National Forest Week drew superb entries from BC & Canadian youths K-12. \$150 prizes awarded to below youths. Some of the winning art pictured.

**Kyne Gr. 11, Vaidehi Gr. 2, Veda Gr. 3, Ranveer Gr. 11, Celine, Aila, Bria Gr. 5, Jessica: Gr. 8, Katie: Gr. 9**



**Partnerships:** Thanks to our volunteers & social media friends for sharing our programs, broadening FORED outreach to thousands of BC citizens, particularly youth. We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of BC, our members & the Vancouver Foundation. Donations welcomed on our [website](#) or [CanadaHelps](#).

