

Treaty Four Indicators Document

Jurisdiction: First Nations/INAC/SK

Contact: Treaty Four Education Centre

Level: K-12

Theme: Organizational/Structural

Description of Practice:

Development of a First Nations focused indicators document which attempts to provide a whole picture of education on reserve by providing indicators on:
leadership and governance;
schools, curriculum and opportunities to learn;
teachers and teaching; and
facilities and access to schools.

Background:

The Treaty 4 First Nations wanted to answer the question, "How well are our children doing in school?" To find out, Directors of Education from Treaty 4 set out the terms of reference for data collection from schools in the Treaty 4 area. The objective of the project was to determine, from a First Nation perspective, what areas of the school program were strong and what areas might be targeted for improvement. The study was based on extensive consultation with all stakeholders in First Nation Education in Treaty 4.

Development:

Much initial work was required to be done to assure the First Nation schools and communities that the indicators which were to be developed were to help the schools/students improve and not for use in comparisons to other schools/students.

After the initial indicators were developed, initial baseline data was collected from schools who wanted to participate in the project. After the data was collected and evaluated, the Treaty Four team worked with the schools to implement school improvement plans in those initial indicator areas. A second round of data collection and evaluation was done after the improvement plans were implemented and significant improvements were shown.

Evidence:

As confidence in the integrity of the Treaty Four team and indicators grew within the First Nations communities, an increasing number of schools/communities requested assistance/testing and school improvement plans. Data collection is continuing and the data continues to be utilized to develop and implement school improvement plans.

Adaptability:

The Regina Public School Board assists the Treaty Four team with the evaluation of the data collected and with the creation of the school improvement plans. The Treaty Four Education Indicators Project is continuing to develop a process to monitor success/failures, strengths/weaknesses, pluses and minuses (an evaluation) of schools and children on a continuous basis.

Further information:

Treaty Four Education Centre: <http://www.t4ec.com/>

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