

May 8, 2017

YES SHE CAN

The BC Council for Exceptional Children honours the significant achievements of children and youth through the Yes I Can! Awards program. Categories include academics, arts, athletics/motor skills, school and community activities, technology, self-advocacy, and transition. Cameron Elementary School is celebrating alongside grade 4 student **Scarlett Fedorak** who is receiving the award in the category of school and community activities. It will be presented at a luncheon later this month.

WELCOME TO BURNABY CENTRAL

Burnaby Central's day of Truth and Reconciliation closed with the unveiling of a Coast Salish red cedar welcome post. It was created by Musqueam artist-in-residence **Brent Sparrow Jr.** who shared his carving skills with students so they could participate. Installed in the main entranceway, it depicts the figure of a matriarch, hands raised in welcome. It represents a permanent symbol of reconciliation to be treasured and shared for generations. The project was made possible through an Art Start grant.

HOW CANADA CAME TO BE

Seaforth Elementary recently staged the production *How Canada Came to Be – A Story of You and Me* in celebration of Canada's 150th birthday. Through song, dance, character portrayal, stage design and visual projection, students brilliantly told the story of Canada, from the First Peoples to the European settlers, the building of the CPR, the gold rush, and many more events in history that have shaped Canada. They will be continuing with a Canada theme for a School-wide Write and Sports Day too.

HONOURING OUR SENIORS

More than 60 seniors were feted at Second Street's 47th Pioneer Tea - a community labour of love. Staff made sandwiches, Community Council and parents bought or baked goodies, students decorated the gym and the grade 7's served. Along with cake, guests were served tea in fine china cups and saucers that have been generously donated by long-time community member Pat Nichols. Students from kindergarten to grade 7 enjoyed sharing their learning through song, dance, poem recitation, and then had a chance to personally visit and learn from the seniors.

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DANCING WITH PRIDE

On April 27, Byrne Creek Community School hosted the District's first Pride Dance. It was open to all secondary school students. Vibe Productions provided the music, Sephora provided make-up, and the Byrne Creek Leos pitched in too. The students who attended the dance had a great time and appreciated the show of support from staff throughout the district who dropped by.

REMEMBRANCE THROUGH ART

Annually, more than 100,000 youth from across Canada participate in the Royal Canadian Legion Poster and Literacy Contests, based on the theme of "Remembrance." Organized by local branches, winning entries progress through local and provincial levels with final entries sent to be judged at Legion headquarters. This year, the National award for best senior colour poster goes to grade 10 Burnaby Mountain student **Meta Sadeghy**. In November she will attend the National Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa and place a wreath on behalf of the Youth of Canada. Her poster will be on display in the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa from July 1 until next May.