

# Syós:ys lets'e th'ále, lets'emó:t

## Reconciliation Through Language

The Chilliwack School District operates on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Ts'elxwéyeqw (Ch-ihl-kway-uhk), Pilalt and Semá:th Peoples. Located within the Sto:lo territory, Ts'elxwéyeqw is a watershed of interconnected lakes, rivers, and streams. The very word, Ts'elxwéyeqw, describes the action of traveling upstream.

Like a river, the language used to describe and define identity is dynamic and changing. The Chilliwack School district is committed to utilizing language that recognizes, respects, and reflects current understandings.

### Indigenous Peoples are the experts of their own realities

As a result, the Chilliwack School District *Aboriginal Education Department* will now move forward as **Indigenous Education Department**.

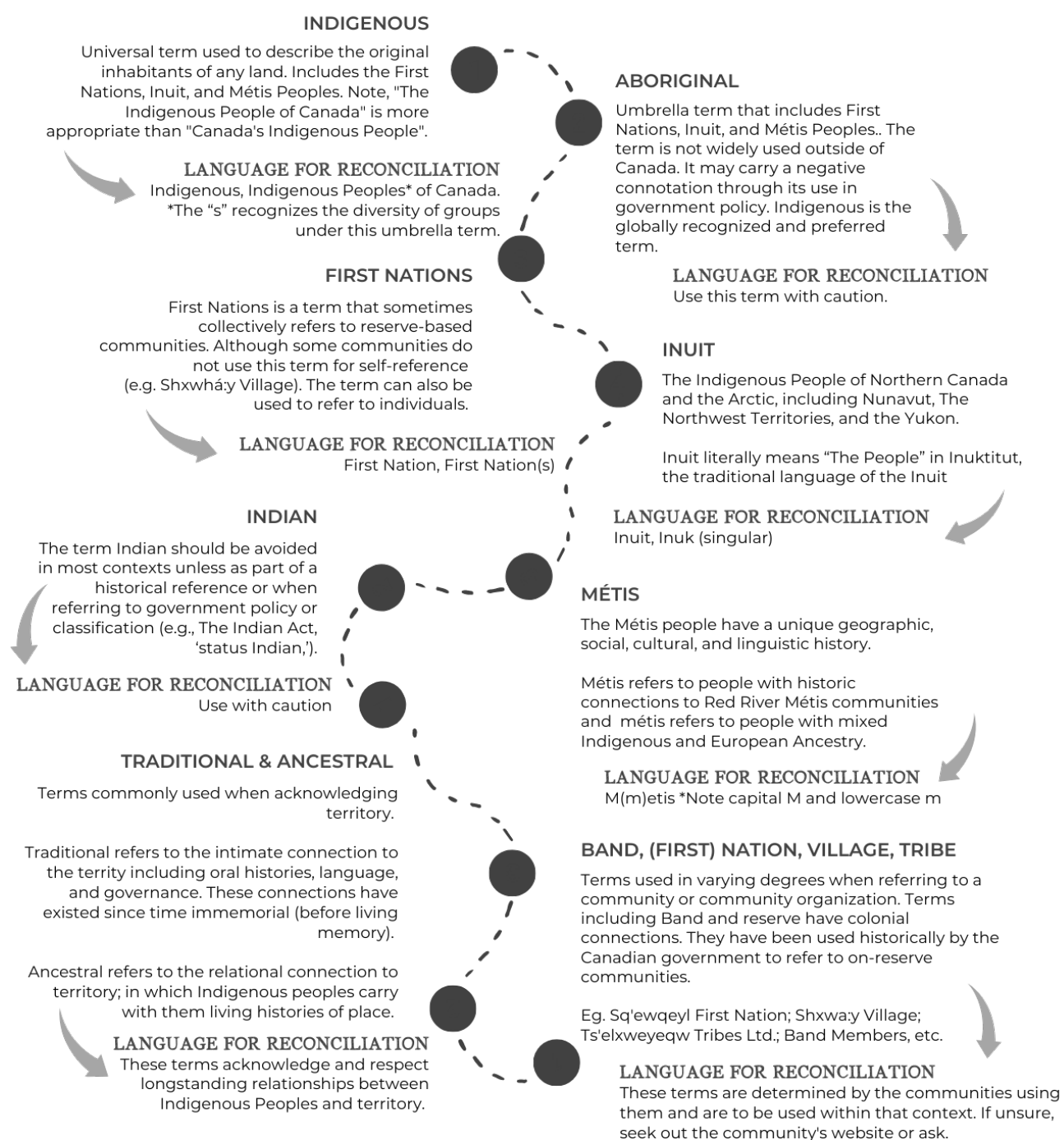


We can honour and remember our shared histories when we navigate a path toward a more respectful understanding of Indigenous identities.

We invite you to continue your own journey to deepen your understanding of the diversity and identity of Indigenous Peoples.

## Leq'áleq'el te Sqweltels

A Language Journey



The above are common terms and definitions to consider in our work. These explanations are intended to give a general idea of terminology that exists. It is not an exhaustive representation! Continue your learning at the SD33 Indigenous Education Department website at <https://learningservices.sd33.bc.ca/welcome-aboriginal-education-department>.

**“The use of terminology by powerful institutions, like school districts, makes a difference in the journey to Reconciliation.”**

Kesler, L. UBC. 2018

