



2023

## INDIGENOUS ROLE MODEL

*Clayton Ritchie | Yale Secondary*

I am a proud member of Semá:th First Nation. Many activities have connected me to my culture; my favourite activities are drumming, singing, learning Halq'emeylem language, and participating in Longhouse events. Travelling to gatherings, ceremonies, honourings, races, and competitions have allowed me to meet new people and find new mentors for myself. My school has a program called Indigenous Leaders of Yale and through this program I was able to mentor other students, help with Elder's programs, bake bannock for the school, and assist with Orange Shirt Day events. I volunteer with the Big Brothers/Sisters program, soup kitchens, local pow wows, and the Sts'elemeqw Residential School Thrivers Society. I am a leader in my community canoe club. After high school I plan to attend UBC's Okanagan Campus to study Sociology. After obtaining my Bachelor of Arts, I would like to go on to complete my LSAT and apply to the Peter A. Allard School of Law specializing in Criminal Law and Indigenous Law. I hope I can become the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia like my mentor, Steven Point. Take pride in yourself and in your ancestry; commit yourself to healing and learning so you can be your strongest and healthiest self.



Indigenous  
Education