



2023

INDIGENOUS ROLE MODEL

Kash Silver | Abbotsford Senior Secondary

I am from Mathxwí and Semá:th First Nation. Growing up, I had the opportunity to participate in my First Nation culture, but only in the last year have I been more involved in activities with my band. I recently attended family gatherings, the Semá:th Pow Wow, and ceremonies with the Semá:th First Nation. As part of the Indigenous Leadership Program, I had an opportunity to spend time with Chris Silver to learn more about my culture. He taught me the importance of water and salmon. I also learned about how my ancestors fished, hunted, and gathered plants in this territory. One of my favourite projects this year was participating in carving the house posts with Raphael Silver in the Longhouse and at school. I am honoured to have been part of this activity and to know that the posts are now at the School Board Office. In addition, I have volunteered at the Semá:th Longhouse and helped with special events like Truth and Reconciliation Day, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women awareness, and Sto:lo gatherings. School has been challenging throughout the years, but with the support and guidance from the Indigenous Education Program, I have worked hard to overcome my struggles. After graduation, I am hoping to attend the carpentry program at the University of the Fraser Valley. I want a hands-on job and have experience working with wood from the carving project we completed in school. My dream is to be able to build a house for my mom. It is important to give back to both your family and your community.



Indigenous
Education