

Events planned to celebrate Aboriginal Education Awareness Month

April is Aboriginal Education Awareness Month at the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) and a slew of events are planned for the community to honour the contributions and the legacy of First Nation, Métis and Inuit people.

"Aboriginal Education Awareness Month provides a fantastic opportunity to engage our students and staff with the shared histories, cultures and perspectives of the First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada," said Jack

Nigro, superintendent of education, curriculum services.

Among the events will be a series of Self-Identification Open Houses that will take place across Halton to promote the voluntary and confidential self-identification of students and families of aboriginal descent.

"Aboriginal student self-identification provides the opportunity for students and families to identify as having First Nation, Métis or Inuit ancestry," said Sherry Saevil, aboriginal

liaison for the HCDSB.

"By self-identifying, students and their families will have access to a variety of board and school-sponsored cultural programming, as well as funding support opportunities for aboriginal students that are specific to post-secondary programs."

An open house will be held on Wednesday, Apr. 30 at Jean Vanier Secondary School, 1145 Bronte St. S., from 7 to 9 p.m.

All First Nation, Métis, or Inuit students, who

are 18 years of age or older have the right to self-identify. For students under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must self-identify on behalf of the student.

The self-identification process is entirely voluntary and confidential. No proof of ancestry is required.

For more information on Aboriginal Education Awareness Month with the HCDSB, visit www.hcdsb.org.

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