Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools is enacting *Education for Reconciliation* through two committees: First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Advisory Committee and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Leadership Committee. **The Leadership Committee** is focused on: developing community and inter-agency partnerships to advocate for Indigenous Education; and sharing with parents what our Board is doing to enact *Education for Reconciliation*. **The Advisory Committee** is focused on: engaging in teacher education about Indigenous Education; and developing and exploring classroom resources in Indigenous Education.

**April Update.** In anticipation of the **NEW professional practice standards** implementation **September 1, 2019** and to further our work in Education for Reconciliation, GSCARD is proceeding to work with Cheryl Devin, our Walking Together Consultant to engage in high quality professional learning using ministry-sponsored, elder-reviewed materials. Based on a Fall 2017 survey of our Advisory and Leadership committee members’ needs as learners, Cheryl Devin shared our results represented in this slide:

**Looking Forward, Looking Back**

Hence, our GSCARD community aims to build knowledge and understanding of Indigenous peoples’ histories and ways of knowing, and to develop our relationships with our elders and our partners in Truth and Reconciliation (ATA, ERLC, Alberta Education, surrounding districts, local community members and agencies).

**Fall and Winter.** To achieve these aims, our committees have spent the first part of this year focusing on understanding residential schooling experiences of Indigenous peoples’ families locally, provincially, and internationally. We have learned from Yvonne Stang, our Literacy Coordinator, about research-based literacy strategies to work with our K-12 Indigenous Literature Kit within our schools. We have also explored connections between our Catholic faith and Indigenous ways of developing spiritually through our work with our elders, Edna and Ella Arcand, and with our Religious Education Consultant, Colin Loiselle.

**Spring.** In March, our First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Advisory Committee members experienced a sampling of four workshops designed by the ATA Walking Together Consultant team. We voted to begin our PD in the Fall of 2018 with two workshops: “Indigenous Ways of Knowing” and “Indigenous Alberta.”
We will proceed to share these workshops through our Advisory Committee’s work with staff in 2018-2019. We also aim to share samples of the activities from these workshops with our parents through the work of our Leadership Committee. The following activity is from “Indigenous Ways of Knowing”; our committee members found it to be an illuminating way to begin to uncover our understandings of concepts such as “diverse ways of knowing”, “Indigenous ways of knowing”, and “worldviews.”

**Picture Activity: Exploring Diverse Ways of Knowing and Worldviews**

**Directions:**

1. What does this picture make you think about, wonder, and feel?

2. Write and/or verbally share your reflections.

3. Read and discuss the following article about the picture and reflect on this question: What do you think the main messages are regarding different ways of seeing and acting in the world based on this article?

4. For further information about the role of bison in Canada’s efforts to understand and preserve historical indigenous ways of knowing and valuing nature and Mother Earth, watch: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtF9QBQGMt4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtF9QBQGMt4)