



KEEPING SAANICH SAFE

March 14, 2014

To whom it may concern,

The Saanich Police has recognized diversity as a key external focus and is committed to undertaking initiatives that will further enhance our capacity to serve in this regard. In December 2013, the Staff Development Division collaborated with the Indigenous Perspectives Society (formerly Caring for First Nations Children Society) to prepare joint presentations to Saanich Police officers. During January and February 2014, five presentations took place at the Saanich Police Department. These presentations focused on cultural awareness and gaining a better understanding of First Nations and Aboriginal Communities. Included in the presentations was a film prepared by BC Police Services titled *The Spirit Has No Colour*. This film discussed Residential Schools and the effect these schools have had on First Nations people and Aboriginal Communities. These presentations were very well received by all that attended and important to the continued development of Saanich police officers.

Personally I would like to thank staff members of the Indigenous Perspective Society for working with the Saanich Police to provide this valuable training. I found the learning environment both enjoyable and effective in achieving the discussed goals and objectives. I would highly recommend this presentation to other agencies wishing to enhance their awareness of First Nations people and Aboriginal Communities.

Sincerely,

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