RAISED VOICES:

CARRIERS OF HOPE



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We call upon all levels of government to increase funding for education to have a male, female and/or a Two-Spirit Elders to have a significant role in schools; as counsellors or teaching traditional ways, which will support the mental, spiritual, physical and emotional wellbeing of First Nations youth in every school in Canada.

















Become student liaisons in schools to support Elders.



Advocate for the inclusion of First Nations Elders in their classrooms through campaign letters, videos, petitions and/ or presentations.

The Carriers of Hope call upon Students to:





Help perform cultural protocols when having Elders in classrooms, Ask an Elder how you can help.



Create relationships with **local First Nations Elders** by visiting cultural and community spaces.



Engage in social media platforms to stay connected with Elders.



For more information go to: **F**







Practice self-care when engaging in difficult topics.







Invite Elders into classrooms to share cultural teachings.



Advocate to have a cultural space within schools to accommodate Elders.



Encourage the use of First Nations languages and cultures in classrooms.



The Carriers of Hope call upon Teachers to:





Broaden the parameters of course assignments to include students who may wish to involve Elders' knowledge in their coursework.



Respect and honour First Nations Flders' role in students' everyday lives.

For more information go to: F





Research tokenism and avoid singling out First Nations students in the classroom.



Use textbooks that are written by First Nations Elders and authors on First Nations topics and subjects.



Research and become aware of protocols regarding Elders (i.e. providing tobacco, transportation, honoraria, sharing methods etc.)



Recognise First Nations Elders as knowledge keepers and allow their teachings and stories to be cited in assignments.















Create a space for a male, female and/or Two-Spirit Flders to be counsellors and teachers for First Nations students.



Schools should complete the costing for these positions.

The Carriers of Hope call upon Schools to:



Pay for tobacco, transportation, and honorarium for Elders when brought into schools.



Invite Elders to school events and assemblies.

Empower Elders to advise teachers and principals on First Nations students' needs. (i.e. excusing First Nations students from school-related responsibilities when necessary).



For more information go to: **F**







Invite a male, female and/or Two-Spirit Elder to sit on the school council.



Promote the inclusion of extracurricular cultural activities including beadwork classes, and powwow Zumba.















Advocate for course curriculum dedicated to learning with First Nations Elders.







Meet with provincial school boards to discuss schools' Reconciliation action plans and progress.



Advocate for permanent First Nations Elder designated seats on school boards and school board associations.

For more information go to: **F**







Advocate for increased investments to support Elders' presence and an Elders' space in schools.

