



Okanagan College
Aboriginal Services
1000 KLO Rd.
Kelowna BC
V1Z 1Y8
jgillies@okanagan.bc.ca

Moose Hide Campaign – Application to become Post-Secondary Ambassador Institution

February 4th 2021

Good afternoon Omar,

I work for Okanagan College (OC) in our Aboriginal Services Department, I am also the Committee Chair for our Positive Space Committee and our Sexual Violence Committee here at OC. I also am the current Executive Board Chair for Strengthening Connections, Indigenous Recruitment for Post Secondaries in BC.

While I am professionally situated to support events or programing in alignment with the Moose Hide Campaign, I am also personally motivated and passionate to see this social justice enterprise more prominently supported by all OC community members. As an Indigenous person with a young daughter and multiple family members who have been murdered or are still missing, I am a strong supporter of these social acts to prevent and promote awareness and engagement in supports, education and resources to eliminate gender-based violence in our communities.

I would like to formally submit a letter of intent for Okanagan College to become an Ambassador Institution for the Moose Hide Campaign. While we have for many years done small events each year to promote this campaign (handing out the moose hide pins, providing campaign materials to students and community etc.) I believe there is a greater role OC can take in this area in BC.

I have made some initial connections to provincial level post-secondary groups to gauge interest in collaborating to create a provincial hub for all PSI's to connect and collaborate. With a goal to raise awareness on what they are doing within their institutions, how we can collaborate more effectively to create a seamless community that stands up to gender-based violence; and provide accurate and useful resources for those dealing with violence or anger management issues, as well as resource within our respective institutions or community areas for the victims of violence.

As an Indigenous person I have witnessed the amazing power our peoples have when we come together and work towards a common goal, and I think this is a unique position OC can take on in facilitating this province wide connection with others. A community of Practice will allow for us to leverage the best of our effort to better support all students and PSI staff in standing up against gender based violence in our communities.

While the details on partnerships and goals/objectives/unit plans are still being developed at this time, this will be the intent of my work on this venture moving forward. As more details are firmed up, I will be sure to communicate them as required to your team.

If you have any questions on this letter or the goals or plans laid out her please do not hesitate to connect with me directly.

Sincerely,

Jewell Gillies

Jewell Gillies

They/Them

Okanagan College

Aboriginal Services, Seconded to:

Student, Graduate & Co-op Employment Services

Indigenous Student Initiatives

250-864-5796