



DWF LIVE: Educator Pre-Lesson Guide

Welcome to DWF LIVE presented by the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund. We are thrilled that you and your students are joining us. This Secret Path Week, we are proud to offer four unique virtual sessions for individuals, classrooms, workplaces, and communities.

This pre-lesson guide includes all the information you'll need to prepare your students for the session and to facilitate thoughtful discussion.

We all begin our reconciliation journey at different points and for different reasons; where you are on the path is not as important as your commitment to taking this journey. Your commitment not only keeps the legacies of Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack alive but builds awareness and education among today's youth, ensuring a better future for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada.

About the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund:

Inspired by Chanie's story and Gord's call to build a better Canada, the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund aims to build cultural understanding and create a path toward reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Our goal is to improve the lives of Indigenous people by building awareness, education, and connections between all peoples in Canada. Learn more at downiewenjack.ca.

About the Legacy Schools program:

The Legacy Schools program is a free national initiative to engage, empower and connect students and educators to further reconciliation through awareness, education and action (#reconciliACTION).

Open to all schools (daycares, K-12 and post-secondary), clubs, and groups that work with youth throughout Canada, Legacy Schools provides educational resources and program development for participants to help ensure that the unique interests, rights, and perspectives of Indigenous peoples are recognized and implemented in schools and communities throughout Canada.

Learn more and join the Legacy Schools program at legacyschools.ca.



Mental Health Disclaimer

If your school or organization offers social and mental health support, please be sure to have them available. Topics and materials describing the residential school system can include highly sensitive subject matter and may cause powerful emotional responses.

Health Canada provides a free 24-hour crisis line for Survivors and their families affected by the residential school system (also available in French). **The 24-Hour Residential School Support Line: 1-866-925-4419.**

Kids Help Phone: Call **1-800-668-6868** (toll-free) or text **CONNECT to 686868.**

Indigenous people can connect with an Indigenous volunteer crisis responder, when available, by messaging **FIRST NATIONS, INUIT, or MÉTIS to 686868** for young people and **741741** for adults.

DWF LIVE with Buffy Sainte-Marie



Wednesday, October 18

12:00 PM PT | 1:00 PM MT | 2:00 PM CT

3:00 PM ET | 4:00 PM AT | 4:30 PM NT

Recommended for all ages.

Buffy Sainte-Marie will be reading her book, [Still This Love Goes On](#), which Legacy Schools received in their booster kits this year.

“A love letter to Indigenous communities everywhere, this picture book gorgeously illustrated by Julie Flett celebrates seasons, nature, and community.

Based on Academy Award-winning Cree icon Buffy Sainte-Marie’s song of the same name, *Still This Love Goes On* is a stunning celebration of Indigenous experience. Breathtaking illustrations from celebrated Cree–Métis artist Julie Flett combine with Sainte-Marie’s vivid lyrics to craft a remarkable piece of art. Full color illustrations throughout.” – [goodminds.com](#)



DWF LIVE with Buffy Sainte-Marie

Lesson Ideas Prior to the Session:

- Students can read or be read the book in advance and write a small journal entry reflecting on the book.
- Students can do a small research project on who Buffy Sainte-Marie is and her previous artistic contributions.
- Students can research if there are any First Nations, Inuit, or Métis authored books about the place they call home.

Guiding Questions:

1. Who did Buffy collaborate with on this book?
2. What is Buffy Sainte-Marie famous for prior to writing this book?
3. What is the relationship between storytelling and change making?
4. Why is it important to read books by people who are like you? Why is it important to read books by people NOT like you?

@DownieWenjack



DownieWenjack.ca