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Inspiring Minds – Showcasing Western’s Graduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity

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Indigenous Education

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There is an emerging challenge at Megwe'g School Board (MSB, *pseudonym*) regarding the lack of teaching supports and professional development for teachers to teach Indigenous Education. Traditional teachings, although embedded within the curriculum, is not often taught. Through years of discussions with teachers, many claim the lack of cultural knowledge to teach Indigenous education is the main factor. This is often a result of students deprived of learning about Canadian Indigenous peoples and their contributions and teachers' lack of personal growth in Indigenous Knowledge. Furthermore and most importantly, the lack of confidence and self-worth of Indigenous students knowing they are not valued in Canadian society. The MSB needs to recognize cultural workshop every three to five years is neither sufficient nor beneficial for teachers. The problem of practice is the lack of teaching supports and professional development for teachers to teach Indigenous education effectively in their classrooms within the MSB.