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# ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

## SECONDARY LEVEL

### Aboriginal Initiatives Across Canada Activity

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- **Purpose:** the purpose of this activity is to encourage students to analyze different FNMI assistance strategies selected by various organizations. Students will analyze the impacts of these initiatives.
- **Instructional method(s):** class discussion, independent research.
- **Differentiated Instruction:**
  - Assign students to groups based on their agency of choice.
- **Course Connection(s):** Canadian and World Studies, English, Interdisciplinary Studies, Native Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities, and Technological Education.
- **Estimated time:** continuous project.
- **Steps:**
  1. Explain to students that many organizations across Canada have mobilized to help resolve FNMI issues. Ask students to list any initiatives they have heard about, listing suggestions on the board.
  2. Tell students they will be conducting an analysis of an organization that is working in the Aboriginal community. In this analysis, they must determine the effectiveness and impact of this assistance approach through a written analysis and a visual project.
  3. Ask students to choose one of the following organizations:
    - Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative - <http://www.maei-ieam.ca>
    - The Belinda Stronach Foundation - <http://www.tbsf.ca/>
    - Ch'nook Cousins - <http://www.ch-nook.ubc.ca/highschool.html>
    - Fort McMurray – The Royal Conservatory - [http://www.rcmusic.ca/ContentPage.aspx?name=Portal Alberta Government Invest s in Innovative Conservatory Program in Fort McMurray](http://www.rcmusic.ca/ContentPage.aspx?name=Portal_Alberta_Government_Invest_s_in_Innovative_Conservatory_Program_in_Fort_Mcmurray)
    - The Seventh Generation Club - <http://www.seventhgenerationclub.com/>
  4. Once they have chosen their organization, students must research their organization identify the following information:
    - Organization description - including the mission statement of the organization as well as any other relevant information.
    - Current initiatives in the Aboriginal community - a list and description of programs being implemented in the Aboriginal community.
    - Effectiveness - the extent to which the organization is attaining its objectives.
    - Impact - the effects produced by the initiative(s). This involves the main impacts and effects resulting from the activity on the local, social, economic, environmental, and other development indicators.
    - Sustainability - whether the benefits and outcomes of the initiative(s) are likely to continue into the future.
  5. After completing their research, students must create their written report. Ask them to structure their research into the following paragraphs: overview report, background information, discussion of findings, and conclusion.



6. When reports are complete, ask students to create one of the following visual projects about their chosen organization to accompany their written report:
  - A news bulletin
  - A magazine or newspaper advertisement
  - A poster
  - An article for a newspaper or magazine
  - A PowerPoint presentation
7. When students have completed their projects, ask them to hand them in for grading.

**Take action to raise awareness about Aboriginal Education. Participate in Free The Children and Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative's campaign, Local Spotlight: Aboriginal Education. Check out [www.weday.com/takeaction](http://www.weday.com/takeaction)**