



Indigenous Graduation Coach

What is an Indigenous Graduation Coach (IGC)?

Indigenous Graduation Coaches support self-identified First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students' overall well-being, cultural journey, and academic success while students work toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. IGCs work alongside the Indigenous Education Team to support Indigenous students' spirit, heart, mind, and body. Additionally, IGCs promote Indigenous visibility within the schools and the classroom, leading cultural content.

What does an IGC do?

An IGC visits students in schools to provide access to culture. IGCs provide mentorship, advocacy, leadership opportunities, the promotion of Indigenous excellence, and they can recommend community connections.

We offer:

One-on-one meetings with self-identified First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students: This includes access to cultural learning, reflecting on well-being through an Indigenous worldview, and/or creating a safe space to listen.

Lunch and Learn sessions: Any student or staff can drop by to learn with the IGCs. The focus is always on First Nation, Métis, or Inuit knowledge, culture, perspective, or history.

Indigenous Student Circle: Gatherings for self-identified First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students who can attend sessions throughout the year, including cultural workshops, leadership opportunities, and more. Please connect with one of the IGCs for more information on how to join.



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Who are we?

IGCs have lived experience with Indigenous knowledges, perspective, culture, and history.

Ben Marshall

My name is Ben Marshall and I am a mixed-ancestry Anishinaabae from Wasauksing First Nation. I grew up as an urban Indigenous and graduated from the York Region Catholic School system but was very lucky to spend my summers running around my community. My summers were filled with learning the plants and animals that co-habituated alongside us and where we fit in with Shakakmi-kwe (Mother Earth). I have worn many different hats already from working as a paramedic, a pest control professional, and many ecological surveys and projects.

Angeni Lovelady

Hello! My name is Angeni (pronounced like Ann-Jenny), and I am mixed-ancestry Algonquin Anishinaabe, Scottish and English. My family historically comes from Pikwakanagan First Nation, but I grew up in a place called Penetanguishene. Previously, my work involved researching, developing, and facilitating workshops that discussed the complex history of colonization in Canada, and how to empower non-Indigenous individuals to engage with that history in way that fosters good relations. A poet, musician and lover of stories, I try to weave my culture into my work as often as I can.

Contact Information

Ben Marshall

benjamin.marshall@dcdsb.ca

Angeni Lovelady

angeni.lovelady@dcdsb.ca