Smudging in Schools

Lakehead Public Schools

Your Children Our Students The Future

www.lakeheadschools.ca

A Smudging Ceremony will take place in our School on:



akehead

Public

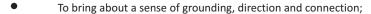
Your Children Our Students The Future

Empathy Respect

What is Smudging?

- Smudging is a ritual cleansing ceremony practiced by Native North American peoples;
- One or more of the sacred medicines are burned: Tobacco, Cedar, Sage, and Sweetgrass;
- Smudging happens when hosting an Aboriginal community event, meeting and/or inviting Elder(s) or Aboriginal artist(s) to schools;
- People smudge: regalia, drums, themselves, room/area, and other items;
- Participation in smudging is voluntary if you do not wish to or are unable to participate in smudging, you may step back or not stand up.

Why is a Smudging Ceremony Conducted?





- To help create a positive mindset;
- To cleanse/purify a person, place or object of negative energies, feelings or thoughts.

How is a Smudging Ceremony Conducted?

- Sacred medicine(s) will be burned in a natural vessel clay bowl, abalone shell, etc.
- An eagle feather or hands are put in the smoke which is then brought onto the body;
- Participants may remove any metal (rings, watches, glasses, etc.) prior to the smudging ceremony.

Integrity Acceptance Responsibility

Growing haracter

3.1.7

The Principal shall issue a letter to staff, parents/guardians and students of the school to notify them of the smudging ceremony and invite direct communication of health or environmental concerns.

For more information, please see Smudging Ceremonies Practice, 2007 Lakehead District School Board