

Bakwam Accord

'Namwayut-We are all one

Class of 2021

VIU Stewardship Technicians Training Program (STTP)

We Believe in....

Maya'xala (respect) for all living things, with the understanding that we are all equal and deserve to be treated as treasures of creation.

'Namwayut, that we are all one. We are all connected and part of each other.

We the VIU and Nanwakolas STTP program coordinators, staff, faculty, and student supporters commit to:

- To have maya'xala for all students
- a strengths-based approach when engaging with students. Our belief is that ALL students have the skills and abilities to be graduates of the program
- provide an environment in which students can gain knowledge and experience and are encouraged to continue with their education and to be life-long learners
- holding the cultural principle of "lifting up" students by providing encouragement, support and safety in the classroom
- creating a safe space for physical and mental well-being
- Create a safe space where student voice is heard
- making things fair and equitable
- provide opportunities for students to check-in with us and each other to support well-being and cohesiveness.
- Sharing our knowledge with students and provide coaching when asked and/or needed
- Finding out what we can about the indigenous people of the territory before we arrive and acknowledging the land we stand on.

We the students of the program commit to each other that we will:

- Have Maya'xala for one another inside and outside the classroom.
- Have patience with one another, and listen to each other's opinions with an open heart and mind
- We will be self-aware and accountable for our actions
- We will be awila (serious) when needed, but still ixkasala (have fun) to keep our hearts light.
- We will share our humour and stories with one another
- We will provide friendship and support to one another
- we will come to class with a good heart and mind, and be prepared to work
- we will foster trust and be COVID safe inside and outside the classroom

Thank you to Charlene Everson, K'ómoks First Nation (Nanwakolas STTP Project Coordinator, STTP 2020/2021) for drafting and facilitating the creation of the Bakwam Accord for the 2021 STTP Cohort

- respect everyone's individual pace of learning
- we will voice our opinions in class and ask for help when needed without fear
- offer help when we can
- Be kind, and put our judgements aside.

Using the examples from this list, create your own list

- finish what I start
- stay focused on the work at hand and prioritize and manage my time accordingly
- recognize when I am struggling, don't allow anxiety to build-up, be brave and ask for help when I need it, and take help that is offered
- Speak kindly to myself, especially when I am struggling
- Offer my help to other students when they need it

I commit to myself that I will: