

Ed as Researcher Book Club Report

Sidney Elementary School

## Saltwater People Book Club

### Book title:

- *Salt Water People by Dave Elliott Sr.*

Participants: Shannon S., Shannon C., Robin K., Jennifer A., Jennifer D., Mary M., Christina F., Kirsten M., Julia B., Allison B., Lara C., Carla C., Katelyn B., Sandra M., Geoffrey M., Corrine J., Ayla G., Alyssa E., Michaela C., and Lydia F.

### Rationale:

Following the success of last year's Indigenous Themes -Multiple Book- Reading Club, continuing participants decided to continue with building momentum among the staff to continue our learning journey with regards to Indigenous topics. The staff felt that launching another book club would be a great opportunity to deepen our understanding of Indigenous perspectives, with particular focus on our local context. The title selected was previously recommended to us by SD 63's Indigenous Education Coordinator, Sheralyn Macrae. Some teaching staff read this title in a past book club, and it was decided that all teachers would benefit from reading this seminal local history text. The book club team feels that this title has the potential to deeply influence our teaching practice and understanding of local history peoples.

### *First Meeting – January 14, 2022*

Our first meeting was virtual, and we discussed our individual goals and intentions for the book club. Teachers were encouraged to find ways to incorporate the text into their instruction prior to the final meeting, as this would be the focus.

### *Final Meeting – May 27, 2022*

Our final meeting took place on May 27th. Over the lunch hour teachers met to discuss the text, the impact it had on their teaching. Teachers also shared their personal perspectives of indigenous issues and how they have been shaped over the years, and how the book shed new light for them. It was an engaging conversation and we look forward to meeting again to discuss the book and the opportunities for curricular integration it offers, when we come back to school in the fall.