



# Westsyde Secondary School

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**"Striving for Excellence; Committed to Westsyde!"**

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December 13, 2016

Dear Parents or Guardians;

Westsyde Secondary School is working on a Project to create and raise a 20' Totem Pole on the school grounds to welcome all students, parents and community members. Westsyde Secondary School is a safe and welcoming place where all can be successful. We want to send a strong message to our community that we openly recognize the importance of all peoples, our Aboriginal community and culture.

Clarence Mills, a former WSS student and world-renowned Haida artist, will be carving the Totem Pole pro-bono along with students from Westsyde Secondary School. Clarence would like to do this as his "last free work" project in his career. Westsyde Secondary School is very excited and proud to have such a successful artist take this project on.

The costs to have this project completed are estimated at about \$8000. Westsyde Secondary School would like to invite the Westsyde Community to be a part of this amazing project that will be displayed for years to come by making a financial donation. All donations over \$25 can be issued a charitable donation tax receipt if you provide your name and address. If you would like to write a cheque, please make it payable to Westsyde Secondary School and write "Totem Pole Project" in the memo field.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Roberta Regnier, Aboriginal Education Worker at 250-579-9271 or Justin deVries, Vice-Principal at [jdevries@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:jdevries@sd73.bc.ca).

Respectfully,