



**Safe & Caring Schools – 2018**

# Outline

1. Inclusive Education
2. Inclusive Education and SOGI
3. Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity
4. Why SOGI Inclusive Learning now?
5. B.C. Redesigned Curriculum Connections
6. Teacher Professional Autonomy
7. Real Students, Every School, Daily
8. Frequently Asked Questions and Answers





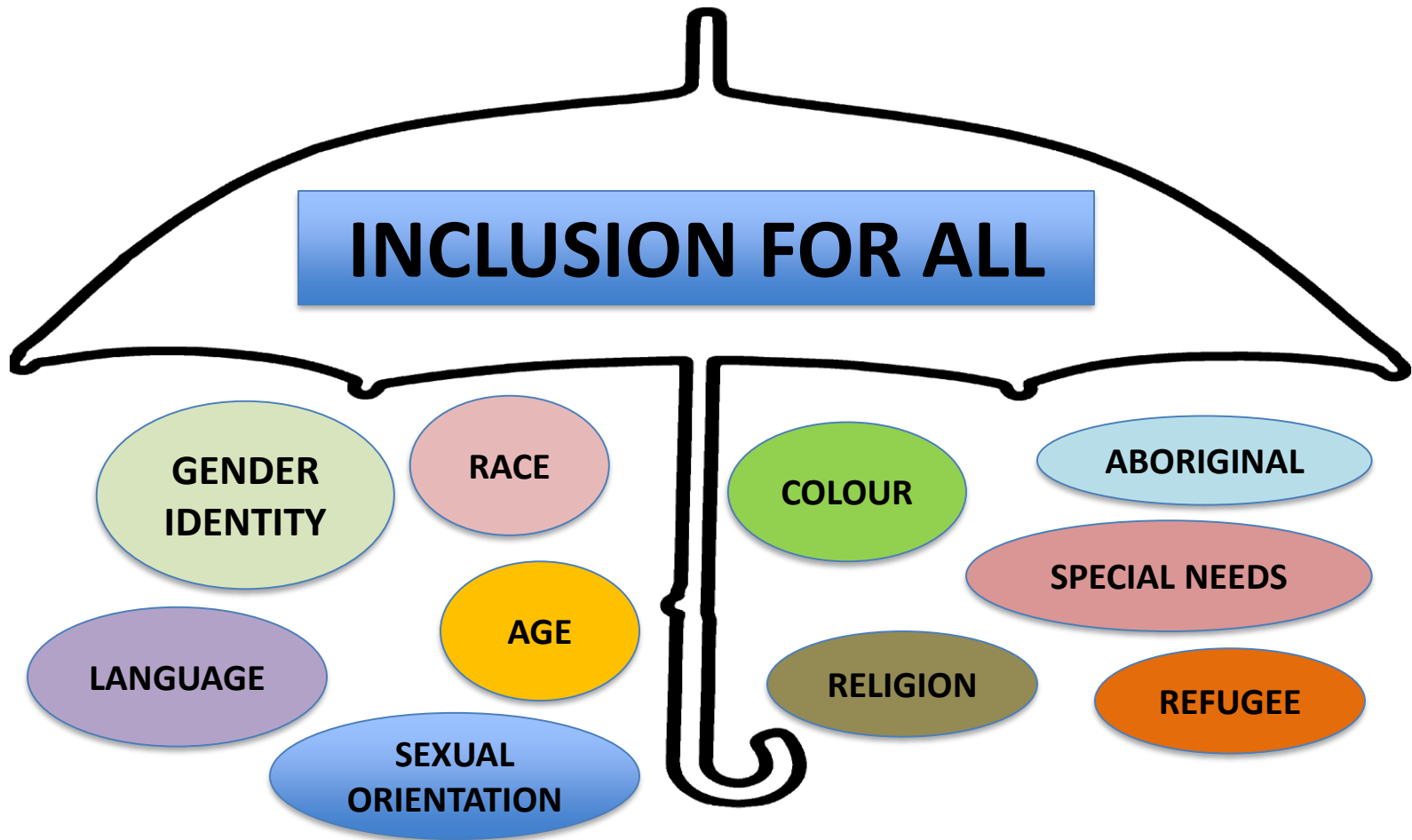
# Inclusive Education

**INCLUSIVE EDUCATION** provides a **MIRROR** for students and families to see themselves reflected and a **WINDOW** for **ALL** students to see the diversity that exists in society.

# Inclusive Education

- The Chilliwack Board of Education supports diversity and inclusion. Our schools are a safe place where everyone is welcomed and included regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, religion or background.

# Inclusive Education and SOGI



# Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity

- “Sexual orientation and gender identity” (SOGI) is a term used by the B.C. Human Rights Code to describe an area of prohibited discrimination.
- It is an inclusive term that encompasses all individuals regardless of where they identify on the sexual orientation or gender identity spectrums, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit, heterosexual and cisgender ([Definitions – Public Health Canada](#)).

## Why SOGI Now?

- **June 2003**- Ministry Of Education developed a Safe, Caring And Orderly Schools guide to support Boards of Education and schools in making the schools of our province safe for **ALL**.
- **December 2015** – Chilliwack School District Board of Education approves revised [Policy](#) 514 Safe Schools.
- **January 2016** - Select Standing Committee on Child and Youth Mental Health in B.C. names sexual and gender minority youth as particularly marginalized, vulnerable and in need of support, and calls for school programs.

# Why SOGI Now?

- **July 2016** - Gender Identity/Expression added to B.C. Human Rights Code.
- **Sept 2016** – Ministry of Education directs all schools and districts to protect SOGI minority youth and [releases guidelines](#) ([Policy guide link](#)).
- **October 2016** – [Administrative Regulation](#) 514.1 Safe Schools is revised.
- **Fall 2017** - Chilliwack School District Codes of Conduct to recognize SOGI as per [B.C. Human Rights Code](#).



# Why SOGI Now?

- Proactive vs. Reactive ([UBC Research](#)).
  - Inclusive learning reduces risk for suicide, eating disorders, depression, absenteeism, tardiness, homelessness and bullying, and increases graduation rates for **ALL** students.
- B.C. redesigned [curriculum](#).

# B.C.'s Redesigned Curriculum

- B.C.'s redesigned curriculum includes a focus on valuing diversity and respecting differences, and the topics of human rights and responses to discrimination.
- Teachers, schools and school districts may explore the B.C. Human Rights Code within those themes including sexual orientation and gender identity.

## SOGI - 123

- There is no separate and distinct SOGI program or curriculum.
- SOGI-123 is one of many free resources, available online with ready to use, grade-level appropriate lesson plans, online learning modules, and customizable templates and tools that align with B.C.'s redesigned curriculum.
- SOGI-123 fits within the Curriculum Core Competencies: *Communication, Thinking, **Personal and Social.***

# B.C. Curriculum Connections

## Personal and Social Competency ([Link](#))

- Is the set of abilities that relate to students' identity in the world, both as individuals, and as members of their community and society.
- Encompasses the abilities students need to thrive as individuals, to understand and care about themselves and others, and to find and achieve their purposes in the world.

# B.C. Curriculum Connections

## **BIG IDEAS: Grades 4/5 ([Select Link](#))**

- Understanding ourselves and the various aspects of health helps us develop a balanced lifestyle.
- Developing healthy relationships helps us feel connected, supported and valued.
- Strategies for responding to bullying, discrimination and violence. Could Include:
  - Assessing the situation
  - Avoiding
  - Being assertive
  - Reporting
  - Seeking help

# Big Ideas - Continued

- Factors that influence self-identity, including body image and social media.
- How we see and feel about our bodies; can be influenced by the words and actions of others.
- **Physical** (how students' bodies are growing and changing during puberty), **emotional** (how students' thoughts and feelings might evolve or change during puberty) and **social** changes (how students interact with others and how their relationships might evolve or change during puberty) that occur during puberty, including those involving sexuality (having a capacity for sexual feelings) and sexual identity (a component of a person's identity that reflects his or her sexual self-concept).

# SOGI Educators Network

- 51 school districts in B.C. are part of a network for educators who are interested in SOGI-inclusive education – the B.C. SOGI Educator Network ([SOGIeducation.org](http://SOGIeducation.org))

# Teacher Professional Autonomy

- The Board supports that, in order to meet the needs of students and teachers, it is the responsibility of the professional staff to choose learning resources that support the curriculum and are consistent with the educational goals of the province, the District and the school.
- The Board recognizes that teaching staff are encouraged to select resources that are most educationally relevant and useful for their students.



# 2002 Supreme Court of Canada Ruling

## [Chamberlain v Surrey School District No. 36](#)

*"Parental views, however important, cannot override the imperative placed upon the British Columbia public schools to mirror the diversity of the community and teach tolerance and understanding of difference."*

# Real students, every school, daily

*"Schools are supposed to be about supporting kids, ALL kids, and giving them a safe environment. Schools need to know how to help kids like me. They need to have the tools and knowledge about what it means to be LGBTQ. YOU can help them. You won't believe the impact it has on kids like me, just to feel accepted. To feel loved."*

*Tru Wilson  
Gr 8 Student, Delta, B.C.*



Chilliwack  
School District

# Real students, every school, daily





# Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

[Link](#) to Chilliwack School District Qs and As.



# Thank you!

Supporting all students.  
Teaching and learning about diversity.