



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

Capilano University and Whistler Institute announce new memorandum of understanding to advance learning opportunities for the university and Whistler communities

October 27, 2023—[Capilano University](#) (CapU) and the [Whistler Institute](#) are pleased to announce the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to establish and grow a working relationship that will lead to increased opportunities for residents and visitors to access educational programs in Whistler, and work-integrated learning opportunities for CapU students.

“We look forward to deepening our connections in the Whistler community,” said Laureen Styles, EdD, vice president academic and provost at Capilano University. “By working together, CapU and the Whistler Institute will cultivate distinct, transformative and life-enhancing learning experiences for those in Whistler as well as CapU students, faculty and staff.”

As a regional university, Capilano University (CapU) is strengthening its ties in the Sea-to-Sky corridor. This agreement sets out to enhance and guide collaborative activity, research opportunities for students and professional development for faculty.

“The Whistler Institute values strong partnerships with post-secondary institutions and educators to develop customized courses, micro-credentials, certificates, and diplomas in a variety of disciplines. This collaboration with Capilano University presents new and exciting educational opportunities that will benefit the sea to sky community,” said Suki Cheyne, executive director of the Whistler Institute.

Through this new MOU, CapU and the Whistler Institute aim to co-create learning opportunities that demonstrate a mutual commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, Indigenization, decolonizing approaches and equity, diversity and inclusion; and to enhance health and well-being of people and the environment through sustainable actions.

About Capilano University

Capilano University is a regional university based in North Vancouver, British Columbia, with additional programming serving the Sunshine Coast and the Sea-to-Sky corridor. With industry-leading instructors, small classes and over 100 programs across five distinctive faculties, CapU is a unique place where students are encouraged to make their mark, in and out of the classroom. Capilano University is named after Sa7plek (Chief Joe Capilano), an important leader of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation of the Coast Salish Peoples. We respectfully acknowledge that our campuses and are located on the territories of the Lílwat, x̣ṃəθḳəỵəm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

About the Whistler Institute

What began as the Whistler Education Group in 2012 has grown to become the registered charity known today as the Whistler Institute. The Whistler Institute is focused on identifying regional learning needs and developing and facilitating creative educational offerings to address them. To date the Whistler Institute, in partnership with educational organizations, has delivered 48 courses and events to more than 2,700 participants and continues to grow program offerings. The Whistler Institute is funded by private donors, foundations, government grants, and fees for service. Through strong partnerships the Whistler Institute continues to be able to develop educational endeavors that *Inspire Thought Leadership and Learning for Life*.

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