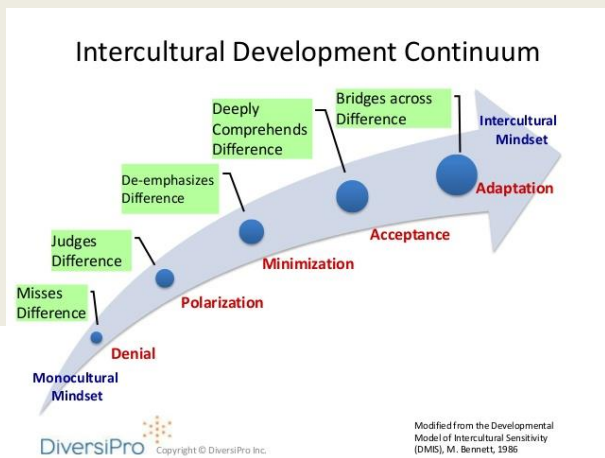


JUNE 24, 2019

# INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM UPDATE

## WHERE ARE WE NOW – REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR



Interculturalization in SD8 Kootenay Lake

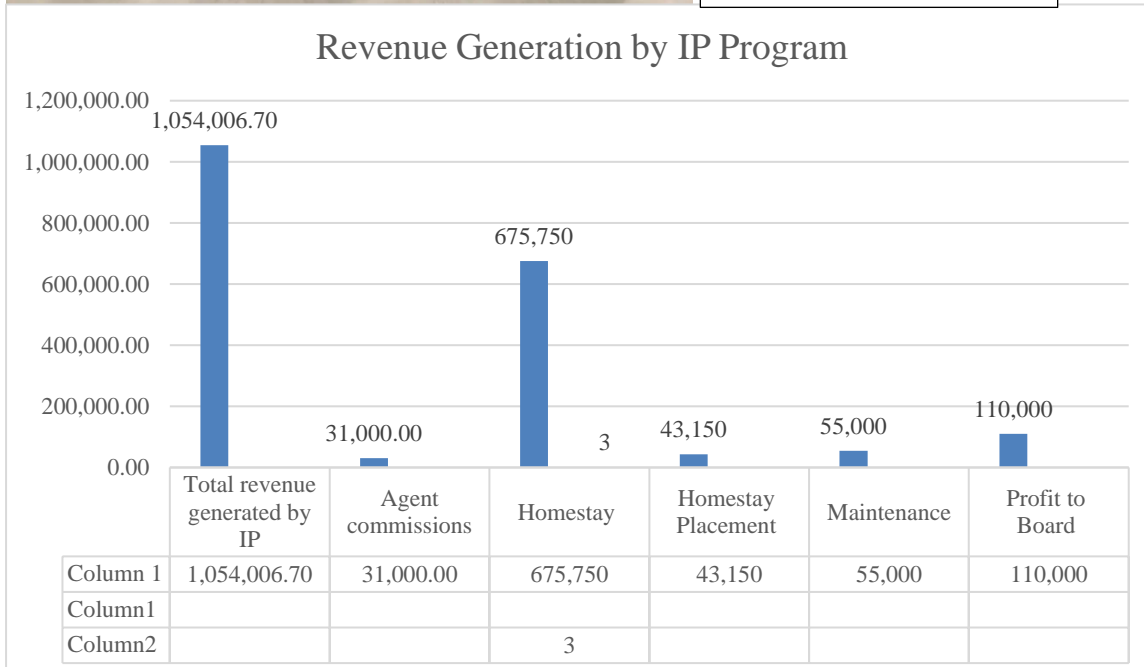
## Graduation 2019

BY SANDY PRENTICE JUNE 24, 2019

Interculturalization is a theme, probably the major theme which needed to inform the teaching and learning of all subject. D. Coulby, 2008. Learning to live together involves the ability to understand each other and to interact meaningfully together. In order to foster meaningful relationships interculturally, it is important to first understand exactly what culture is and how it is manifested and what are the historical, political, familial, and personal power influences that maintain our definition of culture. Our identity is affected by the following influences: Family, Class, race, gender, peers and social networks, school, government at all levels, media etc. So often people in society feel that because they are “nice” they have an intercultural skill set. However, research is really clear and refutes these claims because all too often “nice” people focus on what is the same between cultures rather than moving towards acceptance of the difference without denial or rejection but with empathy, kindness, curiosity; but instead, a clear sense that it is in the encounter with difference that deeper meaning emerges which is an open mindset and intercultural skill set.



In order to move the intercultural agenda forward, individuals, teachers, students, administration, CUPE, will need to understand exactly where they are on the Intercultural Development Continuum (pictured to the left of the grads). In this way, targeted growth can ensure enhanced interculturalization skills in our district.



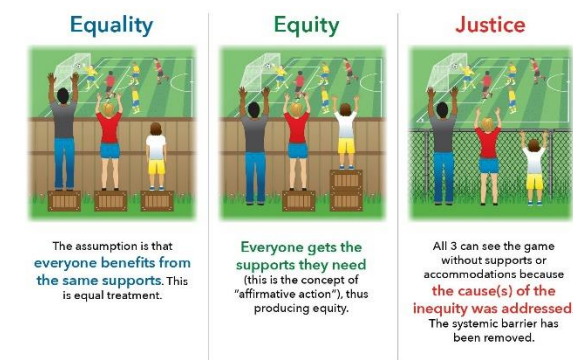
Financial Snap Shot for the 2018-2019 Business Year for the International Program

## Getting it Right with the IP

BY SANDY PRENTICE, DISTRICT PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

It is apparent that each student is unique, whether they are from Nelson or from any of the 14 different countries represented by student enrollment in our international program. It has always been the mandate of the international program to support our students with programing that will enhance their English skills and life skills through our academic and elective courses. Building the equity pieces to support students is a huge part of getting it right in the international program. This is achieved with leveled ESL classes to

ensure students are not rushed into academic courses which challenge them beyond their skill set and prior knowledge. Interculturalization is about understanding and so orientations for students must be targeted, relevant and engaging. We have accomplished this in the program but there is still more work to do. It was also really important for us to help the domestic students to embrace the international students and not be afraid of them or engage in rhetoric that reflects societal resistance. The formation of the Ambassador Club at LVR has made big strides in moving this forward with 2 domestic and 2 international students receiving scholarships for their dedicated participation in the club.



## Equality – Equity – Justice

The phrase – “a student is a student” or it has to be “fair for all” has been protocol around the province for years. However, with the new curriculum, a new light has been shone on the inequities with what is “fair for all” as opposed to what supports each student’s individual needs.

**INTERNATIONAL  
PROGRAM  
UPDATE**