

KASEY STIRLING

FIRST NATIONS ROLE MODEL 2012



Kasey is a proud member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band. She is a Grade 11 student who attends Columneetza Secondary School French Immersion Program.

Kasey is an outstanding student maintaining an "A+" average in all of her courses. She is on the Honor Roll and Work Ethic distinction lists. Some of her academic grades are Pre-Calculus 11 at 97%, Physics 11 at 89%, Biology 11 at 98%. She is working toward a Diploma in both English and French Studies. Kasey demonstrates a maturity and sense of responsibility not commonly found in students of her age.

French Immersion Teacher Mm. Pritchard says Kasey is an exceptional pupil with outstanding grades resulting from diligent work habits. She demonstrates good leadership skills when involved in group projects. She is very well liked by her peers and teachers. Kasey assists others in the classroom by being an

excellent Role Model. She supports a healthy lifestyle by making the right choices. She has an exceptional aptitude for sciences.

Kasey is involved in many volunteer activities at her school and in her community. This year she began to volunteer for the Scout Island Nature Centre program in which they introduce Chinook salmon into elementary classrooms for later release. Kasey goes to Nesika's Grade 2 and 3 Class and educates the students in raising their salmon, about their life cycle, and how to feed the fry and clean the tank.

Music is very important to Kasey. She plays her violin and is a member of a local String group who volunteer to play at various community events. Kasey is a Role Model by sharing her musical talents and encouraging others to pick up an instrument.

Kasey believes that being a Role Model not only means providing a good academic or social example to others. It means not being afraid to be who you are - to show others that they, too, can be who they want to be.

Kasey plans to apply to Simon Fraser University's Science program and its French Immersion program. Later in her studies, she hopes to achieve a Ph. D. in Chemical Biology, and a Ph. D. in Anthropology to later become a Forensic Anthropologist.

Kasey shares that her First Nations culture teaches her to do her best at everything she does because of the values it instills in her. This includes such values as honesty, integrity, hard-work, kindness, and creativity. She says that in her history, hard-work was a very important task to maintaining a stable community, family, and self. She realizes that after hard work comes a worth-while reward and she tries to teach others of the same idea. She honors her ancestors as it was because of them that she is on the Earth. Kasey says that every day she attempts to live a full life that would make them proud. One tradition that her family carries on from her heritage is that they would go dip-net salmon fishing in late summer and clean and package the sockeye. In the fall they would go hunting for white-tail deer and sometimes moose and elk.



School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)
First Nations Department
First Nations Education Council