

JA Programs in Indigenous Schools & Communities

REPORT



2023-24



JA
British
Columbia

Member of
JA Canada

OVERVIEW

JABC IS COMMITTED TO CREATING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH INDIGENOUS LEARNERS, COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA.

JABC offered various programs for Indigenous learners aged five to 29 this school year, incorporating Indigenous perspectives and cultural elements into JA's work readiness, financial health, and entrepreneurship education. These programs provided unique, culturally inclusive learning experiences.

A notable initiative was the pilot JA Company Program for Indigenous Learners, an after-school entrepreneurship endeavor aimed at fostering economic independence and showcasing JABC's commitment to inclusive education and empowerment within Indigenous communities.

Our strong relationships with First Nations communities have increased demand for our programs. We appreciate our partners' support and look forward to continuing to serve Indigenous learners across the province.



Learn more jabc.ca/indigenous or contact [Kimberly Sommer](#), Program Director, Indigenous Communities.

“As a high school student, I wasn't sure what to expect from this program, but it has exceeded all my expectations. The hands-on learning approach, coupled with insightful guest speakers and practical exercises, has equipped me with the tools and confidence to explore entrepreneurship further. I'm incredibly grateful for this opportunity.”

- JA Student





PROGRAMS FOR
INDIGENOUS
LEARNERS

PROGRAM REACH

Nearly
2,000
Students
Reached

31
Communities
Participated

151
Programs
Delivered

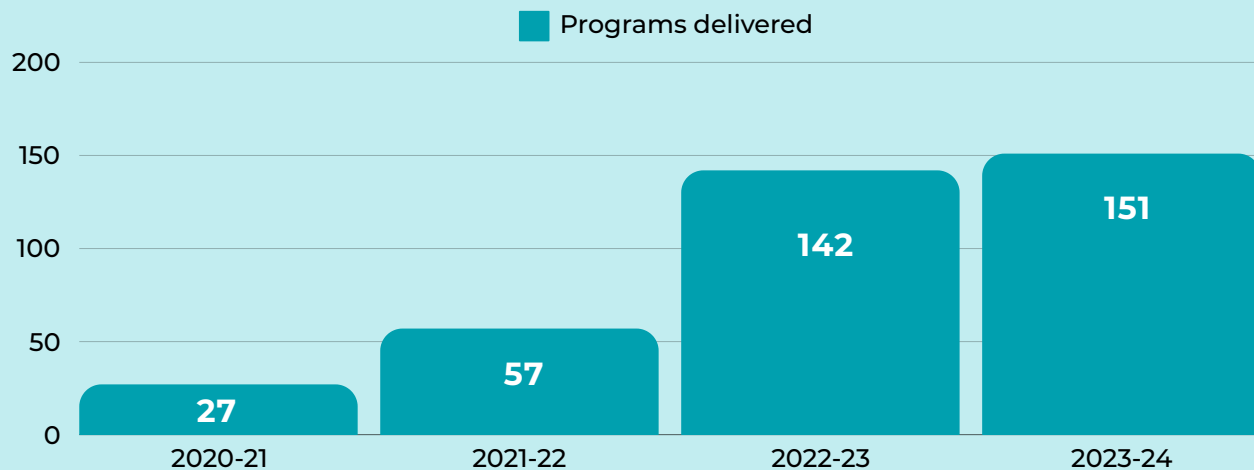
SCHOOL DISTRICTS REACHED

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| #23 Central Okanagan | #63 Saanich |
| #34 Abbotsford | #70 Pacific Rim |
| #36 Surrey | #72 Campbell River |
| #39 Vancouver | #75 Mission |
| #52 Prince Rupert | #82 Coast Mountains |
| #62 Sooke | #98 Surrey & Fraser Valley |

We acknowledge that our work spans many territories and that our head office resides on the traditional ancestral unceded shared territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations peoples.

PROGRAM DELIVERY GROWTH

PROGRAM DELIVERY GROWTH COMPARISON FROM 2020:



EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS YOUTH



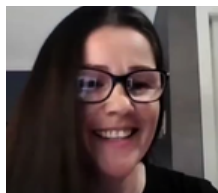
JA WORLD OF CHOICES PROGRAM: INDIGENOUS LEADERS FOCUSED

On June 13, 2024, JABC hosted an Indigenous-focused World of Choices program with inspiring guest speakers. Approximately 2,865 students from Grades 6-12 across B.C. participated virtually to learn about the speakers' cultural backgrounds, education paths and career journeys, and engaged in a lively Q&A session.

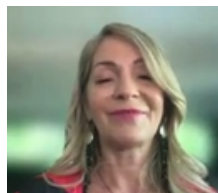
The program featured:



Curtis Thomas,
President,
Warrior Plumbing



Desiree Clayton,
Integrated Social
Worker,
Kitsumkalum
Health Centre



Geena Jackson,
Executive
Producer, Creator,
Core Judge,
BearsLair_TV



Cheyenne Doolan,
Longshoreman,
The Prince Rupert
Port Authority

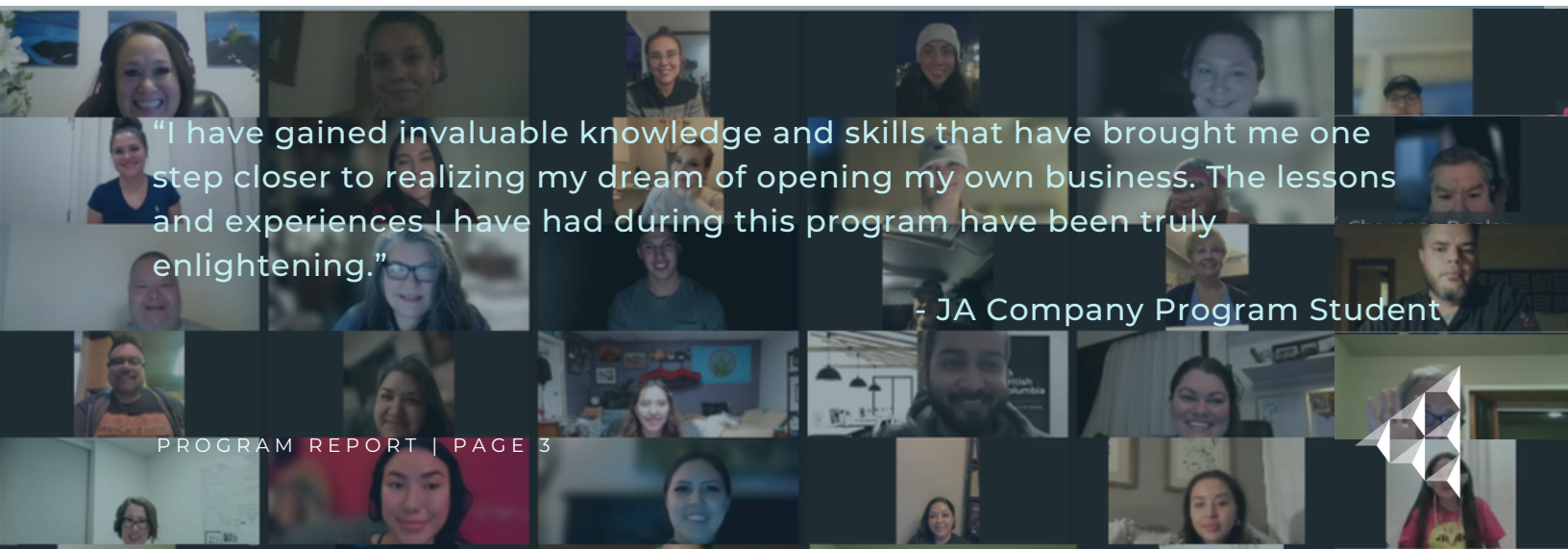


Kecia Prevost,
Student, The
University of
British Columbia
(Moderator)

JA COMPANY PROGRAM FOR INDIGENOUS LEARNERS

In January 2024, JABC introduced a pilot initiative: the JA Company Program for Indigenous Learners. Delivered virtually over nine weeks, the program guided 29 learners through business ideation and planning, equipping them with essential skills for their entrepreneurial ventures—ranging from a food truck to life coaching.

As a result of the pilot, JABC is preparing to offer the JA Company Program for Indigenous Learners in both after-school and in-school formats, supporting the next generation of Indigenous entrepreneurs on their journeys to success.



“I have gained invaluable knowledge and skills that have brought me one step closer to realizing my dream of opening my own business. The lessons and experiences I have had during this program have been truly enlightening.”

- JA Company Program Student

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT



YOUTH FINANCIAL LITERACY DAY

During Financial Literacy Month in November, British Columbia Investment Management Corporation (BCI) and JABC hosted a Youth Financial Literacy Day for 36 Indigenous middle school students from southern Vancouver Island. The day covered essential financial topics such as saving, spending, budgeting, and investing, incorporating elements from JA's Dollars with Sense and Economics for Success programs, along with a custom investing module and a career panel.

"Taking part in Youth Financial Literacy Day was incredible! Seeing the kids so excited to learn about finance really showed how important it is to teach them about money matters early on. I'm proud to be part of this and hope more people join us in helping our young ones become financially savvy for a brighter future."

- BCI Volunteer



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

INDIGENOUS PROGRAMMING PARTNERS



ABOUT JABC



JA British Columbia (JABC) is a not-for-profit impact organization that delivers hands-on, immersive education in work readiness, financial health, and entrepreneurship. Through JA, young people are equipped with the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities. Learn more at jabc.org



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Charitable Registration Number 11897 6166 RR0001