

Teaching in Quebec Indigenous Communities

1. SCHOOL BOARDS

- Kativik School Board <https://www.kativik.qc.ca/>
- Cree School Board <https://www.cscree.qc.ca/>
- Kahnawà:ke Education Center <http://kecedu.ca/>
- Listuguj Education Directorate <http://listuguj.ca/directorates/listuguj-education-directorate/>

2. LANGUAGES OF INSTRUCTION

Kativik School Board	Inuktitut, French and English
Cree School Board	Cree, French or English
Kahnawà:ke Education Center	Kanien'keha, French and English
Listuguj Education Directorate	Mi'gmaw, French, English

3. RECRUITMENT NEEDS

- Indigenous school boards hire mainly generalist teachers who are capable of teaching several subjects at various levels
- Shortages are often seen at the secondary level in Math, Sciences, Technology and other specialized teaching areas

4. QUALIFYING SKILLS

- Must have a teaching diploma and permit
- French-English bilingualism is not a requirement
- Must possess a wide range of personal and professional experiences, including second-language teaching, multi-level classrooms and/or special education
- Must demonstrate a great ability to adapt, to celebrate cultural differences and to overcome challenges with flexibility
- Must demonstrate a willingness to teach- but also to learn, a desire to immerse yourself in the community, lead extracurricular activities and explore the natural environment

5. ADVANTAGES

- Full-time teaching contract
- Unique and rewarding teaching experience
- Competitive remuneration
- Other financial incentives (subsidized housing, living allowance, tax deductions, etc.)
- Smaller classroom sizes
- Rich diverse cultural community
- Wide range of outdoor recreational activities
- Professional development opportunities
- Programs supported by the Quebec Ministry of Education

6. CONSIDERATIONS

- Relatively high costs for basic items such as food and clothing
- Teachers often work outside your areas of expertise
- Cold weather in winter and long periods of darkness in certain communities
- Geographic isolation
- Limited access to services, restaurants and shops
- Fresh vegetables, fruits and meat are not always available
- Teachers are expected to teach several subjects at various levels
- Limited availability of substitute teachers for release time

7. RESOURCES

- Kativik Ilisarniliriniq job portal <https://www.kativik.qc.ca/jobs/>
- Teaching for the Cree School Board (video clip) <https://www.cscree.qc.ca/en/employment>
- Teaching in Nunavik <https://www.teachinnunavut.ca/>
- Nunavik: Inuit-Controlled Education in Artic QC (book) by Ann Vick-Westgate
- First Nations Education in Canada: The Circle Unfolds (book) by Marie Battiste and Jean Barman, eds.
- Montreal Native Friendship Centre <http://montrealmosaic.com/fr/node/127>
- Dr. James Howden, Director of the Office of First Nations and Inuit Education <https://mcgill.ca/dise/jim-howden>

This handout is available at:

What can I do with my studies? (<http://www.mcgill.ca/caps/discipline>) -> Education