

# SEAS benefits start with individuals...

The evaluation showed that youth benefit significantly in six key areas:



## Connection to Territory and Culture

Students are connected to their Nation's places and ways, becoming closer to culture, stories, laws, and values. They are passionate about caring for lands and waters and feel more secure in their Indigenous identities.



## Health and Wellness

Students report feeling more resilient and capable, supported by strong social networks and a connection to nature. Research indicates that relationships to land, culture, and community are critical in helping overcome pressures of intergenerational trauma, cultural dislocation, and socioeconomics.



## School Performance

Students are more enthusiastic about learning and achieving, and attendance improves. They also retain information better. SEAS supports a variety of learning styles and development stages.



## Character Development

Students are more respectful of others and of nature. They are more confident and open to new challenges, taking initiative and applying critical thinking skills.



## Opportunity

SEAS imparts transferable career skills, and provides connections to job opportunities. Students are more comfortable with new people and ideas, and show increased interest in post-secondary learning.



## Leadership

- 100% of students demonstrated concern about others' wellbeing
- 91% are likely to inspire others
- 87% are able to manage, motivate, and organize others
- 80% are able to communicate effectively

"SEAS absolutely helps with mental health and addictions. Students have a better sense of their mental health through their connection to the outdoors." - Educator

Right: A SEAS student on a cultural field trip warms up her drum by rubbing its skin. ©Jason Houston



"They learn to help each other and share. They encourage each other, and cheer each other on, watching over each other." - Educator

Right: SEAS students practice sockeye fishing with gill nets. ©Jason Houston



# ...and ripple throughout communities

The evaluation revealed positive impacts across the community:



## Community Wellbeing

SEAS strengthens community networks, fosters intergenerational relationships, and supports the re-emergence of cultural values.



## Cultural Resurgence

SEAS promotes community-wide engagement in cultural events, such as potlatches and ceremonies, and increases activity on territorial lands and waters.

SEAS also helps bridge the gap between elders and youth, revitalizing traditional ways of learning, while ensuring that local knowledge, language, and culture is shared and active; not lost.



## Economic Opportunities

SEAS supports local economies through direct employment, contracting, and paid internships.

Youth acquire skills needed to find jobs, which can help communities shift economies over time. Youth also gain exposure to job opportunities in their Nation's stewardship offices and in conservation tourism, making SEAS training both meaningful and practical.



## Community Capacity

SEAS prepares stewards to fill community roles. As school performance and community engagement increases, the stewardship knowledge base grows.

One community reported an increase in stewardship office staff from four to 29—many being SEAS alumni.

"For those who aren't strong academically, participation rates go up, confidence goes up, and that usually translates into improved marks..."

- Educator

Right: SEAS students retell a traditional story.  
©Michael Pietrocarlo



"I see the benefits to the community with local knowledge; they get to come in and show their skills"

- Educator

Right: SEAS educator teaches medicinal plant harvesting.  
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