



School District of Mystery Lake  
408 Thompson Dr N  
Thompson, MB  
R8N 0C5

---

## kōkom and mosōm SDML Puppet Protocol

**Rationale:** Why include kōkom and mosōm puppets as part of the SDML Curriculum Services team support?

- To acknowledge the valued roles kōkomak and mosōmak traditionally hold as elders, knowledge keepers, valued members, and teachers for our families and our communities as understood through the seven generations teachings
- To use the kōkom and mosōm puppets as teaching tools:
  - To support healing the disconnect caused by residential schools and the breaking apart of the seven generations support system
  - By reconnecting our children with the kōkom and mosōm personalities of kindness and acceptance
  - To aid in reclaiming, in the students' minds, the respect and the honouring of the traditional knowledge of kōkom and mosōm
- to use the humour and the appropriate language we understand our kōkom and mosōm would use as they guide and teach us through their sharing and story telling

*This is an important teaching and as such, necessitates respectful use in the handling, actions, and language used by each puppet handler.*

### Respectful Intent:

- ❖ Utilize puppets to encourage, empower, and nurture positive mental health and well-being for SDML students.
- ❖ SDML puppets are considered as family and we should treat them as such.
- ❖ When handling the puppets, use the humour and appropriate language we understand, as when our kōkom and mosōm would use as they guide and teach us through their sharing and story telling (gentle tone of voice and respectful word choice)

**To be clear, the following behaviour is inappropriate and not permitted. Use of:**

- rudeness
- foul language
- stereotypical mannerisms or voiced thoughts that may invoke negative associations with the Indigenous culture

**Remember when using the puppets, they are helpers and we want to ensure that it stays that way.**

In special circumstances, if a student's spirit is touched by the use of the puppet, it is permissible for them to use the puppet (please teach them the expectations above before they use the puppet).

ēkosani,

**Curriculum Services Team**