

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, March 24, 2015

1. Youth Innovation Lab

The Youth Innovation Lab is a one year pilot project designed to provide youth access to the skills needed to work in the technology industry. Through a partnership with St. Leonard's society, students in the pilot project will be taught aspects of web design, coding, and entrepreneurship, with access to a state of the art computer lab and guides and mentors from technology industry leaders. The pilot cohort of 8 students has been underway since late January.

This evening, Sue Dorey, Manager of Youth Services, Colin Ford, Director of Youth Innovation Lab, and Alison Grauer from St. Leonard's Society will present an update on the pilot program. They will be joined by students from the program who will speak about their experience in the program so far.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. AlphaRobotics Club

The district's only competitive robotics team hosted the *VEX Robotics* B.C. Provincial Championships last month at Alpha Secondary and earned a spot in the semi-final competition. *VEX Robotics* is a platform designed to transform STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning for students and their teachers. The system offers students an exciting platform for learning about areas rich with career opportunities spanning the STEM curriculum.

Forty secondary school Robotics teams from across the province, along with teams from two post-secondary institutions participated in the competition. Students from the AlphaRobotics Club worked throughout the year to design, build and program new robots in readiness to compete in this high energy, game-based engineering challenge.

This evening, District Principal, Donna Scott and Alpha teacher and AlphaRobotics Club sponsor, Russell Evanisky will share information on the club and the championship and will be joined by two students who will present information on their experiences.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.