

## **FVAA Anti-Racism Statement**

Given the ongoing, tragic killings of black and brown men and women, we have challenged ourselves as educators to assess our educational system and examine our role in leading our students in not tolerating systemic racism and oppression. Our mission statement is to equip and prepare tomorrow's leaders through Faith, Values, Academics, and Achievements. This is achieved by preparing students to be active and engaged citizens who positively impact their communities and help make the world a better place by spreading the love of Jesus Christ. We whole-heartedly believe that to reach this goal, our students must understand what racism is, how it impacts their lives, and how to build a future where equality exists.

As a Seventh-day Adventist school, Fraser Valley Adventist Academy deplores all forms of racism. Our Bible-based Fundamental Belief No. 14 gives us the following standard, "In Christ we are a new creation; distinctions of race, culture, learning, and nationality, and differences between high and low, rich and poor, male and female, must not be divisive among us. We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation."

In response to our reflection and findings, we will be expanding our policies already in place and will intentionally focus more on educating our students by implementing anti-racism curriculum. The goal in this program is to help students identify their own racial biases and behaviours and to equip students with the knowledge and tools to be Christlike activists and community leaders.

We understand that we have a great deal of learning and unlearning to do, and we are committed to this process of growth and development.