

My evidence piece for TRB seven is my synthesis project. I chose to create an art piece that summed up my learning over the six weeks of my final year. The silhouettes of people represent students. I used watercolours to paint them different colours to show student diversity and uniqueness. On their legs, I wrote some of the differences we might see among our students in the classroom. For example, students may have learning differences, physical disabilities, they may be newcomers, they may be English language learners, or they might need help with self-regulation. We are all bound to encounter these students in our future careers. The center circle with rings of writing depict a tree trunk, which represents my growth over the last six weeks, as well as student growth that we as educators can foster. Finally, I pasted pictures of crows around the outside border to represent educators. Richard Wagamese's *One Story, One Song* described how crows make connections with other animals, are great listeners, and are responsible for directing others to the right people for help. As I was reading the chapter, I immediately thought of how educators have very similar responsibilities, and loved the idea of using crows to represent teachers.

My synthesis project directly relates to TRB standard seven because it shows how I reflected on my learning. I put a lot of thought and effort into creating this art piece that I think really summarizes my main learning this year. I think the tree trunk rings reflect my professional growth over time. Like rings on a tree trunk, my learning will grow over time as I continue to gain more experience over the course of my career. When I thought back over the last six weeks of classes, I really started to make connections with what I have learned not only in the six weeks, but in the whole program. I think reflecting on my work and my learning is important to do as an educator, as it allows me to learn from my mistakes, and figure out how to do things more successfully next time.

Standard seven is important to my practice for several reasons. If I stop my learning and professional development, I may be missing out on important, useful information that can impact my teaching. This in turn will negatively affect my future students. I believe that one can always improve, and one way of doing that is to continue learning. This standard directly relates to improving teaching skills and knowledge. The more I can stay current with research and teaching techniques, the better able I will be to effectively teach. I believe that as a teacher if you stop learning, it results in being closed minded to new ways of facilitating learning among students. As I advance in my career, I plan to continue learning different ways to better myself as a teacher, and better my students. I imagine that I will be able to reflect on my practice and pinpoint where I might need some help, which will ultimately guide me in finding something that will help me with overcoming my challenges.