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In this issue:

- SUNTEP Set to Sign New Agreement
- Graduation Celebrated at Prince Albert DTI
- DTI Faces Recruitment Challenges

Highlights:

- DTI Program Plan 2
- Staff Updates 3
- GDI Resource Launch 3
- Trad. Medicine for PN Students 4
- T&E Selection Committees 5

DTI Prince Albert Graduation



DTI PA Grade 12 Graduates (June 15, 2007) **Back Row:** (from left to right) Betsy Bird, Rose Bird, Deirdre Chartier, Kayla Chartier, Natasha Chartrand, Jeremy Cook, Richelle Fiddler, Bertina Janvier, Stephanie Lafond, Margaret McKay, Raeanne McCallum, Charmaine McKnight, Keith McNight. **Front Row:** (from left to right) Joyce Montgrand, Valerie Petit, Karen Pelletier, Mailia Rindfleisch, Clayton Soles, Chris Sauve, Kurt Sauve, Deanna Umpherville, and Ashley Zimmerman.

The graduating class of the Dumont Technical Institute (DTI)'s Prince Albert Adult 12 program celebrated this spring with various ceremonies including a banquet and a social. Many family members, friends and Institute staff were on hand to share in the celebration.

Adult 12 graduates have much to celebrate. Several began their studies with DTI as literacy students, working to master skills that many people take for granted. Most students who enter literacy programs spend from three to five years working towards their Grade 12 graduation.

The Adult 12 credential is equal to the regular provincial Grade 12 diploma in that students must complete five core subjects: English A30, English B30, Native Studies 30, Math 20 or 30, and Biology (or another science) 30, as well as two electives at the 30 level. Where the Adult 12 program differs is that it recognizes the significant life experiences and informal learning that adult students bring to the classroom. As such, adult students are not required to have the formal prerequisites from the regular system in order to enter the program. This often means that many hours are spent by adult learners upgrading their

academic knowledge, both inside and out of the classroom.

DTI began delivery and certification of the Adult 12 program in 1999 after it obtained the services of a Director of Education and formal approval from the Department of Advanced Education. DTI's delivery and certification of Adult Basic Education 10 is through the Department of Advanced Education and Employment.

Grade 12 graduates from DTI programs have gone on to enter Practical Nursing and degree Nursing programs, SUNTEP, and business programs, among other things.



DTI Program Plan 2007-08

DTI is planning a number of exciting new programs for the 2007-2008 program year. Below is the program plan approved by GDI's Board of Governors:

#	Location	Program	Seats	Days	Total St. Days
1	La Ronge	1A Truck Driver	4	40	160
2	La Loche	Literacy	12	200	2400
3	La Loche	BE 5-10	20	200	4000
4	La Loche	Adult 12	20	200	4000
5	La Loche	Oil Rig Prep Program	10	20	200
6	La Loche	Welding Job Prep Program	12	59	708
7	Ile-a-la Crosse	BE 5-10	15	200	3000
8	Ile-a-la Crosse	Adult 12	15	200	3000
9	Ile-a-la Crosse	Heavy Equipment Operator	12	25	300
10	Pinehouse	BE Programming	20	200	4000
11	Meadow Lake	BE Program	20	200	4000
12	North Battleford	BE Programming	10	200	2000
13	North Battleford	Oilfield Safety	12	10	120
14	Prince Albert	Literacy	12	200	2400
15	Prince Albert	BE 5-10	20	200	4000
16	Prince Albert	Adult 12	20	200	4000
17	Prince Albert	Hvy Duty Truck and Trans. Mech.	12	100	1200
18	Prince Albert	PN Prep	14	20	280
19	PA or MJ TBD	Hvy Duty Truck and Trans. Mech.	12	100	1200
20	Prince Albert	LPN	14	180	2520
21	Saskatoon	Literacy	12	200	2400
22	Saskatoon	BE 5-10	20	200	4000
23	Saskatoon	Adult 12	20	200	4000
24	Saskatoon	PN Prep	14	30	420
25	Saskatoon	LPN	14	180	2520
26	Saskatoon	Health/Human Services Careers Prep	15	120	1800
27	Saskatoon	Pilot – Work Ready Program	15	40	600
28	Saskatoon	Evening Class – Adult 12	15	20	300
29	Saskatoon	SaskEnergy Readiness	18	50	900
30	Regina	BE 5-10	20	200	4000
31	Regina	GED PT Evenings	15	20	300
32	Moose Jaw	GED PT Evenings	15	20	300
33	Regina	Office Education	15	160	2400
34	Jans Bay/Turn. L.	BE Programming	15	200	3000
35	Cumberland House	BE Programming	20	200	4000
36	Nipawin	Truck Driver Training	4	20	80
37	ERII	Diamond Driller Helper/Oilfield	12	20	240
38	Yorkton	Truck Driver Training	4	20	80
39	Distance Delivery	Métis Studies 10 (Soc. Science)	10	20	200
TOTALS			559	4674	75028

Any questions regarding the DTI 2007-08 Program Plan should be directed to Brett Vandale, DTI's Director. 



Staff Updates

Farewell to a Friend

By Janice DePeel

On May 25, 2007, the earth lost another shining example of humanity at its best. Arnold Grimard spent the last eight years working at GDI Prince Albert. However, he did far more than just earn a living. Arnold has left a lasting impression with every GDI employee and student. He was not just a coworker – he was a friend.

Arnold often dealt with argumentative and aggressive members of the public. He always made sure that they did not reach areas where the safety of students and staff would be compromised. In this regard, he was a hero since he was not a big man. Yet, he was fearlessly determined to

ensure the safety of everyone in the building.

Arnold was a ray of sunshine, and we could always count on him for a quick joke, a friendly greeting and the omnipresent megawatt smile. Arnold will hold a special place in the hearts and minds of all those who knew him. I'm not saying Arnold was perfect: he had a quick wit that often landed him in hot water with some female staff (or at the very least, left him with foot-in-the mouth syndrome). However, these minor incidents didn't deter him one bit. The ever consummate joker, Arnold planned and executed jokes without mercy. On those occasions where he was

the victim, he would often laugh and promise, "I'll get you!"

Most recently, Arnold initiated Sherry, DTI's new counselor, by hiding her coffee pot for a day. When Marian joined the library staff, Arnold made a point of spooking her by telling her the story of the rumoured resident ghost haunting the building. Then he waited until she became engrossed in her work and would then ambush her in the office, scaring the living daylights out of her. Arnold will always be remembered, not for the job he did but, for being a wonderful person. Rest in peace "Mr. Clean."



Photograph of Lac LaRonge, May 2007 by Jessica Rorison

GDI Launches New Resources at Aboriginal Day Celebrations

GDI launched several new resources at National Aboriginal Day celebrations at Batoche on June 21, 2007, including *Fiddle Dancer* by Anne Patton and Wilfred Burton, *Metis Legacy II* by Lawrence J. Barkwell, and *The Métis Alphabet Book, Study Prints* by award-winning author Joseph Jean Fauchon. The children's book, *The Métis Alphabet Book* by Joseph Jean Fauchon won a 2006

Saskatchewan Book Award in the *First People's Publishing* category.

The celebration, called "Celebrating Families and Culture", featured traditional Métis dancers from W.P. Bate School, a special ceremony and poster launch at the Caron House, Métis fiddle music by John and Vicki Arcand, and a presentation on the Community Genealogical

Initiative with Elder Rose Fleury.

Many organizations partnered to sponsor the day's celebrations, including the Friends of Batoche, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, GDI, and the Batoche National Historic Site.



"The celebration... featured traditional Métis dancers... poster launch..., Métis fiddle music..., and a presentation on the Community Genealogical Initiative."



SUNTEP Set to Sign New Agreement

“Highlights of the agreement include a less complicated administrative structure than in the past, greater predictability of costs for the Institute, and renewable research funding...”

For the past twenty-seven years, the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) has been operating with an old agreement involving the Institute, the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Regina and the Department of Advanced Education and Employment. Because the agreement has not been updated in twenty-seven years, its language is dated and paternalistic. In addition, the structures described in the old agreement no longer exist or have changed. For instance, the old agreement called for a SUNTEP Review Committee and out-dated processes for teacher preparation.

The new five-year agreement-in-principle recognizes the Institute's successful twenty-seven year history in delivering its teacher education program. The paternalism of the original agreement has been replaced by language that better reflects a more equal partnership. The agreement now involves only three signatories: GDI and both universities, and no longer includes the Department of Advanced Education.

Highlights of the agreement include a less complicated administrative structure than in the past, greater cost predictability for the Institute, and renewable research funding for each SUNTEP centre. Precautions have

been taken so that when the new agreement takes effect there will be no interruption in programming or services for any of the SUNTEP centres. All will be business as usual.

The new agreement has been two years in the making, and has involved dozens of meetings between the deans from the universities, GDI's Executive Director, and the SUNTEP Coordinators. The new agreement has been reviewed by the Institute's Board of Governors, Finance Director, and legal experts, as well as the universities' governing bodies, and the Department of Advanced Education, which will ultimately fund the agreement. 🌐

DTI Practical Nursing Students Get Lesson in Traditional Medicine

“The Elders shared their knowledge of plants and how they are used in traditional medicines.”

On June 4, 2007 eleven Practical Nursing students and staff from DTI Saskatoon visited Elders Inez and Gerald Nayneecassum at the Ahtakakoop First Nation. The Elders shared their knowledge of plants and how they are used in traditional medicines. Students picked and braided sweetgrass and learned the medicinal uses of such plants as mint, muskeg, and juniper bark.

The field trip was very informative and students were appreciative about gaining insight into the traditional teachings. 🌐



DTI Practical Nursing Students with Elders Gerald and Inez Nayneecassum June 2007



Elders Gerald and Inez Nayneecassum at Ahtakakoop First Nation June 2007



DTI Faces Recruitment Challenges

DTI has recently concluded programming for the 2006-07 academic year. It has been both an exciting and challenging year in terms of delivering skills training programs. In line with its strategic goals, DTI focused on trades training, oilfield-related programs, health programs, and business programs. The changing labour market in Saskatchewan has meant changes for training institutions such as DTI as well. In particular, both student and staff recruitment have become issues in the currently strong labour market.

Student recruitment is affected for pre-trades programs, but also for

programs focusing on introductory level skills training. During the 1990s and early 2000s, DTI had no problem filling these types of programs. However, this trend has changed. Due to shortages in the labour market and a hot economy, individuals who have some base skills are able to access the labour market without having to take introductory or pre-trade type programs. As a result, DTI will need to provide more specialized types of training. A focus on areas where skills training can be connected directly to jobs with employer partnerships – such as this year's SaskEnergy Job Readiness program – is

proving successful.

Staff recruitment has been extremely challenging in the Continuing Care Aide program in La Loche, and it has been difficult to find qualified instructors for the Practical Nursing program in Saskatoon. Traditional methods to recruit staff may have to be revisited in the future. In particular, we have to find a way to attract people with specialized skills to the North in order to deliver training. As DTI expands, this challenge is going to be progressively worse, particularly if the labour supply, especially specialized or skilled labour, remains in high demand. 🌐



DTI Carpentry Students

Members of GDIT&E Selection Committees Announced

In June 2007, three selection committees were appointed by GDI's Board of Governors to make informed decisions regarding student sponsorships for the Institute's training and employment program. Members for each committee representing the province's northern, central and southern regions have been announced. Each committee is comprised of six voting members. The members of each committee are as follows:

Northern Selection Committee:

Naomi Atkinson, Norm Como, Leo Gardiner, Tracey Tinker, Glen LaFleur, and Nancy Morin-Roy

Central Selection Committee:

Donald Dugan, Melvina Goulet, Shirley Isbister, Georgette Nicolas, Pat Letendre, and Roy Fosseneuve

Southern Selection Committee:

Tim Roussin, Ed St Pierre, Albert Robillard, Angela Miller, Paul Tourand, and one unconfirmed member.

Resource people attend each committee meeting in order to provide local labour market information. A facilitator also attends each meeting. Resource people include Regional College representatives, GDI staff members, HRSDC representatives, and Can-Sask representatives. 🌐

"Each committee is comprised of six voting members."



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