

# the DUMONT connection



## PREMIER ISSUE

### TANSIKWA

The idea of an Institute Newsletter is not a new one. It has been talked about for some time now, and finally it is a reality. The newsletter should be used as a vehicle to facilitate better communications between all students, programs, and staff members. During the communications workshop at Waskesui in August, one of the problems most consistently identified was a breakdown in our communications network. The solution most often identified to correct this was an internal newsletter.

At this point it is envisioned that it will be printed bi-monthly, but if the need should arise, it will be monthly or by special edition. The input of all students and staff in the AMNSIS/Dumont community is essential to make

the CONNECTION a success. Ideas on how to best achieve this would be greatly appreciated.

Anyone wishing to submit articles of general interest, poetry, short stories, editorials, or essays is asked to submit them to the contact person in your centre or mail them directly to the main office in Regina.

### CHANGING ATTITUDES AND MAKING CHANGE

In the last few years EDUCATION has been a major focus of energy within the Native community, which has resulted in an increased number of formally and academically educated Native People. This has occurred

because people have been involved, dedicated and committed to CHANGE.

I take this opportunity to inform you about the AWASIS COUNCIL. Many of you are already aware of the Indian and Native Education Council (INEC). INEC is more commonly known for their annually sponsored AWASIS conference and newsletter. Recently the executive made the decision that the Council would be known as the AWASIS COUNCIL. AWASIS is a Cree word that means child. AWASIS is a Special Subject Council of Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. You may ask "What does that mean?"

First, the Saskatchewan Teacher's Fédération (STF) is the official organization representing the concerns of all teachers in Saskatchewan, with the exception of federal schools. The STF is actively involved in promoting the cause of education. Among other objectives, this organization wishes to "influence public opinion regarding educational affairs." STF has established Special Subject Councils in many other areas, for example, Drama, Science, Guidance and Counselling. The general purpose of Councils are to "improve instruction, curriculum and teacher competence."

The AWASIS COUNCIL (INEC) was formed at the first AWASIS conference held October 1980 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. AWASIS came into being because of the desire among educators

of Native students to pursue professional matters of mutual concern. AWASIS is a voluntary organization whose membership is open to anyone with an interest in Indian and Native Education. Saskatchewan teachers must comprise at least fifty percent of the membership. However, any persons who share an interest in the education of Native students are welcome as members. The AWASIS Council came into existence in order to support teachers and other educators in providing quality education for all Native students. AWASIS serves as a vehicle that enables people to share ideas and information by facilitating personal and professional contacts. Sufficient and adequate communication remains a priority and concern for the AWASIS COUNCIL.

Like all Special Subject Councils of STF, the AWASIS COUNCIL is a nonpolitical group in that they are not aligned with any particular group or organization. The Councils are not a union or a bargaining unit of any kind. The activities have been purely informational and educational, therefore they can potentially benefit all existing groups and organizations. Participation in the Council includes the rights accorded to all Special Subject Councils. The Councils are entitled to:

- a) make submissions by arrangements either orally or in writing to the

STF Executive or to any advisory committee of the STF.

b) submit resolutions to the Annual Conference according to the procedures outlined in Sub-section 3.25 and 3.26 of the Statement of Policy and By-laws.

Obviously, this is one avenue that can be explored and possibly utilized in the process of CHANGE.

The affiliation of the AWASIS COUNCIL with STF includes other benefits such as:

- a) some financial assistance
- b) printing and publishing services
- c) general co-ordination of activities

A major activity that AWASIS is presently organizing is the AWASIS ANNUAL Conference. The theme of the Conference is "Innovations for CrossCultural Curriculum". The keynote speaker for the conference is Dr. Cecil King, who is a member of the Native Curriculum Review Committee. A panel of educators who are Native will be organized to offer an overview of some recent developments in the education for Native students.

The conference will take place in Regina, Saskatchewan at the Landmark Inn on November 1, 2, and 3, 1984. The business meeting is scheduled for Saturday morning. The meeting involves elections for the new Executive of the Council. Key

questions in the education of Native students and the role of AWASIS can also be addressed.

1983-84 has proven to be a very challenging and demanding year for the Executive of AWASIS. Rick Kotowich the President of the Council found that becoming involved, he became more aware of the necessity to pursue CHANGE. He realized how hard it is, once a commitment has been made, to carry out the enormous responsibilities. In Rick's words he has developed a "free and clearer mind about what is needed?"

In conclusion, I would like to encourage and challenge the Native Community and all teachers to become involved in a organization that has the potential for CHANGING ATTITUDES and developing sensitivity and understanding among people.

Verna St. Denis  
SUNTEP Regina Faculty  
September 11, 1984

## CURRICULUM

One of the undertakings that the curriculum unit is currently working on is a Grade X11 Project. This project was contracted from the Dept. of Education and is scheduled to be completed in May of 1985. The materials will then be incorporated into the Grade X11 Core curriculum in Saskatchewan.

The project consists of six self-contained booklets about various issues in Metis history. Each booklet has an essay written at a Grade 9-10 level which includes primary archival documents and photos, a series of discussion questions, an evaluation, a selected bibliography and a section strictly for the teacher.

The six areas of Metis history that will be dealt with are:

- 1)Metis settlement in Saskatchewan
- 2)Metis political structure and the establishment of the community St. Laurent
- 3)Metis Land Claims
- 4)Government plans for the West
- 5)The return of Riel
- 6)Events leading to the Resistance of 1885 and the aftermath

Guiding the project is one person from the Dept. of Education, one Grade XII teacher, myself, and an editor. We are all very excited about this project for various reasons. The thing that makes me feel good about the project is that about 10,000 students will be using this material every year and change will be effected as to perceptions about Metis People.

Currently, the first two booklets are completed and we are beginning the third. If you have any little rare gems dealing with the last four topics, please feel free to

contact me to see if they can be incorporated.

Calvin Racette

## STEREOTYPING IS ALIVE AND WELL IN CANADA

I am continually shocked at the stereotypical and racist materials on the shelves in bookstores and libraries. As you are well aware there are many stereotyped images and attitudes expressed in this country. The non native population has had a very limited exposure to native people and they hold many prejudiced beliefs.

This lack of understanding and respect for native cultures has been reinforced over the years through stereotypes in textbooks, the media and popular literature. These images are abundant yet today and as educators we have a responsibility to assist in their elimination.

While in attendance at the Canadian English as a Second Language Conference in Winnipeg during February 1984, I browsed through the book displays. At the Domini Press display I found a reprinted edition of the old comic, The last of the Mohicans, with a teachers guide. I tried to

picture an E.S.L. instructor using this with a group of new Canadians and I wondered what sort of ideas they would get about native people. I asked the Domini representative if she would look at the book and comment on its content. She glanced briefly at it and said nothing. I asked her if she thought the image of the native people presented was accurate. She just shrugged her shoulders. I asked her if she would take it off the display, as I felt these stereotypical images of scalping and skulking in the bushes shouldn't be reinforced. I told her I found it particularly shocking to find something like this at a conference that touted multiculturalism and cultural sensitivity. She refused to remove it replying that it was a classic comic. I gave back the other books I had intended to buy and left the display. I indicated to her that I would not purchase anything from them. I related this incident to several of my colleagues and after several requests, she finally removed the book.

Similarly, Tom Severson and I were looking at materials in the Saskatoon Teaching Aides Store this spring and we found a game called "Up the Creek". The picture on the front was of several native people in buckskin and feathers leaping around on one foot. The image was outrageous. We took it to the clerk and asked her if she

found anything unusual about the picture. She replied with a question "...The Indians?" I asked her if she would remove it from her shelf as we felt it should not be there for teachers to buy and take into their classrooms. She said she would have to ask her manager. We went back the next week and it was gone.

As I mentioned earlier, I am astonished at the quantity of such material that still exists. I don't think publishers should be allowed to publish and sell it. I would like to suggest that we edit such material and lobby for its removal from libraries and publishing houses.

Heather Blair -

## NATIVE STUDIES INSTRUCTORS PROGRAM GRADUATION

The Native Studies Instructors Program graduation was held on August 16, 1984 at the Yellowhead Inn Banquet Room. A superb meal was provided by Cyril's Catering. Prior to the meal, grace was said by Lynn Fraser.

Even though the year was long and hard and brought many trials and tribulations, eight students completed the program. These students are: Janet Wiseman, Lynn Fraser, Joe Rivard, Chuck McCallum,

Colleen Delorme, Laura Burnouf, Allan Ross, and Lee Rejc.

There was more than 60 people in attendance to witness the ceremonies that followed. The master of ceremonies was Rick Hesch. Introduction of the students was made by Alphonse Janvier. The keynote speaker was Dwayne Brenna. Keith Goulet spoke on behalf of the Gabriel Dumont Institute. Ron Rivard spoke in behalf of Clem Chartier and the Metis National Council. The toast to the graduates was made by Ordean Goulet. the toast to the staff and instructors of the Native Studies Instructors Program was made by Allan Ross.

The class speakers were Joe Rivard and Lee Rejc. During this speech they took time to remember their classmate, Mary Jane who passed away on June 7, 1984. The class presented a gift of memorium to her family. It was accepted by Allan Koss.

Alphonse Janvier and Keith Goulet presented each student with a certificate and Metis sash. Colleen Delorme recieved a special plaque of accomplishment for Most Improved Student.

Laura Burnouf provided some entertainment by singing the class theme song "The Rose" as well as a few other numbers. The evening was rounded off by a dance with the music provided by Rejc. Inc.

submitted by Lee Rejc

# BOOKS

1885: Metis Rebellion or Government Conspiracy?, by Donald McLean, for the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research. Don is a researcher and the writer for the Institute. He has been working on the book for the past year.

Ever wonder what really caused the rebellion? Did you know that Gabriel Dumont was probably the greatest hero Canada ever produced? Did you know the Metis struggle for human rights and right of a people to survive with dignity is one of the proudest stories in Canadain history.

The whole story will be there for the first time when this book is published in early 1985. This story is no fairy tale. Every statement in it has been thoroughly documented and the author feels confident that he can defend this work against such worthies as Thomas Flanagan et al with their new approach to racism in Canada.

A must for your personal library.

Sherry Mathers, Our Mother Corn, United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, 1981

Our Mother Corn, a recent addition to the SUNTEP Saskatoon library collection, describes the importance and the role of corn in the

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traditional lives of the Hopi, Pawnee and Seneca nations. This text, complete with Teacher's Guide, could be very useful to classroom teachers and student teachers planning a unit on traditional lifestyles, cultural arts, nutrition or agriculture. It provides many examples to show how the cultural fabric of these societies were woven into the traditional lifestyles. The illustrations, are by Roger Fernandes, the stories, songs and games provide additional information and understanding.

Included in the text are the present addresses of various Indian organizations which could provide the teacher with the necessary link to the contemporary lives of these people. The bibliography is fairly extensive but predominantly historical. Some of the more recent references might prove to be interesting for further reading.

H.B.

Have ye leisure  
    Comfort, Calm  
Shelter, Food, Love's  
    Gentle Balm  
Or What is it the Buy  
    So Dear  
With Your Pain and  
    With Your Fear

L.A.

TANSI from the Saskatoon Sub-Office. This past month has brought a few changes in our office. Alphonse Janvier and Rick Hesch are leaving us to pursue their studies in Education. Alphonse has been accepted and enrolled in the SUNTEP program and Rick is doing his Masters at the University of Saskatchewan. Good luck and best wishes to you both from all of us.

We would like to introduce Velma Woloshyn who has been hired as Coordinator of the Early Childhood Development Program stationed here in Saskatoon. She comes to us all the way from Victoria, B.C. where she was working with the Rape Crisis Centre. She has a big job ahead of her, so good luck Velma.

Laurie Atkinson has also recently been hired for the Faculty position in Saskatoon for the same program. Prior to coming to Dumont, she worked with the Home Care Program here in Saskatoon.

Another new face is Mary Jane Brown who will be teaching with the Early Childhood Development Program in Buffalo Narrows. She will be dividing her time between Prince Albert and Buffalo Narrows so she will be putting a lot of miles in this winter. She is spending time with us here in Saskatoon preparing for the program. Welcome aboard Velma, Laurie and Mary Jane.

Other new arrivals include a baby boy who was born to Arti Tanna this summer. Mr. & Mrs. Tanna will be leaving Saskatoon to take up residence in Toronto this fall.

Rita Bouvier completed her thesis and defended it on Friday, September 21. It went well...not that we're surprised. Congratulations Rita, We're all proud of you.

Now an update on "who's who" in this office:

Lorraine Amiotte  
Secretary - STEP

Carol Rivard  
Secretary - SUNTEP

Lillian Sanderson  
Extension Services

Angie Thurmeier  
Curriculum Officer

Rita Bouvier  
Director - SUNTEP

Velma Woloshyn  
Coordinator - STEP

Laurie Atkinson  
Faculty - STEP

Mary Jane Brown  
Faculty - STEP

Richard Thatcher  
Coordinator - Research

So, any of you Dumont staff members who don't know who we are, drop in- we have lots of coffeemate.

## H.R.D.P. LLOYDMINISTER

There was this carload of Natives going down the road and they passed this sign that read "MAXIMUM 40", so the car stopped and two of them got out. Greetings from H.R.D.P. Lloydminster.

There now remains in our program fourteen of the twenty starting lineup. Of the six who left us, one has transferred to H.R.D.P. Ile-a-la-Crosse. I have been appointed the Lloyd "crier" to let the other institute programs know that we are indeed alive and well out here on the periphery.

It is my pleasure to welcome to the program two new instructors this semester. BRUCE RASKOB is the English 219 Instructor. He is 32 yrs old and single. Bruce attended the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana on a hockey scholarship and is reputed to have straightened out Joe Thiesmann when they were classmates. He took his Honours B.A. and M.A. from the University of Saskatchewan. He is with us for this semester only and will enter the Ph.D program at the University of Toronto in September.

The second addition to our staff is LAURIE THOMPSON the Sociology Instructor in both H.R.D.Programs at Ile-a-la-Crosse and Lloydminster. He has attended the University of Manitoba and the University of



Regina, where he is completing his thesis for his M.A. in Social Studies. Laurie has worked as an economic analyst for the Manitoba government, for OXFAM Canada as a fund raiser and educator, for the National Farmers Union, and most recently at One Sky in Saskatoon as an education officer. He has lived in Northern Manitoba, and Winnipeg before coming to Saskatoon in 1976. Laurie's wife, Lois, is an instructor at the Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon. They have two young children.

When this program began in Sept. 1983, classes were being held in the basement of the Lloydminster Metis Society building. The classroom was a huge wide open space with two offices and a coffee room. This setting resembled the "Bar-K" pub and it even had a stage. During the Christmas break the facility was renovated and the stage removed. A classroom, library, lounge and three more offices were added. These renovations were completed in time for the January semester thanks to the excellent work done by Leo St. Germaine. As a result of this work we now have a beautiful building with an atmosphere that is conducive to a healthy learning environment. We would like to extend an invitation to all who happen to be a bit off the trodden path to stop in, say Hi and have a cup of java.

## H.R.D.P. LLOYDMINSTER STUDENT UPDATE

Students who attend the HRD Program in Lloydminster are as follows:

Violet Arzumendi

Elaine Barnes

Marlene Benkendorf

Sharon Gerva

Myrtle Racette

Paul Stonechild

all from Lloydminster.

Doreen Daigneault-Buffalo Narrows

William Dumais-Southend Reindeer

Delores Durocher-Ile-a-la-Crosse

Rose Girouard-Shellbrook

Vernon Harper-Onion Lake

Barbara Ironbow-Lone Rock

Mary Ironbow-Marsden and Bernice

Kessler-North Battleford

Students who came from out of town had no trouble relocating to Lloydminster before the start of the HRDP. Lloydminster welcomes you.

Well now that we are settled down into the program to do a lot of work, we are one big happy family. Students not only work their brains out, but also work their art of sports out. "Batter up, let's play ball" could be heard one warm October day. Play ball is exactly what the students did, when they challenged the students of Lakeland College V.P. in a game of slow pitch. The victory went to the HRDP students with a 45-5 win. The students also challenged Onion Lake students

in a few games of Volleyball. Not so lucky this time, the students lost out to Onion Lake two games to one. The students also watched games of hockey and broomball and some of our more braver students participated in these games. The students also attend aerobic classes to keep them firm, agile and on their toes.

Love and kindness go out to the children who have only one parent. This is shown by some of the students being members of the Big Sisters and Big Brothers Groups in Lloydminster. Organization was shown by holding a Hallowe'en dance in the Lloydminster Metis Centre. The greatest part of the profits went to the Students' Fund Account.

Students were hard at work racking their brains and cramming for exams while marks of A's and B's danced around in their heads. Then over the horizon came December 16th, the last day before Xmas break. A dinner was held and students and instructors exchanged gifts. The day ended with greetings of Happy Holidays to each other.

Here we are in the month of January. The news of the month focuses on the divorce rate which in Lloydminster is not high. Setting that example by tying the knot in the Sweetheart month of Feb. is Delores Durocher. "Lucky girl" or should I say "Lucky guy". May the cup of happiness runneth over for you and your loved one. "Congratulations" to you from all the students

in the HRDProgram. Birthday greetings are also extended to Delores Durocher on January 15 and William Dumais on January 31. A warm welcome is also extended to the HRDP student body President/William Dumais, Vice-President/Sharon Gervais, and SecretaryTreasurer/Bernice Kessler. Welcome also to the grievance committee Myrtle Racette and Violet Arzumendi.

Our mornings are alive with the swift movement of our instructors making the students happy by preparing their morning coffee. This is Marlene Benkendorf signing out and to the HRDP students, "May my writing arm never break and if I shall run out of ink, lend me a pen."

M.B.

## SASKATOON SUNTEP

Of the Saskatoon SUNTEP Centre, Diane Gossen is willing to run half-day sessions for students on any of the following topics:

1. Strengthening and Disciplining Children in the home
2. Alcoholism in the Family
3. "Forgive me, I thought you were mine" - How we try to control those we love and how we can learn to get what we need in a better way.

Diane is a member of the Institute for Reality Therapy. In this capacity she works training counsellors across Canada and the United States, when she isn't doing her half-

time teaching job at SUNTEP. She has offered to give some of her time Saturday mornings or some evenings to work with students and their families. If interested in a session at your centre on any of the above topics, please write to Tom Severson or contact the newsletter representative in your centre.

D.G.

## ILE-A-LA-CROSSE

The contact person for the Ile a la Crosse Center is Max J. Morin. The Human Resource Development Program is being offered by the Gabriel Dumont Institute. Its a two year program offered to get the students ready. University credit classes, some will be non credit, just to upgrade their English and Math. The students will have a better chance to enter their job market. They will have a choice to either go to the U of R or the U of S, or either enter to other programs that the Institute is offering such as the SUNTEP.

At the present time the Ile a la Crosse Center has 20 students enrolled in the Human Resource Development Program. We moved into our new facility the (Jonas Favel Center) just before Christmas. Our Staff consists of:

Max J. Morin  
Co-ordinator/Ile-a-la-Crosse  
and Lloydminster  
Bernice Corrigan  
Clerk Stenographer II

### Ile-a-la-Crosse

Dwayne commutes from Saskatoon every Monday and Tuesday to teach a class in Ile-a-la-Crosse. He teaches a class in Saskatoon also.

In the second semester, we have a Sociology teacher, Laurie Thompson who also commutes to Ile-a-la-Crosse, Lloydminster and Saskatoon to teach.

Listed below are the students who are enrolled in the HRDP in Ile-a-la-Crosse:

Rod Belanger  
Margaret Bouvier  
Maureen Bouvier  
Dorothy Caisse  
Francis Corrigan  
Shirley Corrigan  
Dorothy Dubrulle  
Barbara Durocher  
Josephine Durocher  
Sheila Durocher  
Brian Favel  
Sandra Favel  
Roberta Hodgson  
Lawrence Johnson  
Florence Kenny  
Percy Kenny  
Patsy Laliberte  
Doreen Morin  
Marie L. Ratt

That is all we have to say for this newsletter. Thank you.

Max J. Morin

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## GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE

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### TIDBITS

Max J. Morin has been selected as the new coordinator for the Ile-a-la-Crosse HRDP Center. He has been with the program since its beginning in September 1983. During the past year Max handled part of the administration, coordinating and counselling, as well as acting as a community resource person.

Ordean O. Goulet who last year was the Native Studies instructor and Resident faculty with HRDP in Ile-a-la-Crosse has been selected as the Coordinator for HRDP in Lloydminster. Originally from Cumberland House he is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan.

Aven Ross one of the original staff members with the Gabriel Dumont Institute is leaving after 4 years. Aven, who is presently the secretary for SUNTEP Regina will be a student in the Business Administration Program in Fort Qu'Appelle. Good Luck Aven.

Dwayne Brenna who taught English last year for the Institute has been hired as a full time faculty member at the University of Sask.

*Ed Lewis*

Melona Palmer an 84 graduate of SUNTEP - Saskatoon is now working in the Aboriginal Rights Collection of the Institute as a Archival Indexer.

Joyce Toth, also a 1984 graduate of SUNTEP - Regina is now the Student Liaison Worker.

### IN MEMORY

June 7th was a sad day for the students and staff of the Native Studies Instructors Program. Mary Jane Taubhorn, our dear friend and colleague, passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. Her friendship, courage, and wisdom inspired her fellow students in their quest for an education. Although she knew she was ill and knowing that she would only be with us for a short time, she felt that the best way to spend the remainder of her life was to absorb as much knowledge as she could. We know that Mary Jane is no longer with us in body, but her spirit will remain with us eternally. Rest in peace Mary Jane.  
Namotha kika  
wanikiskistotatinan.

Editor  
Dylan Thomas