



# THE GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE COMMUNICATOR



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*The GDI Communicator is an internal newsletter intended to increase communication between management and staff of the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research*

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## LET'S GET SOCIAL



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## \$29K RAISED FOR GABRIEL DUMONT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION AT 9TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

**By Desirae Barker**

The 9th Annual Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation (GDSF) Golf Tournament, held on September 23rd, 2022, proved to be a great success!

A strong showing of approximately 125 golfers took part in the shotgun start at Moon Lake Golf and Country Club in Saskatoon, with all proceeds supporting the continued success of Métis students through GDSF.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute has been administering scholarships for Saskatchewan's Métis since the early 1980s through its scholarship foundation trust. The scholarship fund is based on a \$3.6 million capital investment and scholarships are awarded on the interest earned on the fund's principal and through individual corporate partnership donations.

This year saw an increase in sponsorships, with just over 25 corporate event sponsors! It is thanks to our sponsors and the contributions of each golfer that we are proud to announce the tournament raised \$29,181.50 for the scholarship foundation!

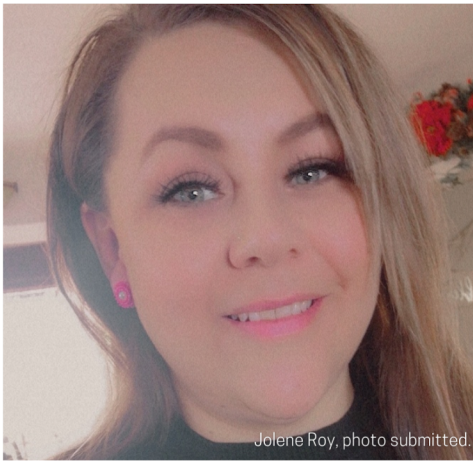
"This kind of support and commitment from staff, sponsors, and golfers is what truly makes our tournament a success. We're incredibly thankful for the hard work and generosity of everyone who participated in our event," said Amy Briley, GDSF Senior Program Coordinator, and tournament organizer.

Mark your calendars! The 10th Annual GDSF Golf Tournament will be held next spring, on May 26, 2023. 🌐





Jeannie Murray, photo submitted.



Jolene Roy, photo submitted.

## DTI INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT: JEANNIE & JOLENE

By Tracy LaPrise, DTI Program Coordinator

Since 2020, Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) instructors have had to quickly adapt to the ever-changing delivery methods in our programs across the province. All instructors have shown utmost flexibility and adaptability when it comes to supporting and teaching our students. This month, I would like to take the opportunity to highlight two of our northern Adult Basic Education (ABE) Program instructors, Jeannie and Jolene.

Without their dedication and perseverance throughout a pandemic, there would have been significantly less opportunities for people in the north to obtain an education. These instructors became overnight online teachers, learning the technology as they were using it. Not only were they focused on teaching the curriculum objectives, but they were also focused on providing mental health support for the many struggles our students were facing.

For months of the pandemic, the north was isolated from the rest of the province, with barricades along the highway. This created struggles for food security and access to basic needs such as medical care. Keeping students motivated and successful—in an uncertain world was not an easy task. The weight of the student struggles sat on the shoulders of these instructors for a long period of time.

Jeannie and Jolene are two instructors who stepped up and kept the ABE program running. Their years of experience helped to guide them in this unprecedented academic environment. DTI is very fortunate to have such experienced and caring instructors.

### Jeannie Murray

Jeannie Murray is the ABE Level Three instructor at our DTI La Loche campus. Jeannie's first language is Dene, and she is able to communicate with our Dene students in their first language. This is not only an asset to create better communication and understanding of the curriculum objectives, but it also helps to keep the Dene language strong and thriving.

Below is a short interview with Jeannie about her experience as an instructor:

- **How long have you been teaching?** I've been working for DTI at La Loche for over 18 years. When I got the opportunity, I started with the level one and two ABE programs. As time progressed, I eventually ended up teaching the level three ABE program.
- **What does student success mean to you?** Success is growth for each and every one of the students I have encountered.
- **What is a challenge you are facing?** There are a few challenges, but I learned to overcome them as they develop. The qualms of working in the north are the lack of services most take for granted. Most of us have to drive at least three hours away for a regular oil change. So, this is just an example of the general challenges all would face living here.

**This story continues on page 4.**



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## UPCOMING DEADLINES



**Practical  
Nursing  
Program**

Saskatoon  
Campus

**Jan 16**

Prince Albert  
Campus

**Jan 16**

For a full listing of all current programs and to apply online visit

**WWW.GDINS.ORG/PROGRAMS**



## REMEMBERING AND HONOURING OUR HEROES

By Karon Shmon, Director GDI Culture & Heritage

By the time you read this, we will be into November, wondering how the fall has passed so quickly, while gauging how quickly winter and the Christmas holidays will be upon us. Even sooner will be Remembrance Day on November 11th and Louis Riel Day on November 16th. Both of these days are mixtures of solemnity, gratitude, and celebration.

We are very fortunate that it has been a long time since a war involving Canadians has taken so many lives, injured the survivors, and left families with wounds that are still being felt today. It is the very reason that we have so few veterans who are able to attend ceremonies in their honour. And yet we still have people serving in our military, willing to risk their lives for the rest of us, and there are others who would serve if needed. We must show our gratitude to them as well.

Remembrance Day for the Métis covers a much longer span of time if we consider how valiantly our ancestors fought to resist their homes from being taken and given to others.

The Red River Resistance (1869-70) in Manitoba preceded the 1885 Resistance here in Saskatchewan, at Batoche. These two Resistances took their toll, particularly the one in 1885, which resulted in the Métis being forced to disperse and to remain a forgotten people until we were officially acknowledged in the Canadian Constitution in 1982, thanks to Harry Daniels. There are different kinds of veterans and different kinds of service.

Remembrance Day and Louis Riel Day share the goal of honouring

those who made sacrifices, but they evolve from divergent reasons. Remembrance Day commemorates the day the First World War ended with armistice agreement by all parties that resulted in peace. Louis Riel Day is not commemorated for such a positive reason.

Most people are surprised to learn it is the day Riel was executed in 1885 after being tried and convicted of treason in a biased trial. It wasn't even in the jurisdiction of the all non-Indigenous jurors to pass such a sentence. In fact, they wanted Riel to take the loophole of an insanity plea to spare himself from execution. Riel stood on principle, to ensure the tragic events were not solely attributed to a crazy person and subsequently forgotten about.

I feel that if he had taken the plea, what happened to the Métis might just become a small textbox in a history book and be deemed insignificant. I also believe the Métis may not have had the tenacity to continue to advocate for our rights or to covertly keep our culture alive without Riel's sacrifice. He showed us, as the other veterans have, that it takes courage to face an enemy and that this can come at a great cost.

I believe it is the sacrifices made by our veterans that must compel us to remember and show our gratitude. Without that, we may very well have missed out on what's good in our lives and what is not good might even have been worse.

A few moments of remembrance and gratitude on these days and often in-between is certainly the way to honour all who served. 🌐



Russ Merasty, Amy Briley, and Lyla Gibson. Photo submitted by Karon Shmon

CONGRATULATIONS

**Amy Briley**, GDI Program Coordinator for Scholarships and Culture and Heritage, was recently honoured by the Institute of Public Administration of Canada for her academic achievement in a course offered by the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS). The award was presented by His Honour, the Honourable Russ Merasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, in Regina on October 18, 2022.

Congratulations, Amy!







### ERP UPDATE

Are you interested in knowing more about the ERP-SIS (Enterprise Resource Planning - Student Information System) project in which all Saskatchewan Regional Colleges and Gabriel Dumont Institute are currently engaged?

more about the products we will be using in the future. The next session will be November 28 at 11 a.m. Contact Rebecca Cross [rcross@cumberlandcollege.sk.ca](mailto:rcross@cumberlandcollege.sk.ca) for meeting invite.

For those who are not aware, ERP-SIS is the new Finance, Human Resources, and student information management system that is currently being developed. This system will be an all-encompassing self-service model program that will affect all staff and all facets of GDI's operations. In addition to a new financial system, there will be a fully integrated human resources system and student information system. All staff in the Institute will be users of the system and will be accessing this system regularly.

**GDI Bi-Weekly Info Meetings**  
GDI hosts bi-weekly teams meetings to ensure all staff have as much information as possible to assist in this system transition. If you have missed the invite for the bi-weekly meetings, please contact Gary Kichula at [gary.kichula@gdins.org](mailto:gary.kichula@gdins.org) to be added to meeting series.

**GDI ERP Info Sharing site**  
The GDI ERP Info Sharing site is accessible for everyone. Here you will find documentation and videos outlining the new ERP system. Documentation will continually be added as it becomes available.

To access the site visit:  
<https://gabriel Dumont.sharepoint.com/sites/ERPInfoSharing>

**Cumberland College Sessions**  
Ongoing, open online sessions are being held on the last Monday of each month beginning at 11 am. These sessions will inform participants on where the project is taking us, current progress, and

**GDI Press** is proud to announce the release of the board book editions of *Métis Christmas Mittens* and *Dancing in my Bones!*

Adapted by Wilfred Burton from the original titles for the age-appropriate audience of our little ones, these two titles will be a welcome edition to children's bookshelves everywhere!

**Available now on**  
[www.shopmetis.ca](http://www.shopmetis.ca)

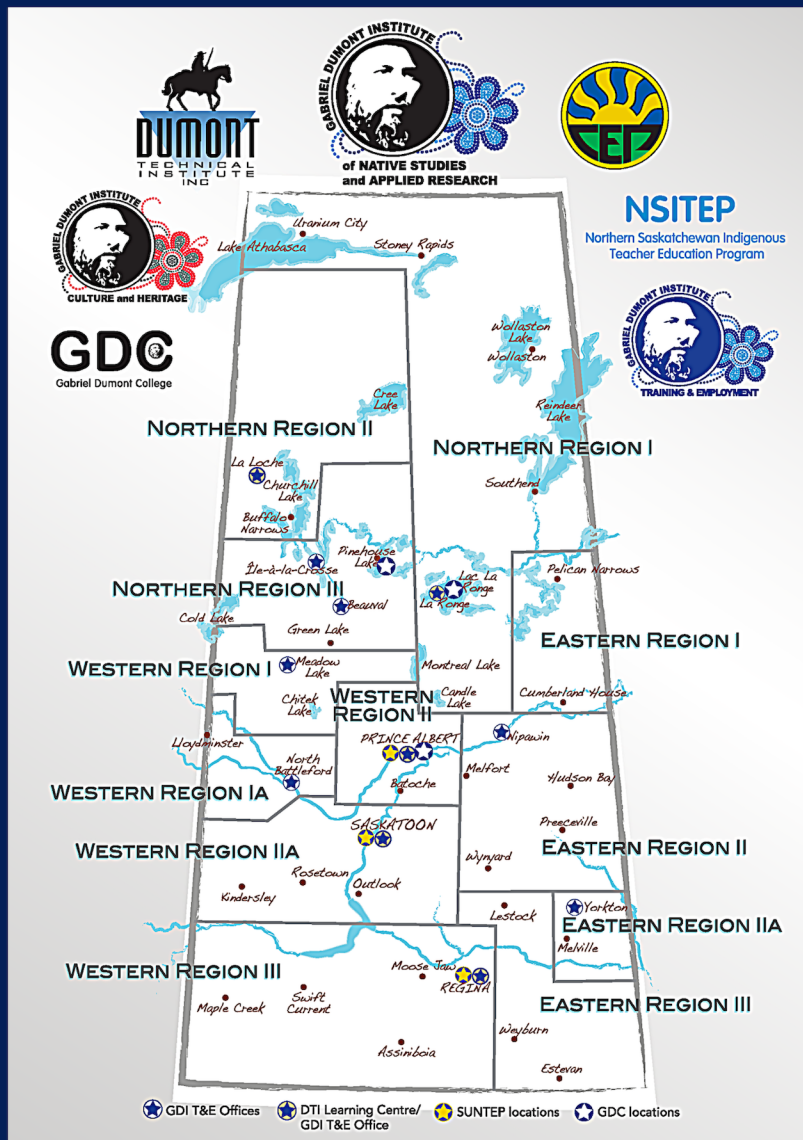
## NOVEMBER 2022 FINANCE & PAYROLL CUTOFF CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Student Nov 4 Direct Deposits		Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Cutoff @ 4:30 for Timesheet & Payroll Revisions for Nov 15 Payday	Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	Remembrance Day Stat Holiday	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Staff Payday Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Student Nov 18 Direct Deposits	Louis Riel Day Stat Holiday	Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				A/P Cheque/EFT Run Cutoff @ 4:30 for Timesheets & Payroll Revisions for Nov 30 Payday	Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	
27	28	29	30			
		Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Student Dec 2 Direct Deposits	Staff Payday			

EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS DUE AT PAYROLL UPON JOB ACCEPTANCE. PAYROLL MUST RECEIVE CONTRACTS PRIOR TO PAYROLL CUTOFF DATE IF RECEIVED AFTER THE CUTOFF DATE, THE EMPLOYEE WILL BE PAID ON THE FOLLOWING PAY PERIOD MRTS DUE BY THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH



# CONTACT US



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Previous issues of the *Communicator* can be found online at [www.metismuseum.ca](http://www.metismuseum.ca)

If you would like to submit an article for the *Communicator* please contact Desirae Barker at [desirae.barker@gdins.org](mailto:desirae.barker@gdins.org)

