



THE GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE COMMUNICATOR

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING



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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DTI SASKATOON: LPN PEDIATRICS CLINICAL A SUCCESS! by Trenna Vanghel, DTI Program Coordinator

In April, the Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) piloted a new pediatrics clinical learning experience with our Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) students. Traditionally, our LPN students have been limited to spending 30 hours at a childcare center (usually daycares). LPN students are not allowed in hospital pediatrics units due to scheduling conflicts and the potential stress on the children due to increased staff change over as students come and go.

Daycare experience lets students interact with children and understand how best to communicate with them. However, student feedback has been that they still need to practice nursing skills with kids. We recognize that many DTI staff and students have families at home, so decided to conduct our own pediatrics rotation with volunteers.

Once we received approval from Sask Polytech, students worked in groups to create clinical stations with different themes for the event. This year's clinical rotation themes were dental, physical assessments and development, road and bike safety, and nutrition. Students then had a few months to work on a display to draw people in, activities for different age ranges, and nursing education they would present at each station.

The students did a phenomenal job. Highlights at the dental station included tablets that could show how much plaque was on your teeth, an understanding of how to get rid of "sugar bugs," and an opportunity to floss a gigantic pair of teeth.

Story continued on Page 5





ECUR 235: MICHIF LANGUAGE, LEARNING AND EPISTEMOLOGY

By Ashley Shaw, SUNTEP Faculty & Student Support Facilitator

In May, SUNTEP Saskatoon offered ECUR 235 as a two-week immersive course for the first time since the course has been offered. ECUR 235 introduces first-year students to Michif language, culture, and traditional practices with a place-based approach to teaching and learning. Michif language is introduced to develop an understanding of its structure and origin while implementing vocabulary for students to utilize within their practice.

By incorporating Michif language, celebrating our traditions, and engaging in the community, students developed their Métis identity further and strengthened their connections to our culture. The course highlights included being at Windy Acres and hosting a Métis Kitchen Party on campus. During three days of the course, students travelled to Windy Acres to learn Michif language from Kokum Harriet and Ed St. Pierre. Their knowledge and stories shared with the students will be an experience they will never forget. While on the land, students took part in cooking classes with May Henderson and her friend Marianne, a prairie plant walk with

Sandra Walker and reading about Métis mythology (The Roogaroo).

On the last day, students organized a Métis Kitchen Party on campus. Our guests included Grade Four and Five students from St. Michael Community School, which we couldn't keep off the dance floor. Everyone's toes were tapping to the tunes of musical guests, Phil Boyer, Dallas Boyer & friends. It was an entertaining afternoon with food, music, dance, and many laughs. The SUNTEP students also incorporated their new Michif language skills to teach mini lessons to the students, which created much excitement among our guests.

Upon reflection, the two-week immersion course offered countless advantages to student learning. There were many opportunities for place-based pedagogy, community engagement, and practical application to their teaching practice. We look forward to providing students with more opportunities to engage with Michif and our language speakers during their time with SUNTEP. 🌐

MICHIF WORDS OF THE MONTH

NAWUTSHISHKIW

Quick Witted

LA ROOBAARB

Rhubarb

WAASHIKOOPAYIHK

Sparkle

AEN KOOREUR

Race Horse

PLEASE WELCOME NEW STAFF WITH GDI

Nola Halabiski – Faculty 2 – ABE – DTI P.A.
Bonnie Hartman – Employment Services Manager
Apprenticeship Leave Replacement – T&E Saskatoon
Amanda (Mandy) Derr – Employment Services
Manager- Leave Replacement T&E Regina
Randy Belanger- Employment Services Manager T&E
La Loche
Karlee Puckey – Student Librarian SUNTEP
Saskatoon
Tracey Grand'Maison – Admin Assistant DTI
Saskatoon
Eldon Genest – Admin Assistant DTI Saskatoon
Bethani Groat – Communications Coordinator – GDI
Saskatoon
Samantha Baker – Admin Assistant T&E P.A.
Marc-Jo Crouch – Employment Counsellor – Leave
Replacement – T&E Meadow Lake
New Summer Admin Staff:
Kristin Kalk – GDI C&H Saskatoon
Jade Shmon – DTI Saskatoon

Josiah Pfefferle – DTI Saskatoon
Jessamy Sundby – T&E Saskatoon
Grace Nielsen – T&E Regina
Janelle Smith – T&E Pinehouse
Kari Laliberte – T&E Meadow Lake

Staff changing positions:

Spenser Thibault – Employment Counsellor T&E
Saskatoon
Shatleigh Lariviere – Employment Counsellor T&E
Prince Albert
Alyssa Prudat – .5 Program Support Facilitator/.5
Faculty ABE DTI Regina
Dennis Warkentine – Program Coordinator – DTI
Saskatoon
Hailey Novotny – Program Coordinator – DTI
Saskatoon
Angie Rathgeber – Senior Admin Coordinator T&E
Saskatoon
Mattia Gregory – Program Coordinator 1 – DTI
Saskatoon





UPCOMING PROGRAM DEADLINES

Business Start-Up Program

Online

Aug. 15th



Early Childhood Education Program

Saskatoon

Ongoing



Office Administration Certificate

Regina

Ongoing



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

WWW.GDINS.ORG/PROGRAMS

MARIA CAMPBELL'S 1973 MEMOIR 'HALFBREED' SET TO BECOME A FEATURE FILM

By Karon Shmon, GDI Director of Culture & Heritage

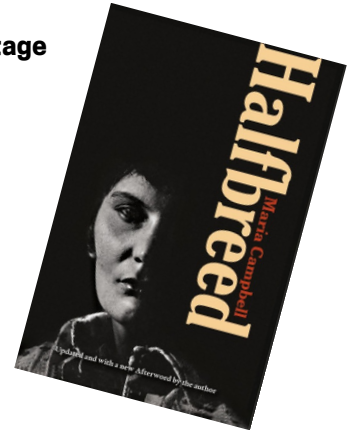
Maria Campbell's legacy is huge and nowhere near completion as she is still writing, creating, advocating, mentoring, supporting, and guiding Indigenous creatives – locally, nationally, and globally. Her outstanding contributions are numerous, widespread, and longstanding. There are far too many to mention in a short article, so I will share some exciting news about what's next from this amazing Métis woman.

The Bukowski Agency Ltd., which represents Maria, has announced that, "an option to create a dramatic feature film based on Maria Campbell's 1973 memoir *Halfbreed* has been picked up by Métis director Berkley Brady's production company, Nika Productions Inc., based in Calgary. The book was updated and re-released in a revised edition in North America in 2019 by McClelland and Stewart, and published in French, Spanish, and Catalan" (The Bukowski Agency, <https://www.bukowskiagency.com/rights-sales>).

This will come as no surprise to those who admire Maria Campbell. *Halfbreed* opened the doors for Indigenous writers while opening the eyes of non-Indigenous readers to the challenges of being an Indigenous person in Canada due to the existing systemic oppression and racism resulting from colonization.

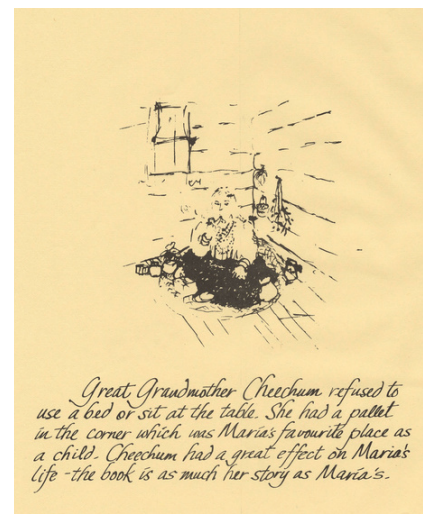


Photo of Maria Campbell and Karon Shmon. Submitted by Karon Shmon.



On a personal note, I celebrate Maria's resiliency and success while lamenting the enormous amount of talent and gifts that were extinguished or left unfulfilled in the Indigenous peoples who endured similar hardships. This isn't just a loss for Indigenous individuals, families, and nations. It's a loss to everyone.

Halfbreed made its mark half a century ago and still stands as a groundbreaking work of literature. We have seen much more from the remarkable Maria Campbell since then and we envision the work that followed this book, and that which has yet to come, as additional testaments to her timeless and significant work. 🌐



Publicity page from 'Halfbreed' 1973 release. McMaster University Library Archives.

Congratulations

Rossignol High School Robotics Team on winning the Sask Polytech Robot Rumble for the 4th year in a row! Thanks to the continued support of DTI





Gabriel Dumont Institute celebrated the book launch of Gregory Scofield's new book "kôhkominawak ocihcîwâwa—Our Grandmothers' Hands: Repatriating Métis Material Art"

The book contains photographs and details on over 100 "Grandmothers" as Gregory refers to them. He has repatriated Métis artifacts from across the world, from coast to coast in Canada, to England and Scotland, bringing the "grandmothers" home, and sharing with everyone through this beautiful book. To order his book please visit:

WWW.GDINS.ORG/SHOP-GDI



Gregory Scofield at the book launch July 20, 2023


NEW TELEVISION SERIES FEATURES NSITEP PROGRAM HEAD DR. MORRIS COOK

By Desirae Barker, GDI Senior Program Coordinator

In Spring 2023, a new television series aimed at teaching children how to speak and learn the Cree language, "Stories of the North," debuted on CityTV Saskatchewan. This unique partly-animated series features a moshoom (grandfather), played by NSITEP Program Head, Dr. Morris Cook, sharing the Cree language with his two granddaughters through Indigenous storytelling.

Since 2019, Morris has worked in La Ronge with GDI's Northern Saskatchewan Indigenous Teacher Education Program (NSITEP), a four-year fully-accredited degree program delivered in partnership with Lac La Ronge Indian Band and the University of Regina.

Morris speaks four dialects of Cree fluently and has worked diligently to preserve the language for future generations. "Language is of fundamental importance to me. Our languages are being eroded so quickly, they're disappearing before our eyes, you know, so whatever I can do to promote language and to preserve language, I'm going to do my best to do that," said Morris in an interview with Eagle Feather News.

"Stories of the North" is a 10-episode series consisting of seven-minute long Cree language lessons. From the trapline to beading, the series teaches traditional knowledge through stories of the moshoom's childhood in the north. Past episodes are available on YouTube. 

SUCCESS STORY: HUGH CAMPBELL

By Bethani Groat, GDI Communications Coordinator & Mattia Gregory, DTI Program Coordinator

Hugh Campbell successfully completed the program to become a Commissionaire while balancing family and professional priorities. He first learned about the program during his time as President of the 106 Local Union in North Battleford. He worked with his GDI employment counsellor to get the paperwork in order to attend the training and receive training funds.

Training & Employment funding was particularly meaningful when his wife became ill while taking the course. Hugh travelled every day from North Battleford to Saskatoon for training, a three-hour commute round trip. Then he would go to the hospital to visit his wife and support her in her time of need. GDIT&E helped Hugh balance his work and home priorities by relieving the financial pressure of switching careers.


Today, Hugh is happy working as a Commissionaire at the hospital, and he hopes to continue his career there for many years. His advice for anyone else considering training for a new career, "GDI is there to help you throughout any course you are wanting to take, they will support you in any way possible". He adds that that GDI helped him to reach his goals even when he thought it wouldn't be possible on his own. **Bonn ouvraazh Hugh Campbell!** 



Photo of Hugh Campbell submitted by Hugh Campbell



DTI SASKATOON: LPN CLINICAL A SUCCESS!

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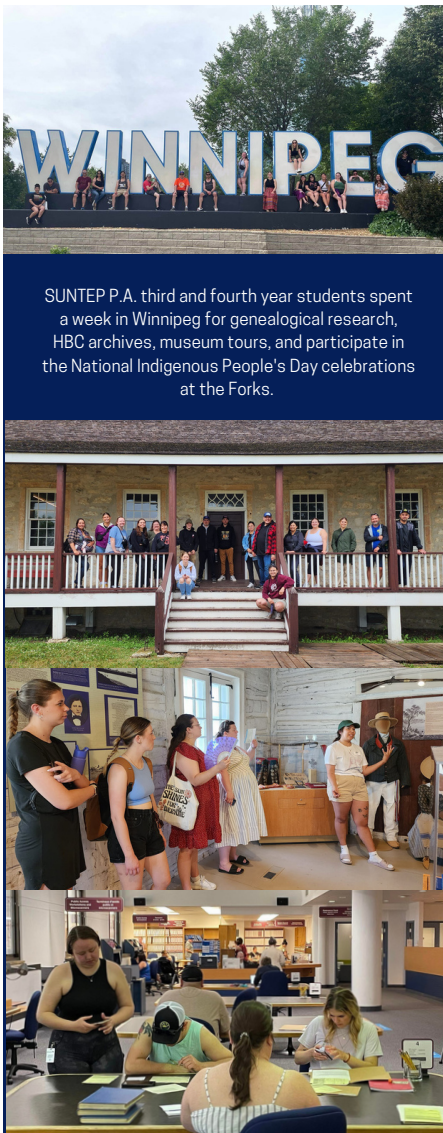
At the physical assessments and development station, the student weighed, measured, and plotted the children onto a growth chart. They would extrapolate the data to make an educated guess on how tall children would be in years' time. On top of that, parents could discuss developmental milestones with the nursing students.

The bike and road safety station had beautiful helmets for students to try on to accurately measure sizing and information for parents on how to keep children safe when biking. The road safety game was a favourite of many of the children who attended, and my son still talks about the 'Stop! Look! Listen!' mantra the students taught him about crossing the road.

At the nutrition station, children could categorize healthy and not-so-healthy snacks in a fun game. Parents received a healthy recipe cookbook and were able to ask the nurses about their children's diets and ways to encourage healthier eating habits.

To make it our own, we also added a snack station with bannock and kid-friendly snacks, a balloon-animal station, and a literacy station where we handed out community resource pamphlets, and each child got to choose some books to take home.

We had over 70 community members attend the clinical over the course of April 20, 21, and 22. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. When asked how we could improve this experience in years to come, many comments included adding in more booths and making it longer. Many of our students felt that the clinical gave them much-needed experience interacting with children and their parents, which they can apply in their careers. A large thank you and congratulations to the staff and students on a phenomenal pediatrics experience that added value and connection within our community.



SUNTEP P.A. third and fourth year students spent a week in Winnipeg for genealogical research, HBC archives, museum tours, and participate in the National Indigenous People's Day celebrations at the Forks.

AUGUST 2023 FINANCE & PAYROLL CUTOFF CALENDAR

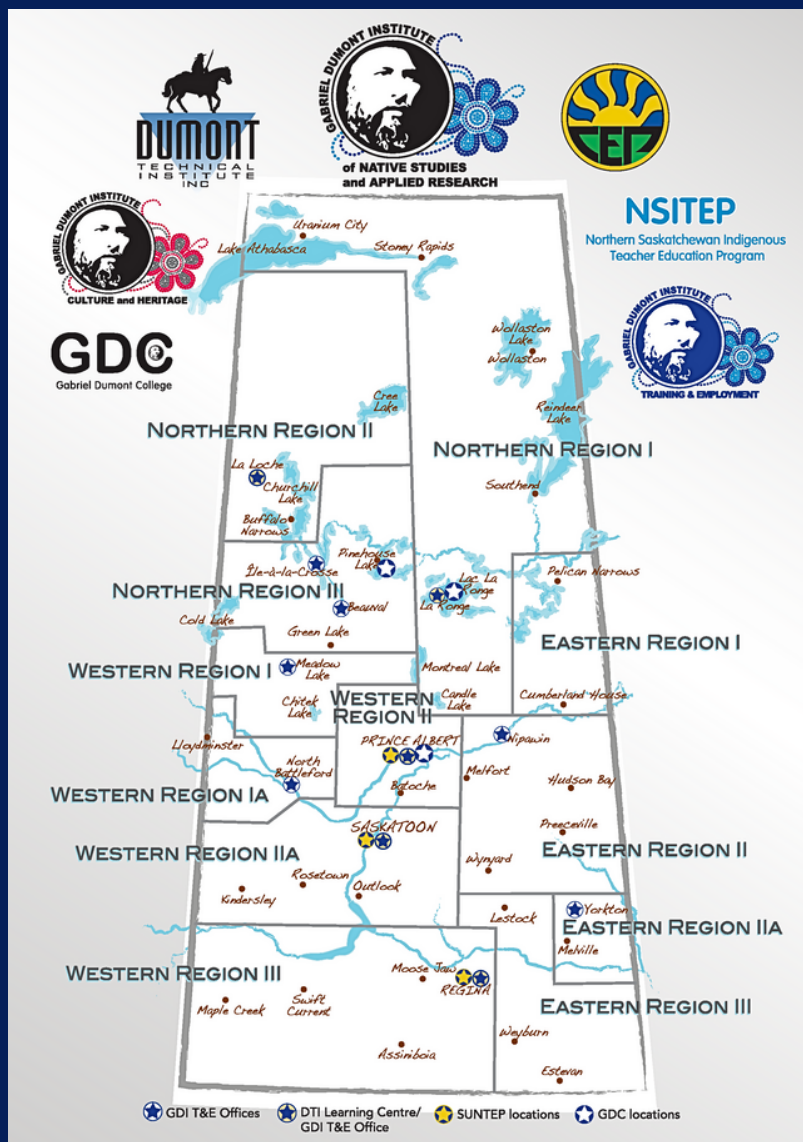
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
				Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Cutoff @ 4:30 pm for Accounts Payable Invoices	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Saskatchewan Day Stat Holiday	Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Student Aug 11 Direct Deposits	Cutoff @ 4:30 pm for Timesheet & Payroll Revisions for Aug 15 Payday	Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 pm for Accounts Payable Invoices	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Staff Payday		Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Cutoff @ 4:30 pm for Accounts Payable Invoices	
20	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Students Aug 25 Direct Deposits		Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 pm for A/P Inv. Timesheets & Payroll Revisions for Aug 31 Payday	
28	29	30	31			
			Staff Payday Accounts Payable Chq/EFT Run			

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



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Previous issues of the *Communicator* can be found online at www.metismuseum.ca

If you would like to submit an article for the *Communicator* please contact Bethani Groat bethani.groat@gdins.org

