



Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research (306) 242-6070

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Métis Health and Wellness Scholarship Recipients



Recipients of Métis Health and Wellness Scholarships are pictured above holding their awards. The following is the list of recipients from the first awards under this scholarship in March 2007:

Vanessa Aubichon, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Tara Bekolay, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Ashley Belbeck, Medical Radiation Therapy; Jeff Belhumeur, Pharmacy – U of S; Ashley Bell, Youth Care Worker - DTI – Meadow Lake; Denise Bell, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Rachelle Billo, Therapeutic Recreation; Tabatha Bircham, LPN – DTI - Prince Albert; Terri-Lynn Bishop, LPN – DTI –

Saskatoon; Monica Bouvier, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Charlene Brass, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon, Calyn Burnouf, Nutrition – U of S; Donna Chikowski, LPN – DTI - Prince Albert; Lesley Clarke, Youth Care Worker – DTI - Meadow Lake; David Climenhaga, Pre-Medicine – U of S; Ashley Colombani, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Danielle Dejardins, Pre-Medicine – U of S; Helen Donald, Masters in Nursing – U of S; Melissa Erickson, Health Studies – U of R; Jessica Ertell, Addictions – SIIT – Saskatoon; Tobi Featherstone, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Lacy Folster, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Rachel Guy,

LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Shannon Hamm, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Jillian Hannah, Nursing – U of S; Jessica Jardine, Nutrition – U of S; Allison Lafond, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Angel Laliberte, Youth Care Worker – DTI – Meadow Lake; Stella Laliberte, Youth Care Worker – DTI – Meadow Lake; Denise Lalonde-Niccoli, Advanced LPN – Athabasca; Catherine Lefebvre, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Janice Makely, LPN – DTI – Prince Albert; Dawn Mardell, LPN – DTI – Prince Albert

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Photograph of a rag hooked rug. This item is part of the Gabriel Dumont Institute Museum Collection.

Institute Annual Report Takes Shape

Each year the Institute produces an Annual Report as part of our obligation to our stakeholders, who are Métis people and communities in Saskatchewan, funders, and the general public. In addition to fulfilling our obligations, the Annual Report provides an opportunity to increase the profile of the Institute and to highlight the amazing work that we do at GDI.

The report provides information on a number of areas of operation for the Institute as well as the audited financial reports for the fiscal year. At GDI, the fiscal year for all entities *except* Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) is April 1 to March 31st. At DTI, the fiscal year follows the program year—July 1 to June 30th. GDI oversees five incorporated entities and operates the

SUNTEP program as part of its core services. The five incorporated entities are Dumont Technical Institute, Community Training Residence, GDI Scholarship Foundation, Gabriel Dumont College, and GDI Training & Employment. In addition to the financial reports, the Annual Report includes reports from the Board of Governors (usually the Chairperson), the CEO known as the Executive Director, and the programs and departments including SUNTEP, DTI, GDC, Publishing, Libraries, and Finance.

You may have noticed that the presentation of the Annual Report changed significantly in 2005-06 to include a more stylized design, full colour, and a more personal feel to the document. A greater focus on student

stories, teaching excellence, and the human aspect of the Institute were incorporated. It is the intention to maintain and enhance these features in future annual reports of the Institute. For the 2006-07 Annual Report, program managers and staff are encouraged to submit stories highlighting student successes, teaching awards, alumni stories, and other human interest articles for possible inclusion in the Annual Report. This is an opportunity for the Institute to showcase what we do best—build relationships, help strengthen Métis communities, and make significant contributions to the province as a whole. Submissions or queries can be made directly to Lisa Wilson at lisa.wilson@gdi.gdins.org or 657-2249. 🌐



Photograph of companion piece to Christ Belcourt's "Medicines to Help Us." This item is part of the Gabriel Dumont Institute Museum Collection.

Finance Department Welcomes New Staff

Following the recent relocation of GDI Finance from Regina to Saskatoon, the finance department, headed by Director Stacey Bucsis, has hired three new Accounting Clerks to carry out the functions of the department.

The new staff are Jaime Fast, Accounting Clerk; Darcy Goodwin, Accounting Clerk; and Valerie Durocher, Accounting Clerk. In

addition, Blanche Morrissette moved from Regina to Saskatoon in order to maintain her position with the department. All three new staff started on September 10th with an orientation.

Preliminary assignments suggest that Jaime will be responsible for accounts receivable, Darcy will be responsible for payroll and accounts payable support; and Valerie will be

responsible for accounts payable. Blanche fills the position of Bank Reconciliation Clerk.

Responsibilities of each new staff member will be reported more fully in an upcoming edition of the GDI Communicator. Questions may be directed to Stacey Bucsis, Director of Finance, at 683-3634 or stacey.bucsis@gdi.gdins.org. 🌐



DTI Annual Staff Meeting

Dumont Technical Institute hosted its annual staff meeting in Jackfish Lake Lodge at the end of August. The meetings were a combination of information sharing, administrative updates, future planning, and cultural activities. The two days of meetings were opened with a prayer by Elder Mike Maurice and then kicked off by a welcome from GDI Executive Director Geordy McCaffrey. This was followed by informative sessions on such items as DTI's strategic directions, Adult Education principles, and Métis Studies on-line. Late in the afternoon, participants were able to

learn the art of finger weaving from Faye Maurice, begin an embroidery project, or go canoeing (which mainly resulted in a dunk in the lake—see picture, right). The evening wrapped up with the annual Wash-u tournament. 2007 champions Brett Vandale and Elaine Crocker will be expected to defend their titles at next year's meetings.

Day Two brought informative presentations on drug awareness by Corporal Carl Dinsmore from the North Battleford detachment of the RCMP, ABE Redesign presentation by Jeri

Marchinko of Advanced Education and Employment, and a focused feedback session designed to generate input and ideas from all DTI staff for future planning. All-in-all, the two day meetings were deemed a success by those who attended. 🌐



Drenched canoe race participants Toni Blacklock, Dylan Pelletier, and Brett Vandale



Embroidery participants Marj Obleman and Cindy LaPlante

GDI Highlights

At Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) there is a lot to be proud of. The Institute has a long history in Saskatchewan of providing education, training, and cultural programs to Métis people. As an affiliate of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, GDI is entirely Métis owned and operated. A twelve member Board of Governors sets policy and provides strategic direction for the Institute. Some highlights about GDI:

- 27 year history
- Only institution of its kind
- The only Aboriginal Institution in Canada

which fuses university, technical, cultural, publishing, and social justice programming

- Over 100 full-time staff
- Yearly revenues of \$18-20 million
- Two largest funders: Province – \$8 million; Federal - \$10.5 million
- Some 20 locations in Saskatchewan
- Formal long-term partnerships with: University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, SIAST, and Regional Colleges
- 837 graduates from SUNTEP
- Thousands of graduates from DTI

- The largest Métis-specific library and archival collection owned by a Métis institution or organization
- GDC is the only Métis post-secondary college in Canada
- The only online Métis Studies Course (ABE 10)
- The largest online depository of Métis history and culture – *The Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture*
- Four *Saskatchewan Book Awards* and six nominations
- More than a dozen resources on *Saskatchewan Learning's Recommended Reading List* 🌐

"As an affiliate of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, GDI is entirely Métis owned and operated."



GDI Partners in Mobile Training Labs

“The labs will allow resident in remote communities access to top-notch skills training without leaving home.”



From L-R: Dr. Bob McCulloch, SIAST President and CEO; Geordy McCaffrey, GDI Executive Director; Ray Ahenakew, SIIT President; and Warren McCall, Minister of Advanced Education and Employment

Two new mobile training labs were introduced this month to enable post-secondary institutions such as GDI to extend their reach in providing trades training to communities. Similar to the first mobile training lab launched by Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) in 2006, each of the two new labs includes a tractor-trailer unit with pop-out sides that transform it into a 1,100 square foot training facility, and a supply trailer that contains training aids, materials, and tools. The labs are operated and maintained by SIAST, along with partners Gabriel Dumont Institute, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission, and Saskatchewan's Regional Colleges.

“Education and training are amongst the most important investments a government can make,” Advanced Education and Employment Minister Warren McCall said. “The government’s investment in these mobile training labs is an investment in Saskatchewan people and

their communities.”

“The Gabriel Dumont Institute is extremely happy to see the implementation of the mobile training labs into the Saskatchewan training system,” says Geordy McCaffrey, Executive Director of Gabriel Dumont Institute. “The labs will allow resident in remote communities access to top-notch skills training without leaving home. This initiative is a positive investment in developing Saskatchewan’s human potential.”

Funding for the labs was provided by Saskatchewan Advanced Education and Employment in the amount of \$2.8 million. Each lab can accommodate twelve students, with training sessions lasting from between seven to twenty weeks, depending on the program. Each lab is powered by diesel generators with on-board fuel for up to twenty weeks.

The mobile training labs are capable of providing apprenticeship technical training in electrical, industrial mechanics,

machining, pipefitting/steamfitting, plumbing, and welding. Applied certificate training in electrical, industrial mechanics, plumbing/pipefitting, and welding is also available. A rotating training schedule has been implemented to accommodate the needs of all partners in the venture. In the winter 2008-09 session GDI/DTI, in partnership with Northland College, will utilize a mobile lab to provide plumbing/pipefitting training in the community of Pine House.



Geordy McCaffrey, GDI Executive Director standing next to one of the new mobile training labs that bears the DTI logo



Aboriginal Apprenticeship Agreement Renewed

In July, 2007 DTI renewed its Aboriginal Initiatives agreement with the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC) under the Aboriginal Apprenticeship Strategy Development project. Under the agreement, SATCC provides financial resources to help support a joint DTI/GDI Training & Employment Apprenticeship Coordinator position. Objectives of the agreement are to increase Métis participation and success in the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade

Certification Commission program; to increase awareness and knowledge of how apprenticeship works and the opportunities training and certification provide for career and economic development; to develop a communication strategy and promotional/informational material; to register Métis apprentices; to develop and maintain partnerships; to establish a Métis apprenticeship database; and to develop a multi-year business and training plan.

The contract with SATCC is effective from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

The agreement with SATCC reflects advances toward the achievement of DTI's strategic goals. One of DTI's strategic directions outlined in the 2004 Institute strategic plan is to increase participation in apprenticeship and trades training.

DTI's Apprenticeship Coordinator, Tony Blacklock, works out of the DTI Saskatoon office. Tony can be reached at 657-2232. If you would like more information about the Aboriginal Initiatives agreement, please contact Brett Vandale, DTI Director, at (306) 657-2236. 



DTI Carpentry program participants work on roof.

Métis Health and Wellness Scholarship Recipients

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Nicole Marshall, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Lindsay McCallum, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Bev McKay, NEPS – FNUC – Prince Albert; Priscilla Montour, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Bailey Moore, Therapeutic Recreation – SIAST – Saskatoon; Russell Murphy, Medicine – U of S; Heather Nelson, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Deanna Neudorf, NEPS – Prince Albert; Kendall Nicolas, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Ashley Nolin, Youth Care Worker – DTI – Meadow Lake; Virginia Nydegger, Youth Care Worker – DTI – Meadow Lake; Rebecca Parent, Dental Hygiene –

SIAST – Regina; Stacey Dougan, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Josephine Phillip, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Peter Poitras, Youth Care Worker – DTI – Meadow Lake; S. Michelle Poitras, Post RN – Nursing – U of S; Janet Regan, Youth Care Worker – DTI – Meadow Lake; Lee-Anne Riese, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Theresa Ross, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Amanda Russell, Pharmacy Research Degree – U of S; Theresa Serfas, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Jessica Sevigny, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Alana Sinclair, Youth Care Worker – DTI

– Meadow Lake; Leanne Starblanket, LPN – DTI – Prince Albert; Angela Thomas, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Christine Tinker, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Carla Toullelan, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Aimee Trumier, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Meagan Turgeon, Pharmacy – U of S; Janene Umpherville, NEPS – FNUC – Prince Albert; Dawn-Marie Werminsky, LPN – DTI – Saskatoon; Natanis Yole-Merasty, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon; Sasha Yole-Merasty, NEPS – SIAST – Saskatoon.



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We're on the Web!

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