



The New Nation

La noovel naasyoon



Summer/Fall 2012



The New Nation

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is a publication of the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research.

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Contents

Rose Boyer Bakes Bannock at
Batoche for the 45th Time! *1*

Strengthening the Old Ties!
Celebrating the New Nation! *2*

Facebook Update *5*

My Experience in Nicaragua *6*

National Aboriginal Day
2012 Photo Highlights—
Batoche and Saskatoon *9*

New Children's Books
Released by GDI Publishing
10

Back to Batoche 2012
Celebration Photo Highlights
12

Sneak Peek at Upcoming
GDI Resources *14*

Celebrating Seniors 2012:
Nomination of Dennis and
Jean Fisher *16*

Michif Apps and Beyond *17*

Jack Elliott donates
Archaeological-Based
Research to GDI *18*

Edwin St. Pierre and Lawrence
Barkwell Launch Resources...
20

Congratulations to Relatives
with Roots! *21*

Fiddle Fest 2012 Photo
Highlights *22*

GDI Upgrades Facilities in
Saskatoon, Regina, and Prince
Albert *24*

"Nurture the Dreamer"—Susan
Aglukark *26*

GDI Meets with the Joint Task
Force on Aboriginal Education
28

Dumont Technical Institute
20th Anniversary Milestones
30

Dr. Olive Dickason
Collection given to the
Gabriel Dumont Institute *32*

NEW YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE AWARD



Established by CODE – a Canadian charitable organization that supports literacy and learning – in collaboration with philanthropist William (Bill) Burt and the Literary Prizes Foundation, **The Burt Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Literature** will be given annually to **English-language literary works** for Young Adults by First Nations, Métis or Inuit authors.

A First Prize of \$12,000, a Second Prize of \$8,000 and a Third Prize of \$5,000 will be awarded to the authors and translators (if applicable) of the winning titles. Publishers of winning titles will be awarded a guaranteed purchase of a minimum of 2,500 copies.

Call for Submissions

Eligible manuscripts and books published between 1 May 2010 and 30 April 2013 must be received from publishers no later than 1 May 2013.

For more information, contact:

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Rose Boyer Bakes Bannock at Batoche for the 45th Time!

Article and Photographs from Dennis Fisher

On Sunday July 22nd, 2012, my wife, Jeannie and I went to the *Back to Batoche* celebrations. Little did we know that we were in for a pleasant surprise. A good friend, Senator Nora Cummings took us to meet an old friend, and that old friend would be Rose Boyer—a lady we well remember from the 1980s. How delightful to see her smiling face! Rose is battling cancer and weighs a mere 87 pounds . . . a feisty 87 pounds!

A “Road Allowance” Métis, Rose lived in the Glen Mary district, north of Kinistino, where Canon Edward Ahenakew served the Métis people for many years. It was there that an eight-year-old Rose started making bannock. She has baked a lot of bannock over the years, and she told us that she has done this at Batoche for 45 of the last 47 years. She’s good at it, and I guess practice makes perfect.

Over the years, Jeannie and I have photographed Rose baking bannock. I went through some photograph albums and selected some images for the Gabriel Dumont Institute’s records. Interesting to note is Rose’s jet-black hair in the early photos. Later came the grey

hair, and in August this year came the silver. I took over 70 photos of Rose making bannock during the Sunday competition. Over 25 of the photos were of Rose kneading the bannock with her knuckles. One could see she loved what she was doing, and she loved her trip to Batoche. A happy lady, she watched as her son Phil and his wife Gail, were honoured as Mr. and Mrs. Batoche, and was given the added pleasure of enjoying the fiddling prowess of her grandson, Dallas on the Batoche stage. What a proud Métis family! You can tap your feet to the fiddle as you imagine how good that bannock is in Rose’s hand.



Rose Boyer holding her prize winning bannock.



Nora Cummings, Rose Boyer, and Dennis Fisher.

Strengthening the Old Ties!

Celebrating the New Nation!

... an historic journey deepening Scottish Highlander and Métis Relations

Article by Metchild Morin and Photographs by Michael Morin

Background Information

Some time ago, the Board of Grant's Old Mill in Winnipeg invited the Chief of the Clan Grant to come to Canada and meet the descendants of Cuthbert Grant Sr., North West Company partner and explorer.

Cuthbert Grant Sr. originated in the Scottish Highlands (Cromdale), and he was not the only member of the Clan Grant to be involved in the early Canadian fur trade. Cuthbert's brother, Robert Grant, founded Fort Esperance, near Rocanville, Saskatchewan, and there were others.

Cuthbert Grant Sr. had at least two wives. Unfortunately, their names were not recorded. His first wife was a First Nations woman, and it is said that the descendants of this union are members of the present-day Red Pheasant First Nation.

His second wife was most likely Métis. It is confirmed that this couple had at least four daughters and two sons.



At Grant's Old Mill in Winnipeg, left to right: Sandra Horyski, Sir James Grant of Grant, Metchild Morin, Lady Judy Lewis, Grant's Old Mill Board member, Nicholas Horyski, Michael Morin, Yvonne McGillies.

It is interesting to note, that one daughter, Marie, married Pierre Falcon, the Métis Rhymester; another daughter, Marguerite, married into the Belhumeur/Monet family, the same family that Louis Riel's wife, Marguerite, came from.

The older son, James, was sent to Scotland for his education and he most likely remained there, since there are no further records of his life to be found in Canada.

However, the younger son, Cuthbert Grant Jr., became the most well known of the family.

Young Cuthbert was born in Fort Tremblante, near the current town of Kamsack, Saskatchewan. After his father's death in 1799, he was placed under the guardianship of William McGillivray of the North West Company.

According to family lore and some researchers, Cuthbert spent

a number of years with relatives in Scotland, where he received his formal education.

There is no doubt about the fact that the Qu'Appelle Valley was an important place for young Cuthbert. His first position with the North West Company was in this beautiful valley, at Fort Esperance. As mentioned previously, this fort had been established by Robert Grant, young Cuthbert's uncle. He had relatives and friends in the Qu'Appelle Valley, and one can assume that he travelled the length of the valley frequently, and got to know its river, lakes, creeks, and coulees very well. It was also in this valley that the Métis flag was first seen flying.

Cuthbert Grant Jr. had a large family and his descendants are spread across North America. Two of his daughters, Marie-Rose (Grant) Gariepy and Marguerite (Grant) Ross, and their husbands lived in the Batoche area and were involved in the Northwest Resistance. Many of their descendants still live in Saskatchewan. Cuthbert's son, James, had a ranch at Katepwa, near Lebret, and the youngest daughter, Julie (Grant) Desjarlais lived in Lebret. Both are buried in Lebret, and have many descendants who still live in the area.



Sir James, Lady Judy, and Joanna Blondeau (Potyondi) in Lebret. Joanna is a descendant of Marie-Rose Grant Gariepy.

The Historic Event—Old Clan meets New Nation

Last year, Sir James Grant of Grant, Lord Strathspey, Baronet of Nova Scotia, 33rd Chief of Grant, responded to the invitation to come to Canada with these words:

“... I very much look forward to meeting with many Métis descendants of Cuthbert Grant and others at Grant's Mill, Winnipeg, Canada in July 2012.” ...

The initial welcoming celebration took place at Grant's Old Mill in Winnipeg on July 14 in conjunction with the annual “Cuthbert Grant Day.” Sir James Grant and Lady Judy Lewis arrived at the Mill by Red River cart. The day was filled with entertainment from bagpipes to Métis fiddlers, dancers, and singers.

Grant family members from all across Canada and from some parts of the US were present. They included a group of Grants who were the descendants of Johnny Grant, who had established a big ranch (Grant/Khors Ranch) in Montana, and later returned to Canada.

During a banquet on July 16, Sir James Grant proclaimed that all the descendants of Cuthbert Grant are now an official Sept of the Clan Grant, and the name given to the Sept is **SIOL CUDBRIGHT**. ... a Gaelic term for the “Descendants of Cuthbert.”

Sandra Horyski, herself a descendant of Cuthbert Jr.'s sister, Josephite, was appointed **Stewart of the Sept Siol Cudbright** for a five-year term. Michael Morin, a great-great-great grandson of

Cuthbert Grant Jr., was named her Assistant Stewart.

On July 17, Sir James, Lady Judy, and a group of people from Winnipeg made their way to the Qu'Appelle Valley. They visited the site of Fort Esperance near Rocanville, and proceeded to Fort Qu'Appelle.

On July 18, they toured the sites of Fort Qu'Appelle, such as the old Hudson's Bay Store, the remnants of the old fort and the Treaty Park. Cuthbert Jr.'s eldest daughter Maria, was the spouse of Pascal Breland, who was an early Métis politician in the Red River area. He was also a witness at the signing of Treaty Four in Fort Qu'Appelle. His name is etched on the monument together with the names of the First Nations chiefs and the government officials.

Later, Sir James and Lady Judy travelled to Lebret to have lunch and mingle with several descendants of Cuthbert Grant. Some of the folks present were descendants of Julie Grant Desjarlais, Marie-Rose Grant Garipey, James Grant and Charles Cuthbert Grant, and Cuthbert's sisters Marie Grant Falcon and Jopsephte Grant Wells. They came from as far as BC and Alberta, and of course from southeastern Saskatchewan.

A Métis/Scottish-style lunch complete with bannock, bullets

and beignes, and beef stew was prepared by 3 D's Café and enjoyed by everyone.

The hot afternoon was spent among the shady trees on the shore of Mission Lake, sharing family stories, historical fact and lots of laughs. It was amazing to discover so many ties and common experiences, and to realize how much the family of Cuthbert Grant has contributed to the Métis Nation, and the history of Western Canada and the Northwestern United States. To this day, many of Cuthbert Grant's descendants are involved in education, health care, the arts, and a few of them are even involved in politics.

Groups of people visited the Lebret Village Museum, the Sacred Heart Church and Museum, and the graveyard. A number of Cuthbert Grant descendants

were involved in the construction of the fieldstone church, which was completed in 1925. More than 50 Grant family members found their final resting place in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Following a good supper and more fellowship, the group proceeded to the "Circle of Poles," next to the museum for a final group photo. The poles bear the names of prominent Métis families, settler families, First Nation's chiefs, and places and events that are important to Lebret.

The strong ties between the Clan Grant in the Scottish homeland and the Sept Siol Cudbright are now firmly established.

When the Clan Grant celebrated the Abernethy Highland Games later in August, the Métis flag could be seen flying among the regular traditional flags. A proud moment!



By the "Grant" pole, left to right: Lady Judy, Stewart Martin, Cameron Murray, Vern Henry, Sandra Horyski, Joanna Blondeau (Potyondi), Mechtild Morin, Michael Morin, Sir James, Margarete Peterson, Lawrence Spetz, and Rose Miller.

Facebook Update

Article by David Morin and Photographs by En Vogue Photography

GDI's Facebook page has generated a lot of interest since it was launched in April, 2012. The page, as of the writing of this article, is up to 110 "likes," and is growing every week.

The page has helped promote various GDI events over the past 5 months, including GDI book launches, author readings, Victor Rose's CD launch for *Vic's Picks*, the inaugural GDI Scholarships Golf Tournament, and National Aboriginal Day events in Saskatoon and Batoche.

Photos have been added as well, featuring event posters, graduating students, staff and family, as well as a message from Executive Director Geordy McCaffrey. (See photo caption).

Two videos created by Gordon Holtslander were uploaded, highlighting the DTI Security Officer Program's P.A.R.E. test, and a DTI student canoe trip.

To keep informed about GDI events and programs like the ones mentioned, be sure to "Like Us" at www.facebook.com/gabriel Dumont Institute!



"Many people in our community have benefited from their DTI education, helping them establish careers, obtain good jobs, and provide for their families. These are very noble achievements and I am honoured to have played a role in these accomplishments."

Geordy McCaffrey, Executive Director, Gabriel Dumont Institute



At DTI, we understand that family is important to students and staff.



My Experience in Nicaragua

Article and Photographs from Michael Morin

My name is Michael Morin, and I am from Lebret, Saskatchewan. I would like to share my journey as a participant in the International Aboriginal Youth Internship Program with Canada World Youth. For the internship, I travelled to Nicaragua on January 31st. It was my first time traveling outside of Canada, and it was an absolutely amazing experience!

After quickly packing my things for my 4-month journey in Nicaragua, I first went to Ontario to spend a week training and preparing. I met my 9 other fellow Aboriginal interns, including Cheyenne and Kaitlin who were part of my team, and who would be going to Nicaragua as well.

When we landed in Nicaragua on January 31, we arrived at the airport in Managua in the middle of the night. We were greeted by our supervisors, Kalia and Henry. To our amazement they were holding up signs with our names on them. That was the first time I saw people waiting in the airport holding a sign with our names on it.

The city we stayed in for the four months of our internship is called Esteli. It was certainly an interesting place to stay.



Michael Morin standing on top of a mountain overlooking the Nicaraguan landscape. From this vantage point, it was possible to see a chain of dormant volcanoes.

Esteli is fairly big (over 100,000 inhabitants), and very cramped. It wasn't uncommon to see cows, horses, and dogs sharing the road with people on bikes, motorcycles, taxis, and buses. The buses were pretty crazy to ride on. They were most often packed wall-to-wall with people.

More than half of the population in Nicaragua consider themselves Mestizos (Métis). Generally, Nicaraguans are friendly, warm and joyful, although they are quite poor. Many live on one dollar or less per day. Some are extremely poor, like the people who live in city landfills. To see

that sight was most disturbing for me. I will never forget the sights, smells, and sounds of that visit. If I ever get the notion that I am not well off, and I would like more stuff, I just think of those poor people.

While living in Esteli, we stayed with two host families. For the first three weeks in Nicaragua all three of us stayed together with our first host family. Life here was quite different. It was a literal shock, when I took my first shower and was covered in a stream of cold water. I also had to do my laundry by hand for the those first three weeks. Most houses, our first home among them, were built

with concrete and were covered with tin roofs, which were very noisy when it rained. But there were many very poorly-built small homes that often would get swept away during the rainy season, and had to be rebuilt.

In our fourth week, two of us moved to different host families, with whom we would stay for the rest of our time in Nicaragua.

My second host family was very friendly and welcoming to me. They treated me like their own son. The members of my host family became very dear to me, and they will be always in my heart.

The language barrier was a huge hindrance to me for a month or two. Even in Spanish class, I had difficulty. While attending Spanish class, I had an instructor who spoke mostly Spanish and only a few words of English. It was really stressful for me and over time, I think it was getting stressful for my instructor also. This is around the time I really started feeling depressed and frustrated, and I got a case of really bad home sickness. Amazingly, I met a lady at Spanish School, who was a volunteer in Esteli and normally lived in Saskatoon. She had also spent time in Fort Qu'Appelle. I had found some connection to home in a critically important stage of my internship.

I eventually overcame my homesickness when we started travelling across Nicaragua and began exploring the country. We learned more about the history and the Aboriginal people of Nicaragua.

Before my time in Nicaragua came to an end, I had grown more comfortable with Spanish and could hold a conversation. But not for too long! I have yet to speak Spanish fluently.

Our primary roles as interns in Nicaragua were working with youth in the community, making presentations during cultural exchanges with the Aboriginal peoples of Nicaragua, and working with an organization called FUNARTE.

FUNARTE is an organization for at-risk youth in Nicaragua which uses art to allow kids to express themselves, and give them hope for the future. Over the last 20 years, FUNARTE has painted several amazing murals around the city of Esteli. Unfortunately, we didn't get the chance to paint murals, which was a little disappointing, but my time there was very fulfilling and life-changing nonetheless.

For our cultural exchanges, we would talk about our Aboriginal culture in Canada; in my case, I talked about the Métis culture. At the beginning of my internship, I didn't like to speak in front of crowds. Whenever I would have to make a presentation, I would become very nervous, so nervous in fact, my hands would shake. I also had the problem of saying "uhhh" a lot.

But as we continued making presentations to different communities, I started to gain more confidence in myself. I started becoming less nervous and started speaking more clearly. One of the main reasons I joined the internship was to improve my communication skills and I think I have achieved



Michael Morin with his host family.



Michael Morin at Ometepe.

that goal. It still needs work though, but my communication skills improved a lot during my 4 months in Nicaragua.

During our presentations, I witnessed the great kindness and generosity of the Nicaraguan people. When we visited a community called Quilali on April 19th, we were surprised to find out that Cheyenne, Kaiti, and I were the first Canadians to visit the community.

Another highlight from our presentations at Quilali was when two girls from the class we were presenting to started serenading me!

Apparently, the girls sang the song to me because when I made my presentation, I was really nervous, and they were nervous as well, so they sympathized with me, and I guess they wanted to cheer me up. It definitely worked! I'll certainly remember this for the rest of my life. And I'm probably going to

be bragging about it for a while.

We also helped making packages of clothing for children who had lost everything in a hurricane. Children's clothing had to be first sorted by sizes, and it was

quite a bit of work to get it all straightened out. It made me feel good to be part of this project, knowing that it would benefit many children. It was during that work project, that I encountered a scorpion for the first time.

My main task was administration work for FUNARTE. My computer skills came in very handy for that portion of our Nicaraguan work experience.

Some of the places we visited on our educational outings were: Mozonte, an Aboriginal village; Granada, an old historic city; Ometepe, an island in Lake Nicaragua, and Managua, the capital city. Despite being the capital of a Third World country, Managua strangely had several things from a First World country such as large shopping malls, movie theatres, and various kinds of fast-food restaurants.

There are five main reasons I joined this program:

- learn about other people and cultures
- make new friends
- improve my communication skills
- get away from home and see the world
- to grow and learn new things

I feel that I have accomplished all those things. And that makes me feel amazing! Before joining this program, I felt negative about myself. I felt that I was going to be stuck in the prairies of Saskatchewan and never amount to anything. But now that I have spent four months away from home in another country—for the first time ever—I feel like I have grown as a person! I also feel confident and proud of myself.

There were a few times where I was seriously considered leaving and quitting the program, but thanks to my teammates and their sense of humour and encouragement, along with the kindness of my host family, I overcame my home sickness and stuck it out.

I am extremely thankful that I did stay and see it through. If I had left early I would have missed out on one of the greatest times of my life.

National Aboriginal Day 2012

Photo Highlights—Batoche and Saskatoon

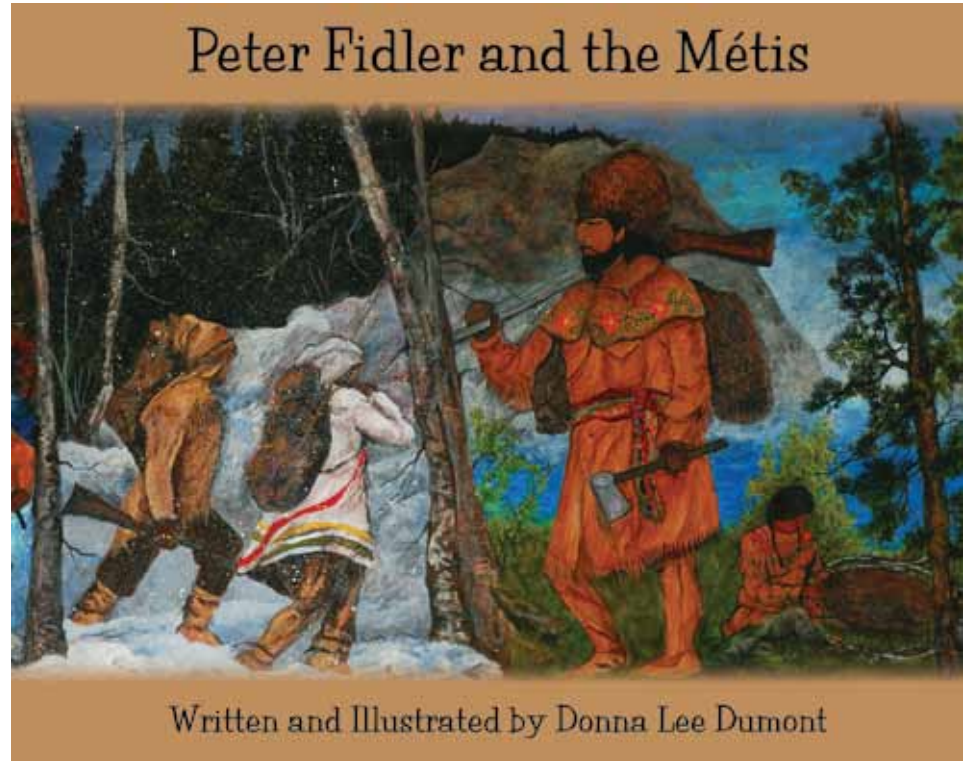
Photographs by Peter Beszterda



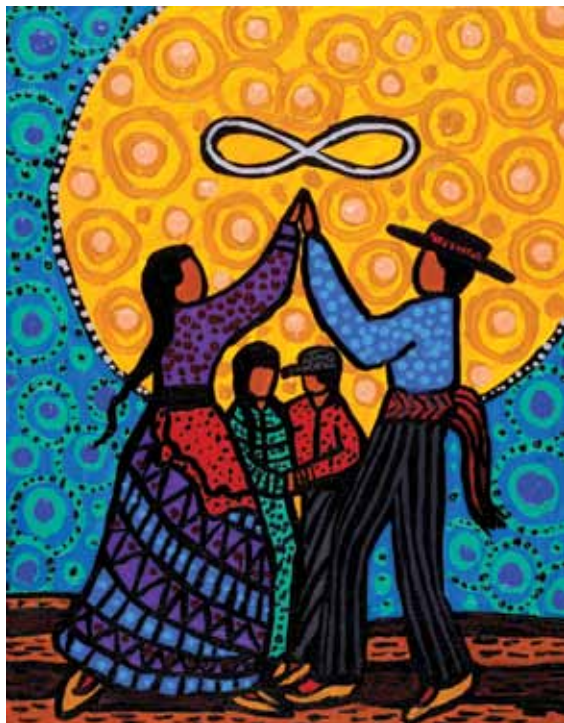
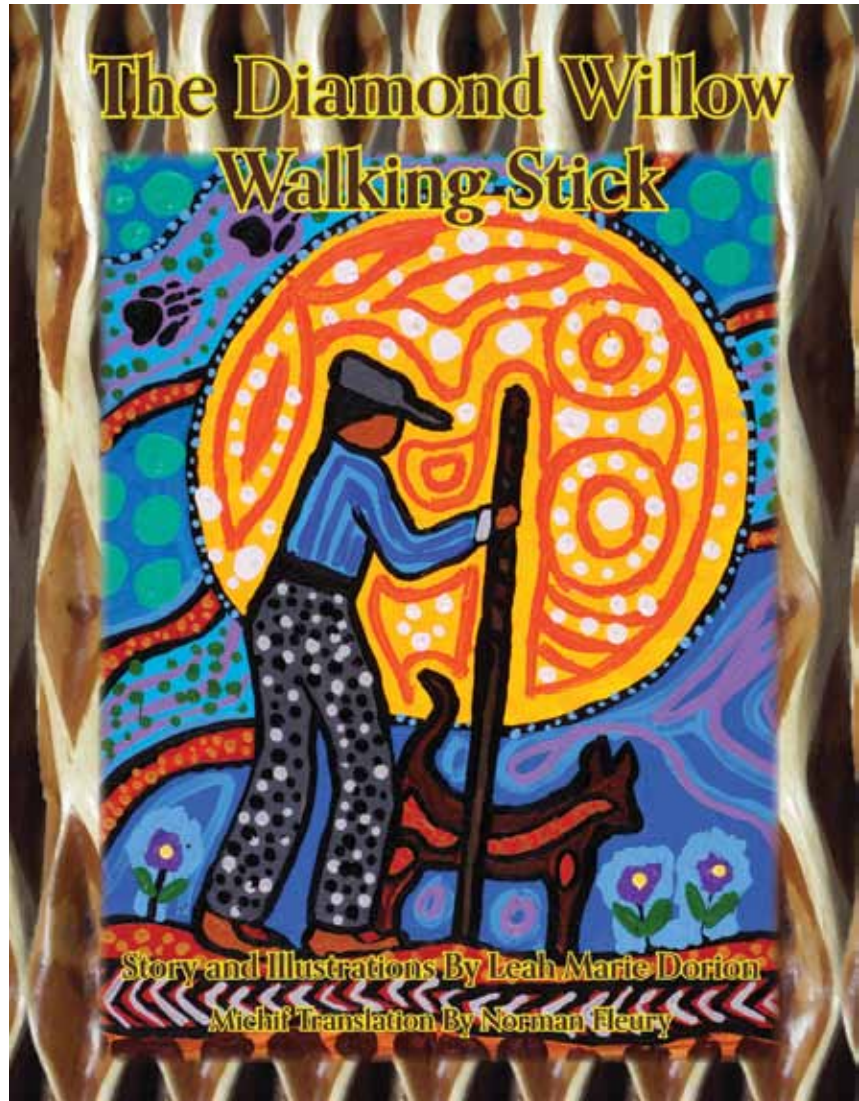
Top Row: Leah Marie Dorion at her Country Wives Art Exhibit. National Aboriginal Day at Friendship Park, Saskatoon.
Middle Row: Rochelle Gareau, speaking at National Aboriginal Day at Batoche. Donny Parenteau, Saskatoon.
Bottom Row: Andrea Menard with Robert Walsh, Saskatoon. Beading in Saskatoon.

New Children's Books Released by GDI Publishing

Peter Fidler and the Métis is an excellent primer on Métis history and culture for middle years readers. The book is the personal reflection of Métis artist and author Donna Lee Dumont on her direct ancestors, the Hudson's Bay Company explorer and mapmaker Peter Fidler and his Cree wife, Mary Mackegonne. Interwoven with this self-reflection is the author's discussion of the formation of Métis culture during the fur trade, the racism that forced many Métis to deny their heritage, and the proud place that the Métis now have as one of Canada's founding peoples. Writing about her childhood, which consisted of many summers spent picking and eating berries and learning about Aboriginal medicinal and healing traditions from her grandmother and her elders, Donna Lee Dumont poignantly takes the reader back to a gentler, more environmentally friendly time. She concludes by writing about her pride in being a Métis artist, author, educator, mother, and grandmother. Lavishly illustrated in bright, vibrant acrylics, *Peter Fidler and the Métis* is one woman's enchanting journey to document her Métis identity.



Leah Marie Dorion's *The Diamond Willow Walking Stick: A Traditional Métis Story About Generosity* focuses on a Métis Elder's remembrances of traditional teachings about generosity that were taught to him by his grandparents during his childhood. These lifelong lessons imparted on him "how to live in a good Métis way," and taught him how to live with respect within the circle of life. In this charming children's book, the third in an ongoing series on traditional Métis culture, author and illustrator Leah Marie Dorion takes the reader on another journey while once again honouring the special bond between Métis children and their grandparents. With breathtaking artwork and an elegant Michif translation by Norman Fleury, this heartfelt, coming-of-age story will resonate with both young and old.



Back to Batoche 2012 Celebration

Photo Highlights

Photographs by Peter Beszterda





Sneak Peek at Upcoming GDI Resources

Article by David Morin

The GDI Publishing Department has been hard at work on many initiatives, from new children's books, to Michif resources, to constant updates on the Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture (www.metismuseum.ca).

Two upcoming resources to keep an eye out for are *Métis Soldiers of Saskatchewan 1914-1953* and *maskisina: A Guide to Making Moccasins*.

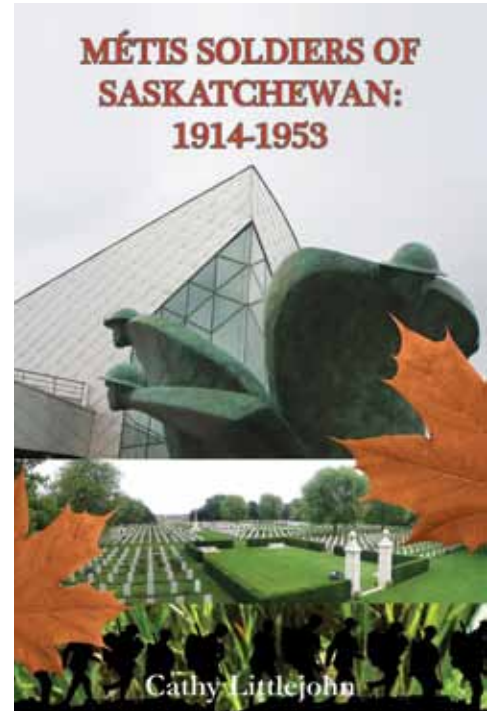
In *Métis Soldiers of Saskatchewan 1914-1953*, Cathy Littlejohn chronicles Métis involvement in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. She also compiled a list of all of the names of Métis soldiers from Saskatchewan that she could find throughout her many years of research, which appears in an appendix in this resource. While Cathy has done an amazing job on her list, it is inevitable that some veterans may have been missed. If you know of a Métis soldier not found in the appendix, please contact GDI with the information so that further updates will be more complete.

This resource will be available in early 2013 by making a donation to the Métis Veterans Monument project. Please contact GDI for more details or visit:

www.gdins.org/veteransmonument.

maskisina: A Guide to Northern Style Métis Moccasins by Amy Briley and Gregory Scofield is a follow-up to the highly successful *wapikwaniy: A Beginner's Guide to Métis Floral Beadwork*. Much like *wapikwaniy*, *maskisina* guides readers, step-by-step, on how to create their very own moccasins. It contains detailed photographs along with each step and also includes a DVD tutorial.

To be among the first to know of GDI's book releases and information on book launch events, be sure to "Like" us on Facebook! (www.facebook.com/gabriel Dumont Institute).



All moccasins for the Maskisina guide were made by Gregory Scofield with the exception of the beaded high-top moccasins in the foreground which were made by Amy Briley. Photo by Peter Beszterda.



GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
of Native Studies and Applied Research

Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project

The importance of Métis veterans to the Métis community cannot be understated. Our veterans occupy a point of honour at all Métis gatherings and cultural events. The Métis Veterans Memorial Monument will be a landmark for generations of Métis people to gather and pay homage to the servicemen and servicewomen who have served our country.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute has been chosen to oversee the building of the Métis Veterans Memorial Monument at Batoche, and is seeking donations towards the total project cost of \$300,000. Donations over \$10 are eligible for a tax receipt.

Donations over \$25 will receive the CD *Honouring Our Heroes: A Tribute to Métis Veterans*, featuring Métis performing artists ~ Donny Parenteau, Andrea Menard, Ray St. Germain, Jess Lee, Mike Gouchie, and Krystle Pederson.

Donations over \$50 will receive the CD above as well as the book: *Métis Veterans of Saskatchewan: 1914-1953* by Cathy Littlejohn.

Our goal is to ensure the monument recognizes and honours all of our Métis Veterans, past and present. If you know of a Métis veteran who should be recognized, please visit the website below for submission information.

For more information, please contact the Gabriel Dumont Institute at 1-877-488-6888 (Toll-Free in Saskatchewan), Amy Briley at 1-306-657-5719, by email: amy.briley@gdi.gdins.org, or visit the website: www.gdins.org/veteransmonument.

Donations can be mailed to:
Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
917-22nd Street West
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0R9

GDI Mission: *To promote the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and distribution of those materials and the design, development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.*

Métis Cultural Development Fund (MCDF)

SaskCulture's Métis Cultural Development Fund (MCDF) program in partnership with the Gabriel Dumont Institute seeks to fund activities that preserve, strengthen and transmit Métis culture and traditions in Saskatchewan.

The Métis Cultural Development Fund aims to advance the course of culture in Saskatchewan by providing funds to cultural organizations in areas not typically funded by conventional support systems.

Program Objectives include activities that preserve, strengthen and transmit Métis culture and traditions in Saskatchewan; build cultural leadership skills in Métis communities; transfer knowledge between generations; benefit children through skills development, mentorship, and having fun; and encourage gathering, sharing, learning, celebrating and developing Métis culture in Métis communities.

Applications must be submitted prior to the April 30th and October 31st deadline. Visit www.saskculture.sk.ca for more information.

Contact:
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First Nations and Métis
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Regina, SK
S4P 3X3
Toll Free: 1-866-476-6830



Celebrating Seniors 2012:

Nomination of Dennis and Jean Fisher

Article and Photograph by Karon Shmon

GDI recently nominated Dennis and Jean Fisher to the *Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism: Celebrating Seniors Awards*. The Fishers made an invaluable contribution to the heritage and culture of all Canadians by donating their many Métis-specific artefacts, most notably those related to the 1885 Resistance and to Batoche, to the Institute.

The *Celebrating Seniors Awards* were initiated to honour the many senior volunteers in Saskatchewan who remain active and continue to contribute to their communities. Nominees are outstanding senior citizens (55+), who reside in Saskatchewan communities, and who consistently contribute to

the overall quality of life in their communities.

The Fishers spent hundreds of hours, perhaps hundreds of days, collecting the items, documenting the date and location on which each was found, and adding other historical information if available. As a trained draftsman, Dennis Fisher also made finely-detailed drawings of the artefacts to ensure the items were distinguishable from one another, often noting specific markings.

The Institute felt the foresight, care and diligence, and generosity of Dennis and Jean Fisher deserved to be recognized because of the



Jean and Dennis Fisher

enormous contribution they made to Canadian culture and heritage, and to the Métis in particular. Although the Fishers did not win an award, Institute staff spent a very enjoyable evening with the Fishers at the awards banquet—our attendance further expressed our gratitude for the donation.

Louis Riel Day 2012 Event Listing:

November 15: Saskatoon, SUNTEP, U of S Education Student Lounge, 5-8 pm

November 16: Saskatoon, SIMFC and CUMFI Local, 168 Wall Street, 9-4 pm

November 16: 4th Annual Regina Louis Riel Vigil, 4:30-8 pm. For more information contact Russell Fayant at rfayant@hotmail.com

For more information on all events, please visit: www.gdins.org/event

Michif Apps and Beyond

Article by David Morin

GDI has developed the first English-to-Michif Dictionary available for Android-enabled devices. It features over 11,500 translations and audio pronunciations by Michif-language expert Norman Fleury. A search tool allows users to look up the English word to find the Michif-Cree translations.

Michif-Cree is the endangered orally-based language of the Métis people. Perhaps only 5-10% of the population are able to speak the language, with the majority being elders. The Institute's mandate is to promote and preserve Métis culture, and it has therefore been developing resources that allow people to hear and read the language. Since Michif-Cree is an oral language, no standard orthography, or way of writing, exists. As a result, the Institute recognizes the spelling conventions of Michif experts, such as Norman Fleury.

This project was developed by GDI, and was funded through the Department of Canadian Heritage's Aboriginal Languages Initiative. The app was created by Media Access and Production, University of Saskatchewan.

The app is available on the Google Play Marketplace, however, users can also access the dictionary online at www.metismuseum.ca/michif_dictionary.php.

GDI is currently working on phase II of our app projects, and will feature 500 commonly used phrases, which will help in the everyday use of the language. Phrases such as what you would say when you wake in the morning, to the activities you participate throughout the day are included.

The dictionary was developed to help build vocabulary in Michif, while the phrase app will provide help in using the language for everyday life.

Other recent and ongoing Michif initiatives include Michif translations by Harriet Oaks in *Remembering my Métis Past: Reminisces of Edwin St. Pierre*, Michif translations by Norman Fleury in Leah Dorion's upcoming children's book *The Diamond Willow Walking Stick*, and Michif oral histories that will be captured in audio format and made available on www.metismuseum.ca along with English translations.



Jack Elliott donates Archaeological- Based Research to GDI

Article by Darren R. Préfontaine and Photograph by David Morin

Jack Elliott is a professionally-trained archaeologist based in southern Alberta. In 1971, he completed an MA thesis in Archaeology at the University of Calgary. His thesis entitled, *Hivernant Archaeology in the Cypress Hills*, focused on Métis wintering settlements in the Cypress Hills region of southeast Alberta. *Hivernant* is the French word for “winterer,” and in the Métis context refers to those Métis bison hunters and their families who settled during the winter in wooded, sheltered environments on the southern prairies such as the Cypress Hills, Wood Mountain, and Willow Bunch. These locales offered shelter from fierce prairie winters and provided game, wood, and fresh water.

The term *hivernant* was handed down to the Métis by their Canadian (French Canadian) ancestors, the so-called *mangeurs de lard* (pork eaters). The “pork eaters” manned fur trade posts in present-day Western and northern Canada during the winter for the North West Company (NWC) and its predecessors following the British Conquest of Canada in 1759-60 and leading to the merger of the NWC and the Hudson’s Bay Company in 1821. The original *hivernants* processed

beaver and other furs with their First Nations trading partners, usually members of their Cree, Dene, and Ojibway wives’ extended families. A few generations later, the Métis *hivernants* processed both bison robes for trade in places such as Fort Benton, Montana and hides for use in US factories. Bison hides were processed into leather, and were used as industrial belts in the US Northeast’s manufacturing sector.

As Jack Elliott relates in his lectures, the bison robe trade was a major industry for the Métis in the southern plains. These *hivernant* settlements on the southern prairies of present-day Alberta and Saskatchewan were in vogue from the early 1860s until the 1870s, when the bison herds were decimated due to overhunting.

In the late 1960s, Jack, then a graduate student in Archaeology, excavated the remains of Métis wintering cabins on the Kajewski ranch near Elkwater, Alberta in the southwest corner of the Cypress Hills. At the site, Jack noticed that in the bison processing pits and in other areas of the cabin floors, there was a mixture of Euro-Canadian/American iron tools and older, Pre-Contact-style First Nation’s stone tools. At the

time, archaeologists were puzzled by this mixture of tool cultures at the site and within its stratigraphy (the layer of sedimentation at an archaeological site), suggesting that the Métis at these wintering sites used the “old” and “new” tools interchangeably. Archaeologists thought it curious that the Métis *hivernants* willingly used stone tools when “better” steel tools were available to scrape bison hides and cut meat. Jack argued that the Métis used both tool types while his colleagues thought otherwise. Considerable debate ensued on this matter. However, as Jack is finding out in more recent investigations with northern Métis who trap and hunt in the bush, stone tools, such as bone and antler scrapers, are still used to scrape hides because they don’t nick or cut the hides as steel ones are apt to do.

Jack has had an interesting career: he worked as an archaeologist for Parks Canada, developed and managed a museum in Lethbridge, Alberta, and was a successful realtor in southern Alberta. Now in retirement, he lectures on *hivernant* archaeology, largely in concert with the Miywasin Centre in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

I had the pleasure of attending one of Jack's discussions of his archaeological work this past June at the *Hills are Alive* festival at Elk Water in the Cypress Hills. As part of the festival's programming, Jack takes people to the Kajewski site, after a detailed slide presentation, and discusses his excavation and its meaning to those in attendance. Jack gave the same lecture at the 2010 *Back to Batoche* celebration.

In the summer of 2012, Jack and GDI agreed that the Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture (www.metismuseum.ca) would be the natural venue to store his thesis and other publications. In September 2012, Jack provided the Institute with his thesis, which we are about to digitize and put on our website. Earlier this summer, we digitized his essay, *Snare, Snake and Iroquois: An Upper Athabasca Ethohistory*, which can be viewed at the following link: www.metismuseum.ca/browse/index.php/1249. This article should be of interest to Métis researchers because the Iroquois freeman/voyageurs who came out west and settled in what is now northern Alberta are the ancestors of many Métis families such as the Callihoos and Hirondelles who settled near Grande Cache.

Jack also provided other articles and archaeological surveys, which, for copyright reasons, will not be

digitized and put on the Virtual Museum, but will be invaluable components to the Institute's research collection. The Institute hopes to digitize Jack's thesis soon. Please check the Virtual Museum in the near future to read this interesting analysis of one of the first Métis *hivernant* sites to be excavated.

On September 24 and 25, 2012, Jack came to Saskatoon to meet with the Publishing Department, to drop off his thesis and other documents for digitization and to discuss ways to promote Métis-specific archaeology. On September 25, Jack presented his lecture/slideshow on his excavation at the Métis *hivernant* site to Bryan Guiboche's ABE students at the Dumont Technical Institute. The students were enraptured by the discussion, and were amazed at how affluent their ancestors were. The bison hunters had expensive, well-trained horses and the finest

firearms and saddles on the plains. However, the items found at the Kajewski ranch were not very flashy, but were rather useful everyday items, and included such things as bison bones, various animal mandibles, and pottery shards (largely British-made china that Métis women preferred; all brought up from Fort Benton in Montana). However, in one of the refuse pits, Jack and his colleagues found a US silver quarter that was retained by the Kajewski family. As Jack explained to the students, when an archaeological survey is conducted, the original site is destroyed and the artefacts are taken away and placed in museums and other repositories.

The Institute hopes to strengthen our relationship with Jack in the pursuit of advancing Métis-specific archeology, which we hope will include a focus on Métis oral history.



Darren Préfontaine and Jack Elliott.

Edwin St. Pierre and Lawrence Barkwell Launch Resources at the 2012 *Back to Batoche* Celebration

Article by Darren R. Préfontaine and Photographs by Peter Beszterda

On July 20, 2012, as part of the annual *Back to Batoche* celebration, GDI launched two resources by Edwin St. Pierre and Lawrence J. Barkwell.

Edwin St. Pierre's *Remembering My Métis Past: Reminiscences of Edwin St. Pierre* was the first book launched. The book, which includes Michif translations by Ed's wife, Harriet Oaks St. Pierre, includes the author's remembrances of his childhood, adolescence, and early manhood in the Métis community of Crescent Lake near Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

from The Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture at the following link: www.metismuseum.ca/resource.php/13476.

The launch was well attended, and the resources well received by all community members in attendance.



Edwin St. Pierre and Lawrence J. Barkwell.

Following that, Lawrie Barkwell launched his booklet, *Metis Soldiers in the War of 1812*, which discusses the Métis' role in the War of 1812. During his discussion, Lawrie mentioned some of the unsung Métis heroes of this long-ago war, including Elizabeth Mitchell, the "Métis Laura Secord." He also explained how many Western Canadian Métis are direct descendents of the Métis warriors of the War of 1812. His booklet can be downloaded



Congratulations to *Relatives with Roots*!

Article by David Morin

Congratulations to *Relatives with Roots: A Story about Métis Women's Connection to the Land*, bronze medal winner at the Moonbeam Children's Book Awards under the Environmental Issues category. The Moonbeam Awards were created to increase recognition of exemplary children's books and their creators, and to celebrate children's books and life-long reading. Up against books from across North America, GDI is quite proud that Leah Dorion's story and art were recognized for its exceptional value.

Relatives with Roots is also up for an award at the High Plains Book Awards in the Art and Photography category. These awards have been established to recognize regional authors and/or literary works which examine and reflect life on the High Plains including the states of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, and Kansas, and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

Leah's book was also recognized at the 2011

Saskatchewan Book Awards with nominations in five categories, including *First Peoples' Publishing*, *First Peoples' Writing*, *Children's Literature Award*, *Publishing in Education*, and the *Book of Year*.

Relatives With Roots is a heartfelt story about a Métis grandmother who takes her granddaughter out into the bush to teach her how to pick traditional medicines. As the granddaughter learns the traditional beliefs and stories about how the Métis people use the plants for food and medicine, she feels happy to be a Métis child with access to such wonderful cultural knowledge. This charming and vibrant book introduces young readers to key concepts in the traditional Métis worldview while focusing on the special relationship between a young Métis girl and her grandmother. *Relatives With Roots* is the second in a series of children's books relating to traditional



Métis values by Leah Marie Dorion.

Congratulations again to Leah Dorion and to the GDI Publishing Department for the development and success of this wonderful children's story.

Fiddle Fest 2012 Photo Highlights

Photographs by Peter Beszterda





GDI Upgrades Facilities in Saskatoon, Regina, and Prince Albert

Article by Cory McDougall and Photographs by Greg MacLeod

A sense of pride and renewal is spreading across GDI as renovations and improvements have been carried out on Institute owned facilities in Saskatoon, Prince Albert, and Regina. "It's been a busy summer, but we are getting close to having some real quality facilities for Métis students across the province" stated Greg MacLeod of Round Prairie Ventures Inc. (RPVI), a Métis owned and controlled property management company. Greg and RPVI have been contracted since April 2011 to assist GDI with its strategic goal to improve its facilities across the province.

Work started on the facilities' renewal in late 2010 with the acquisition of the old McMaster's building next door to GDI's main administration office on 22nd Street in Saskatoon. DTI and GDI T & E had been leasing approximately 75% of this facility for programming and years of hard work and responsible management paid off when the Institute used earned surpluses to acquire the property.

DTI Director Brett Vandale then led a team that transformed the facility into a modern, high

quality learning environment on par with our provincial program partners like SIAST and the regional colleges. "Our students deserve to learn in a healthy, positive environment. While we were proud of all the efforts we had made to date, it was time for some renewal in our centres" said Brett.

The building now features a beautiful reception and client service area, a student lounge area, upgraded classroom spaces, a new Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) lab and administrative offices for both DTI program staff and GDI T & E counselors and staff. The exterior of the building has also been upgraded to match the main administrative office next door.

While the Saskatoon project progressed, the GDI Board of Governors gave direction to upgrade our existing facility in Prince Albert and acquire a home for GDI programming in Regina in the spring of 2012. The Prince Albert project was another major endeavour as the building is forty years old, and was in need of some major improvements. A project plan

to upgrade all mechanical and electrical systems, reconfigure the building's front entrance, and improve classroom spaces on the first and second floor was implemented after classes concluded in spring 2012.

The renovations have proceeded well, and GDI SUNTEP students can look forward to a new classroom space in November 2012. The DTI LPN program will also have a bright new space on the first floor at that time, and the second floor DTI ABE students will enjoy a new student lounge area, upgraded classroom spaces, and a new computer lab. The centre will also feature beautiful new artwork from renowned local Métis artists such as Leah Dorion and Jennifer Brown. "There is a real sense of excitement here at the centre. People are happy with the changes and improvements" said long time SUNTEP/GDC coordinator Michael Relland.

The acquisition of the old Regina Métis Sports and Culture (RMSC) building on 2nd Avenue North gave GDI a much needed home for programming in the Regina area. The transaction represented a significant gift from the community

as the land and building valued at more than \$1 million was sold to GDI for \$310,000. “Due to RMSC’s long-term commitment to the Métis community, GDI was able to acquire a home in Regina and make some much needed improvements to make it suitable for programming” said GDI Executive Director Geordy McCaffrey.

Work proceeded on the facility in summer 2012, and by year end, the building will feature: an upgraded client service area for GDI T & E, a new DTI Practical Nursing lab, a computer lab, a fully functional commercial kitchen, new classroom spaces for DTI, a community use space, and room for administrative offices. As in Prince Albert, the building will showcase the work of local artists in the front foyer and in the community use space. “It really is a major improvement here. We have a place to be proud of where we can serve our Métis clientele” said GDI T & E staff members Jacqueline Halliday and Shanna Morrison.

With some interim steps taken, GDI is hopeful that these facility improvements will send positive messages to program and government partners that will lead to the realization of the ultimate goal—a Métis Centre of Excellence for the people of Saskatchewan.



New home for Saskatoon DTI classrooms, and administrative offices.



Reception area of new Saskatoon location.



GDI Regina building.

“Nurture the Dreamer”—Susan Aglukark

Article by George Gingras

I remember a time from elementary through to high school discovering what it meant to be Métis. I often wondered why I spoke a certain way, why my skin was darker than most people, and I thought about all the philosophical preferences of what makes up Métis identity. In high school, I was not too big into music. I remember being teased in high school for not knowing the music charts or watching a particular music video. It's not that I didn't listen to music; I just spent a lot of time drawing and doing physical activity. As I grew into my Métis identity, I started to look into the different forms of art to have better knowledge of my Métis self. So, this form of art grew into becoming more aware of the music around me. While I was searching, it was Susan Aglukark's music that found me.

Susan was invited by the College of Arts & Sciences and the Saskatoon Community Foundation to come speak to the students to tell her story of “Engaging the Aboriginal Professional.” She spoke about her life as an entrepreneur and artist, from the struggles to the good, the ups and downs, the challenges, frustrations and joys, the turning points, and choices she made, realizing in the end that she is her worst enemy, and that she was the

only one holding herself back and standing in the way of her own true potential. Her focus toward Aboriginal students—First Nations, Inuit and Métis alike—was that we all struggle in different areas of our studies and goals in our lives. She took this opportunity to engage us in healthy dialogue so that we were not afraid to ask questions, because to her, there is no such thing as a wrong or bad question, or one that doesn't make any sense.

In 1995, upon the year of my high school graduation, “*O Siem*” was the first song I experienced from her art, and “*Hina Na Ho*” was the second. What made the connection to her story special and unexpected to the people in the audience was that she also performed for us! To my surprise one of the songs performed was “*Hina Na Ho*,” the very song that found me those many years ago. I was brought back in time and relearned the medicines that were taught to me through this song. In



George Gingras and Susan Aglukark

my perpetual human experience as a Métis man, I realized how much her art became a foundation in that continuity.

Fast forward to September 21, 2012, where presently I am studying towards a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and soon after will continue into the Master's degree in Fine Arts, I was excited to hear that someone who I only knew through her musical art will be speaking right here at the University of Saskatchewan! As an upcoming entrepreneur and artist myself, I felt I needed to be there at that time and place.

She shared her experiences of growing up in Arviat, Nunavut, which is the closest Inuit community north of Churchill, Manitoba and of moving to Ottawa in late 1991 to commence a one-year employment contract as an Inuktitut/legalese interpreter with the Indian Affairs-Inuit Department specializing in legal translation. She mentioned that her song-writing was borne from personal hardship and experience including the loss of a cousin and the suicide of a best friend. Further, she discussed her accomplishments as a rising recording artist of Aboriginal descent, and how she was not prepared for success. Her discussion surrounded her evolving status as a musical artist, and what makes us so afraid to pursue our goals and dreams, and to even acknowledge that we have a dream to the point where we don't allow ourselves to have that dream, which often enough, our own sabotaging causes us to shut down. All the while I was listening intently to what she had to say.

She introduced a post-colonization syndrome theory which traditionally represents a transition period of how long our traditional parents had to absorb and digest the world's changing modern and contemporary behaviours and fashions. Our traditional parents did the best they could with what they had but all this changed in 3-4 years of evolving novelty and

modernization. How did this affect or not affect the methods in how we parent or engage in our careers? How do we do things differently with our children? The universal message that could prove functional to all nationalities was to "nurture the dreamer," and to support your children in everything positive they want to experience so that whatever fear and pressures controls you in moments of overwhelming unknowns, those fears will not be transferred to your children because you have been prepared to watch for a repetitive cycle. It is important to recognize and acknowledge your own potential, and work towards nourishing your skills and abilities so that your children can learn from you.

As her definition of an artist tells us to be true to what we feel in those moments, she also advises us to trust in those little moments. The modesty in her message extends into strengthening the connection within Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples to be true to themselves and be strong enough to ask and answer honest questions of who we are, and if we like who we are becoming, and to not be afraid to take risks and fall flat on our faces, because we will get back up again.

Though her voice is beautiful lyrically and she has great physical and spiritual poise,

it was interesting to feel her strength envelop the room that respectfully requested all to listen to her. I believe it was because the audience knew there was an important lesson to be learned from her message as well as the sage significance of her story. Many others with whom I spoke felt the same way, and were able to share their own experiences of Susan and her art.

There is a teaching amongst our Métis Elders who say it's important to listen to the experiences of others. This reason becomes understood most when the sharing of those experiences become a reality in your own journey. Listening to, and receiving these experiences just may help you make a good decision if you are faced with a similar life experience. As Susan spoke with humility and spirit that day, she became again an inspiration to all the people present. People thanked her for her time, knowing that a piece of her will go with them just as a semblance of the audience will go with her. In her words, as we start with something, we end with something. Her Dene inspired song "*Hina Na Ho*" united all the good and inspirational collective energy from the people in the audience, and as she invited us to round dance, it was fantastic to see the cultural barriers brought down to become what "*O Siem*" speaks to, "we are all family." *Hiy hiy!*

GDI Meets with the Joint Task Force on Aboriginal Education

Article by Lisa Bird-Wilson

On September 28, 2012, GDI representatives met in Saskatoon with the Joint Task Force on Improving Education and Employment Outcomes for First Nations and Métis People (JTF). As the education arm of the Métis Nation—Saskatchewan, GDI was keen to be able to present the JTF with a Métis perspective. Over the course of two hours, GDI representatives were able to share with the task force our thoughts, concerns, and ideas on education and employment for Métis people in Saskatchewan. The JTF members in attendance, Gary Merasty and Rita Bouvier, took a keen interest in the Métis perspective and asked many probing and insightful questions. The JTF members were clear about their aim to produce work that will provide a basis for change and for practical solutions, rather than simply producing another report that will sit on a shelf. On this objective we could all agree.

In addition to the documented in-person meeting between GDI and the JTF, GDI made a written submission to the task force, covering four main areas related to the Métis: early childhood education, K-12 education, post-secondary education, and employment. The GDI document

notes the important link between Métis-directed education and sustaining Métis culture. It is well known at GDI that Métis education must focus on more than simply replicating the status quo, but rather, be firmly grounded in Métis culture to ensure success and instill cultural pride and perpetuity (Métis National Council, 2009). On the aim of connecting education and culture, GDI's founders were clear in their mission and purpose; today we owe them a debt of gratitude for their vision and foresight.

The Métis are in a unique situation in Saskatchewan—we don't have K-12 schools as the First Nations do, we lack federal supports for post-secondary education funding (particularly for university), early childhood education for the Métis is not targeted as Métis-specific, and therefore, there is no accountability for Métis numbers, and the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS) agreement excludes the Métis from federal childcare and early learning resources otherwise provided for First Nations and Inuit. Because of our unique position with respect to education, GDI has endeavoured to ensure that the Métis voice is loud and clear

in this provincial consultation.

At times during the consultation the discussion was broad, focusing on policy and jurisdictional issues; at other times, it was down to earth and at the level of significant individual experiences. One administrator offered an example of a Métis student, graduating from a DTI skills training program, and with the student's mother in the audience at grad. The mother started crying during the program when her son's name was read and he was acknowledged as a hard working, contributing member of the graduating class. When asked what was the matter, the woman indicated that she was crying tears of gratitude—her son, she said, had never been acknowledged in school, in any way, ever. His typical experiences in school had been as if he had no real part in his own education—as if he was irrelevant to the system in which he was participating. Yet there he was at the DTI grad, not being acknowledged for anything outstanding—he wasn't the best student, he didn't achieve the highest marks—he was simply being acknowledged as a student in our school, as a graduate of our program, and for his attributes as a human being. This simple recognition

was enough to make his mother weep. This moving story offered an example of how significant the small things can be in a person's education journey.

The JTF was formed by an agreement between the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration (AEEI) and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) in May 2011. Since spring 2012, the JTF has been meeting with organizations, holding public consultations, and meeting with individual groups across Saskatchewan to fulfill their purpose to increase First Nations and Métis peoples' participation and success in advanced education and the labour force. The role of the task force is to be inclusive and talk with Métis and First Nations people and stakeholders throughout the province to help identify practical, grass-roots solutions for eliminating the current gaps in education and employment outcomes for First Nations and Métis people.


The JTF is focusing on several desired outcomes, including:

- Improved early childhood outcomes and transition to school;
- Improved high school and post-secondary completion rates;
- Improved labour market participation and attachment;
- Improved quality of life and enhanced self-sufficiency; and
- Stronger education systems with improved return on investment

in PreK-12 and postsecondary education and training.

JTF members are Gary Merasty, Vice President Corporate Social Responsibility of Cameco; Rita Bouvier, researcher/writer and community-learning facilitator; and Don Hoium, Executive Director, League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents of Saskatchewan. As for GDI, our mission is to promote

the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and distribution of those materials and the design, development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services. GDI regularly participates in provincial educational processes and consultations to provide a Métis perspective and voice.



Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation

Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation

The Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation administers scholarships to Métis students twice per year. There are a number of different scholarship options, including:

Napoleon LaFontaine Scholarship (entrance, undergraduate, graduation, graduate, loan remission, and special)	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
SaskEnergy Métis Incorporated Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
SaskTel Métis Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
GDI/Cameco Scholarship	Deadline May 1st
Gabriel Dumont Institute/ Saskatoon Health Region Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
Basic Education Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
GDC Graduate Student Bursary Program	Deadline October 6th and April 6th

For scholarship details including eligibility, academic criteria, and application forms, please visit our website at www.gdins.org/scholarships or contact:

Scholarship Foundation Coordinator
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
2—604 22nd Street West
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7M 5W1
(306) 657-5719
scholarship@gdi.gdins.org

GDI Mission: To promote the renewal and the development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and the distribution of those materials and the development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.

Dumont Technical Institute

20th Anniversary Milestones

Article by Jessica Sandell

1991—DTI is established as a federated institute of the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST).

1992—On October 14, 1992 an agreement establishing the Dumont Technical Institute as a subsidiary of GDI was signed by the province.

1993—DTI employed 6 staff: Roy Fosseneuve, Betty Munshaw, Shirley Boucher, Brian Gallagher, Phyllis Eagle-Boadway, and Sherry McLennan.

1994—Staff salaries totalled \$156 840.

1996—14 students graduated from the Youth Care Worker program in Meadow Lake.

I love DTI because it's all Métis, all the time.

1997—DTI began delivering its own Adult Basic Education programming. In previous years, DTI purchased ABE training from the Regional Colleges and SIAST.

1998—DTI offered 43 programs throughout the province.

1999—The federal government gave DTI a total of \$243,571 in grants.

2000—Due to skill shortage and labour market demands, DTI prioritized programs in the health, information technology, and forestry sectors.

I feel like I belong—a place where I can be free to be Métis.

2001—DTI purchased the Saskatoon head office building—917 22nd Street West.

2002—Over 70 students graduated from Adult 12 across the province.

2003—DTI employed 53 people during the year.

2004—Licensed Practical Nursing program started in Saskatoon.

2005—Over 25 trades training programs were offered in the province.

2006—There were 368 students enrolled in Basic Education and 239 enrolled in skills training.



2007—A unique program and partnership was created to help applicants gain employment with SaskEnergy.

I love DTI because they give individuals the opportunity needed through education and mentoring to live a healthy, productive lifestyle and become a providing citizen to society.

2008—DTI received the Saskatchewan Literacy Award of Merit.

2009—The GDI Basic Education Scholarship is created to support DTI's Level 3 and Level 4 students.

2010—DTI offered 50 programs in 18 different communities and in all 12 MN—S regions.

2011—DTI purchased the building at 1001 22nd street west in Saskatoon—it will house all ABE programs, practical nursing, and both GDI and DTI staff.

2012—DTI celebrates 20 years of helping build brighter futures.



GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
of Native Studies and Applied Research

Métis Performers Showcase

Honouring Our Métis Heroes: A Tribute to Métis Veterans

∞ *Featuring* ∞

**Donny Parenteau
Andrea Menard
Ray St. Germain
Mike Gouchie
Jess Lee
Krystle Pederson**



**Friday, November 9, 8pm
Radisson Hotel, Saskatoon**

**\$25.00 admission includes tribute CD
All proceeds go to the Métis Veterans Monument Project**

**For more information call 306-657-5715, or visit
[www.gdins.org!](http://www.gdins.org)**

Dr. Olive Dickason Collection given to the Gabriel Dumont Institute

Article by Karon Shmon

GDI will soon be able to have both a virtual and tangible tribute to Dr. Olive Dickason in honour of her contributions as a Métis author, historian, and scholar. The Institute is pleased to announce that Dr. Dickason's family has generously donated many of Dr. Dickason's photos, degrees, awards, writings, and convocation gowns to GDI. The family was aware that GDI had commissioned a portrait to pay tribute to Dr. Dickason, who passed away in 2011. The portrait

is part of the Christi Belcourt series, *The Great Métis of My Time*. As Belcourt states, "the series was painted to bring awareness of Métis history, Métis traditional art and Métis contemporary issues to a public audience. The paintings, produced in acrylic on canvas, portray the stories and the lives of prominent Métis individuals whose determination to seek justice for Métis rights have changed the course of history for the Métis Nation in modern times."

Once GDI informed the family that it intended to make a virtual tribute to Dr. Dickason on the Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture (www.metismuseum.ca), Olive Dickason's daughters, Anne Dickason, Roberta Maron, and Clare Trzeciak, jointly decided to go one step further and offered GDI the other items. GDI is very grateful to receive the donation and is preparing an exhibit which will be launched in 2013.



Left: Olive Dickason with her daughter, Anne, on receiving the Order of Canada, 1990.

Above: Olive Dickason at work in her office, 1981.

Photos from the Olive Dickason Collection provided by the Dickason family.

Dr. Olive Patricia Dickason was the Lifetime Award recipient in the 1997 National Aboriginal Achievement Awards. The Awards are administered by Indspire, formerly the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, and are among the highest levels of recognition for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people in Canada. Subsequent to her award, she served on their Board Director until 2006.

“She was an amazing talent. Dr. Dickason was on the vanguard of a welcomed trend in the study and celebration of Aboriginal significant contributions to Canada,” said Roberta Jamieson, President and CEO of Indspire.

At the time of her Lifetime Achievement Award, it was noted:

- Without the Indigenous, there would have been no Canada. This is the shot that Dr. Olive Patricia Dickason fired across the bow of Canadian historiography. Because of her academic work, everything once thought about the early foundations of Canada is under question.
- Of Métis background, Dr. Dickason was dismayed by what she found when delving into Canada’s past. While there was plenty written about Canadian politicians, hardly an Aboriginal face or voice could be lifted from the pages of history.
- Unlike most other historians, Dr. Dickason asked why. What about Aboriginal contributions to Canada’s first economic activities: the fur trade; whaling; forestry? What of the thousands of years of preparation before Confederation? Where were the accounts? Now we have them. Thanks to Dr. Dickason, accurate portrayals of Canada’s development now line the shelves.
- Her published works include, *Indian Arts in Canada*, *The Myth of the Savage and the Beginnings of French Colonialism in the Americas*, and, most significantly, her groundbreaking *Canada’s First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples*. For the first time, Aboriginals were fully appreciated in sound academic studies as fully dimensional human individuals and communities who have their own histories and role in the development of what we know as Canada.

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The New Nation: la noovel naasyoon, is a publication of the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), which promotes Métis history and culture, the Institute's activities and programs, and the larger Métis community in the province. Four issues a year will be published, one for each season: winter, spring, summer, and fall. Subscription rates to *The New Nation: la noovel naasyoon* will remain relatively low as we would like to see as many people as possible read it, and these rates are only meant to recover the costs associated with shipping the magazine. *The New Nation: la noovel naasyoon* will be available for free at the GDI Publishing Office, at cultural events in which GDI has a display, as well as online at the *Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture* (www.metismuseum.ca).

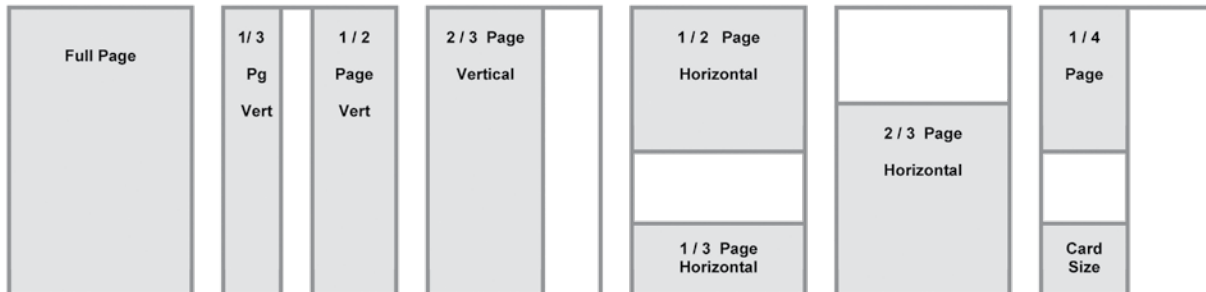
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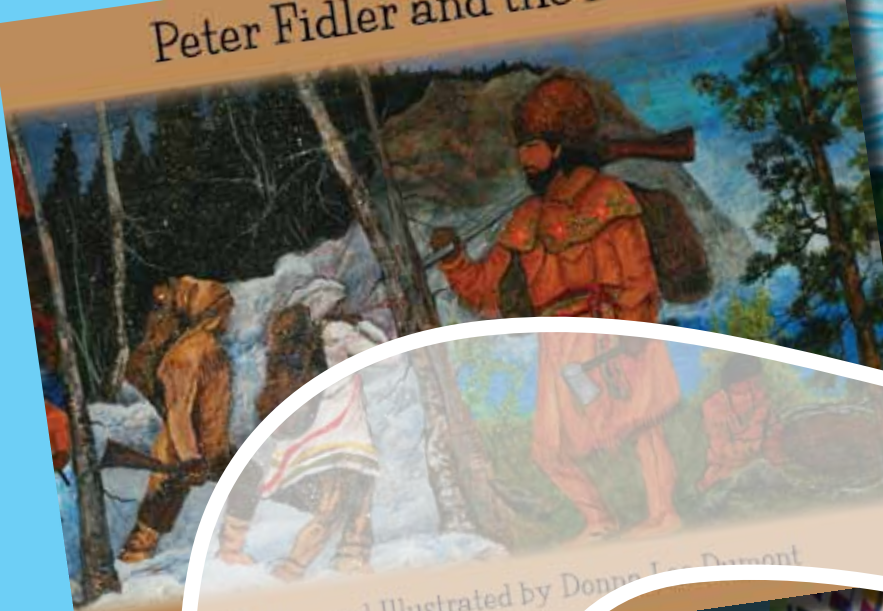
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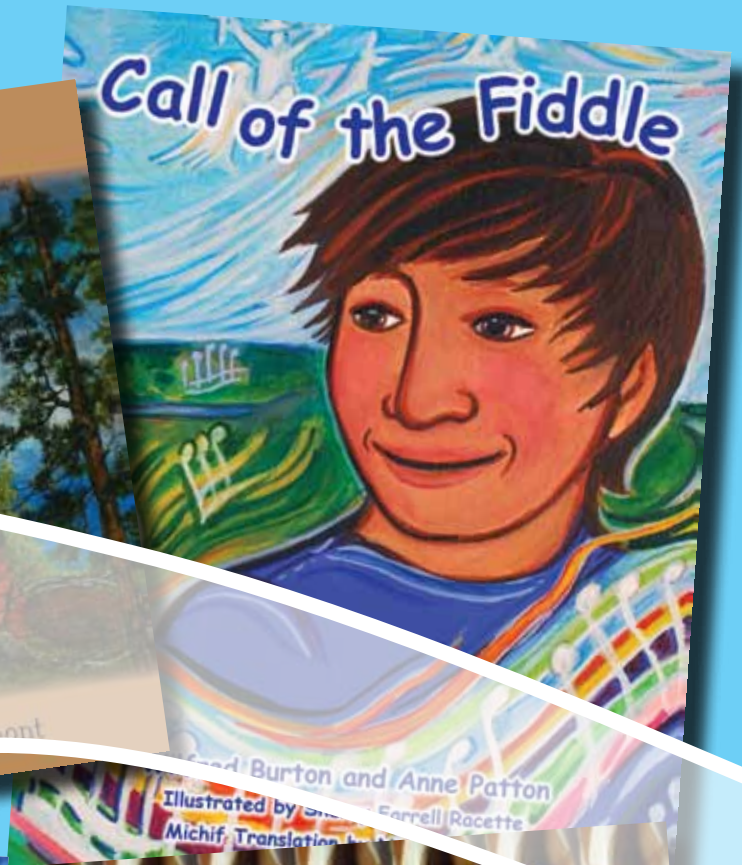


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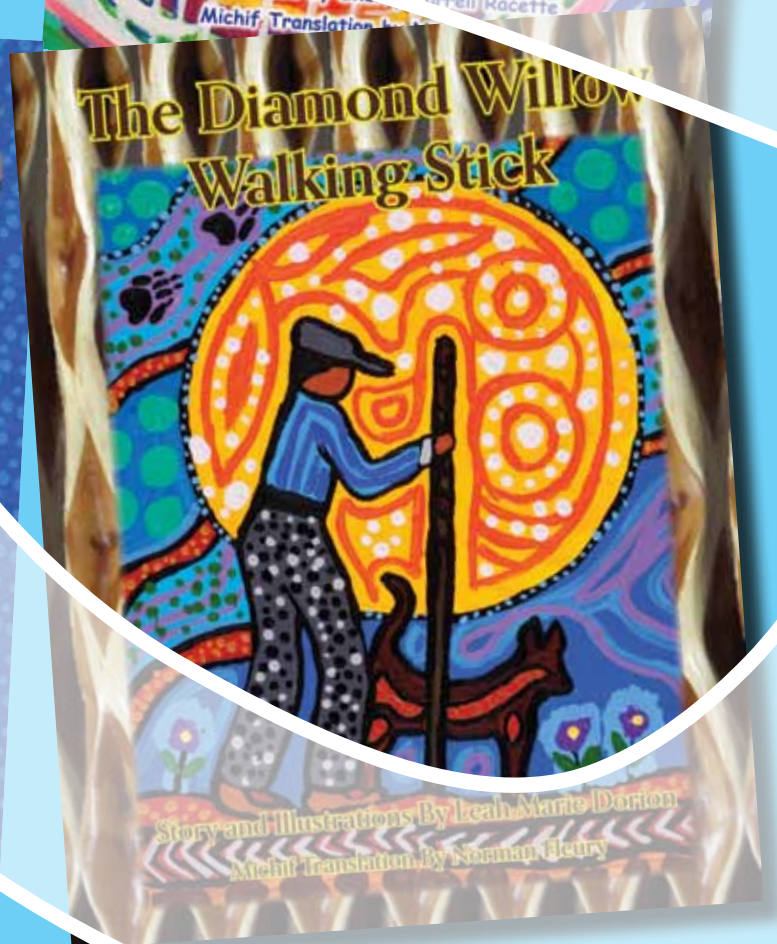


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