

Shirley Delorme Russell, B. Ed.

Shirley Delorme Russell is a Métis-Ojibway woman who is very proud of her heritage. Her mother is a Métis from Red River and her father is Ojibway from Blind River, Ontario. Shirley graduated in 2007 from the Red River College Aboriginal Languages diploma program (Honours, Gold Medal), and in 2010 from the joint Red River College/University of Winnipeg program with a Bachelor of Arts (History)/Bachelor of Education. While in university, she was the recipient of the *Youth In Care Canada, Ken Dryden Scholarship* which is awarded to select young people who are currently or formerly in the care of the Canadian child welfare system and who have demonstrated both great achievement and promise. Shirley Delorme Russell herself was very active with the Youth In Care Network in Manitoba, and in fact since 2005 has been an *Adult support volunteer*, Voices- Manitoba's Youth in Care Network.

While attending university, she also worked part-time as Financial Aid and Awards Coordinator with the Louis Riel Institute (LRI). She currently works as LRI's Culture and Education Resource Coordinator. She also assisted in delivering programs for LRI at Riel House National Historic Site (Parks Canada).



University of Winnipeg President and Vice-Chancellor Lloyd Axworthy (left) Shirley Delorme Russell and MLA Kevin Chief after the announcement of the commitment that ten kids in care will have their tuition waived in September and all their living expenses paid under a pilot program announced in March of 2012 at the University of Winnipeg.

More recently, Shirley Delorme Russell is a participating artist in the *Walking With Our Sisters* project. *Walking With Our Sisters* is an installation art project of 1,700 pairs of moccasin tops or “vamps” commemorating and representing an estimated 824 Aboriginal women and girls who have been murdered or gone missing in Canada since 1961.



Moccasin vamps created by Shirley Delorme Russell for Walking With Our Sisters.

Conference Presentation:

Delorme Russell, Shirley. “A History of the Métis Nation in 20 minutes or less!”
Shawane Dagošiwini: *Aboriginal Education Research Forum*. Winnipeg, April 4, 2013.

Shirley has worked as a volunteer:

2011, 2012: *Volunteer*, at *Métisfest*, International Peace Gardens and Killarney, Manitoba.

2011 – 2012 : *Board Member*, La Société du Monument National La Vérendrye/ The National La Vérendrye Monument Society

2008 – present: *Secretary to the Board*, ACE- Aboriginal Circle of Educators



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