



THE GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE COMMUNICATOR



Photo by: Caitlin Hume. Left to Right Kristen Rutten (Instructor), Samantha Roche, Michelle Carr, Jessica Fayant, Bethany Wintonyk, Jennifer Redwood, Kayla Pelletier, Enya Revoy, Samantha Green, Allishia Desarno, Kayla Schmidt, Desiree Guillermin, Danyel Wait, Paige Richard, Derek Stovin (Instructor)

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

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LET'S GET SOCIAL



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TEAMWORK & SUCCESS IN A PANDEMIC

By Dylan Pelletier, DTI Program Coordinator

During the 2020-2021 school year, the Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) was proud to offer the Office Administration (OA) program in Regina. Like most DTI programs that year, Regina OA started in a hybrid delivery model. Students would attend class two to three days a week and study online for the other days.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 situation grew worse throughout the year and the Regina OA Program was forced to deliver programming completely online starting in November 2020. The program continued to be completely online until the end of the program in June 2021. Thanks to the stellar efforts of the instructors, Kristen Rutten and Derek Stovin, the program continued to thrive while being delivered online.

Student attendance, academic achievement, and morale all

stayed extremely high despite no face-to-face instruction for months. This transition to an online learning environment was handled seamlessly by the staff and students.

Credit also goes to DTI Director, Brett Vandale, and senior DTI management for having the vision and doing the hard work to prepare for digital and online instruction when the pandemic first hit.

In the spring of 2020, a committee was formed to implement DTI's learning management system, Brightspace. Tracy LaPrise, Taryn Ward, Bonnie Hrycuik, and Gareth Griffiths were on the committee and worked hard to make Brightspace an integral part of DTI's instructional delivery.

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COVID-19



Drop-In Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic

Gabriel Dumont Institute
Main Floor Classroom
1003-22nd St. W
Saskatoon, SK

Friday, September 24, 2021
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m

Moderna & Pfizer



GDI CAMPUS DROP-IN VACCINE CLINICS

By Desirae Barker

Coming up this fall, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) will be hosting Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) Drop-In COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics at our campuses.

Currently, vaccine clinics will be scheduled in Regina and Saskatoon. Further vaccine clinic locations will be announced at a later date.

The drop-in vaccine clinics will provide immunization to anyone who meets the current vaccine eligibility. We encourage all students, faculty, and staff who are not fully vaccinated to attend.

These clinics will be first-come, first-served only, and open to the general public as well. A valid health card and/or identification will be required. Clinics will have the capacity to immunize up to 60 individuals. First and second doses

of the Moderna and/or Pfizer immunization will be available at the clinic.

The first 60 individuals who get immunized at a GDI drop-in vaccine clinic will receive a small gift bag. Students, clients, and community members will also have a chance to win a \$500 President's Choice gift card or prize package. Staff and faculty are not eligible for the clinic draws. Incentives for fully-vaccinated students, staff, and faculty will be announced in the coming weeks.

The GDI drop-in vaccine clinic leads are Chantelle Jule (Saskatoon Campus) and April Bourgeois (Regina Campus). All questions can be directed to these leads.

The first Saskatoon clinic is scheduled for September 24th and the Regina clinic date will be released soon. 🌐

2021-2022 ORDER OF GABRIEL DUMONT NOMINATIONS OPEN

By Michelle McNally

The Order of Gabriel Dumont is awarded annually to a small number of persons who have served the Métis of Canada with distinction.

Investment into the Order is one of the Métis Nation's highest civilian honours.

The 2021-2022 Order of Gabriel Dumont nominations for gold and silver medals are now open until October 31, 2021.

The gold medal is awarded based on a lifetime of achievements and services. Past winners have provided the Métis with a lifetime of outstanding service in areas such as education, politics, health care, community development, and

culture. Many made lasting contributions affecting future generations of Métis.

The silver medal honours those who have made significant contributions to the Métis. The silver medal has been presented to community leaders, activists, artists, business persons, and contributors active in the Métis community. Their contributions have spanned a number of years, in a number of areas.

For more nomination information visit our website: www.gdins.org/metis-culture/the-order-of-gabriel-dumont-call-for-nomations/ 🌐



2020 Order of Gabriel Dumont Gold medal recipient, John Arcand, GDI 40th Anniversary Gala





SK EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS & MASTERCARD FOUNDATION FORM OYATEKI PARTNERSHIP

By Desirae Barker

On August 3, 2021 a new partnership between the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), the Mastercard Foundation, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology (SIIT), and the University of Saskatchewan (USask) was announced that will support 32,000 First Nations and Métis youth on their path to post-secondary education and as they transition to employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

The \$23 million dollar partnership will create meaningful change over the next five years and GDI is excited to be a part of the development of a truly inclusive education system.

The initiative named the Oyateki Partnership is a unique collaboration designed to transform the education and employment systems in Saskatchewan in service of Indigenous young people. On an individual level, the Oyateki Partnership seeks to improve levels of self-determination among Indigenous young people in Saskatchewan by increasing their engagement with post-secondary schooling and improving educational attainment and labour market outcomes.

The outcomes of the partnership are ambitious and targeted.

- Support successful transitions to post-secondary for Indigenous youth.
- Increase positive outcomes for Indigenous learners while at post-secondary.
- Support successful transitions from post-secondary into meaningful careers and work for Indigenous youth

- Strengthen coordination, communication, and integration of the post-secondary and employment systems for Indigenous youth.

These outcomes will drive all activities and ensure the development of a truly inclusive system. Achieving these short-term results will positively contribute to the overall 'wholistic' health, wellbeing, and socio-economic impacts for Indigenous individuals, families, and communities that will be felt in society.

This partnership would not be possible without the generous support of the Mastercard Foundation through its EleV Initiative. EleV, launched by the Foundation in 2017, aims to support Indigenous youth in their pathways through education and on to meaningful work and livelihoods reflecting their values, traditions, and aspirations.

"The Mastercard Foundation's investment in the Oyateki partnership is a huge step forward in closing the education gap for Métis youth across the province. For this, we are so thankful. GDI is proud to contribute to this partnership in a way that creates meaningful change for Métis post-secondary education," said Lisa-Bird Wilson, GDI Executive Director.

With the agreement signed, the partners are excited to begin the search for a managing Director for this ground-breaking collaboration.

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Photo by University of Saskatchewan

Thank You TO OUR SUMMER STUDENTS!



Summer Students Renée Pouliot & Danielle Barker

This summer, GDI Training & Employment and the Dumont Technical Institute hired five students to help with various projects. On behalf of the Institute, thank you all for your contributions!

Good luck in your upcoming school year. We will miss you!





**ORANGE SHIRT DAY
FACE MASKS
NOW AVAILABLE**



WWW.SHOPMETIS.CA

September 30th is Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. As the day of awareness and commemoration, GDI will be hosting a one-hour virtual event for all students, staff, and faculty to take place at 11AM on September 30th. A link will be provided closer to the date. We encourage everyone to attend as we commemorate the significance of this day.



**PROGRAM
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

DO YOU WANT TO BUILD OR GROW A BUSINESS?

**MÉTIS
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WORKSHOP**
SEPT 28 AND 29
@SASKATOON INN

FREE Registration:
SKentrepreneur.ca



**Métis Entrepreneurship Workshop
September 28-29, 2021
Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon SK**

Free Registration:
SKentrepreneur.ca

**DTI Testing Center is open every
Friday. For detailed booking
instructions please visit →
www.gdins.org/saskatoon-testing-
center-now-open**



**Check out new DTI
Programs announced!
www.gdins.org/
programs**

TEAMWORK & SUCCESS IN A PANDEMIC

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By fall 2020, DTI had Brightspace in place and that helped Regina OA to be successful in spite of the challenges.

During the year, there were several leadership changes; adding more challenges to the delivery of the Regina OA program. Bonnie Hrycuik was the program coordinator in the fall of 2020, but she went on maternity leave in March 2021. Michelle McNally took over as program coordinator from Bonnie, but she took a new position in late May 2021. Finally, Dylan Pelletier took over the program from Michelle for the last month of the program. This amount of change-over in supervisors would normally disrupt a program at least a little bit, but not for the Regina OA instructors. Kristen and Derek just kept on doing their exceptional work, and student success is the proof.

The Regina Office Administration program started the 2020-2021 school year with 15 Métis female students and finished the school year with ten graduates and five successful completers. They did not lose a single student over the entire year!

These are remarkable numbers for a regular year and even more remarkable during a pandemic. Despite changing supervisors, online learning, and COVID-19 outbreaks in the community, all students persevered. Thanks to all of the hard work of Kristen, Derek, and the rest of the DTI support staff these students were able to be successful against the odds.

Congratulations to the students of the 2020-2021 Regina Office Administration program! 🌍

**SK EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS & MASTERCARD
FOUNDATION FORM OYATEKI PARTNERSHIP**

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The Oyateki Director will have the resources and support to make a significant difference in the economic and social development of Saskatchewan and provide a template for future change across the country. The position was posted on each partner's social media, website, and advertised nationally in search for candidates. The posting closed on August 25th and the hiring committee is working towards hiring a Director in the upcoming weeks.

of the Métis in Saskatoon. The event will be youth-centered and incorporate cultural teachings, sessions with Elders and Knowledge Keepers, and an interactive panel discussing the future of this partnership.

As of now, the official agenda for the event is still in the planning stages. All parties are working together to create a memorable and safe event for all.

This October, the partners plan to celebrate the launch of Oyateki at Wanuskewin Heritage Park on Treaty Six Territory and Homeland

Keep an eye on the GDI social media pages and website for upcoming information regarding the event! 🌍





COVID-19 UPDATE: 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

As of August 27, 2021 updated COVID-19 Protocols were released to all staff for the upcoming academic year.

Masks

In all GDI facilities, masks are required by students, faculty, staff, and visitors including contractors and vendors, in all indoor public spaces including classrooms, labs, libraries, elevators, etc.

Cleaning and distancing

Enhanced cleaning, safety signage, and PPE supplies will continue to be available at all facilities. It is important to continue maintaining social distancing as much as possible.

Vaccination Requirements

In order to keep GDI facilities and campuses safe, GDI is strongly encouraging all students, faculty, and staff to receive their COVID-19

vaccine as soon as reasonably possible.

Attestation of vaccination status remains with each individual and is on the honour system. In the interest of safety within our communities, those who have not been fully-vaccinated will be expected to self-monitor with regular rapid testing two times per week (Monday and Thursday) and complete a daily symptom checklist before participating in any in-person activities. Anyone who is feeling unwell should not attend a GDI facility. Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or who receive a positive rapid test should follow SHA guidelines, call the Healthline at 811, and make arrangements to be tested. It is up to each of us to keep our community safe. Exemptions from/accomodation granted for verifiable medical or religious/

creed-based reasons under The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code. If an accommodation request is granted, students/faculty/staff may be subject to additional protocols and/or restrictions.

Group Visits

Group visits/tours by outside groups to the GDI gallery and museum in Saskatoon are suspended for the fall and will be re-evaluated before the new year.

GDI would like to thank everyone for their continued adherence to the health and safety protocols. As our facilities open up to more individuals, we want to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all. We strongly encourage all of our students, staff, and faculty to get their COVID-19 vaccinations and help us move forward to a healthier future! 🌍

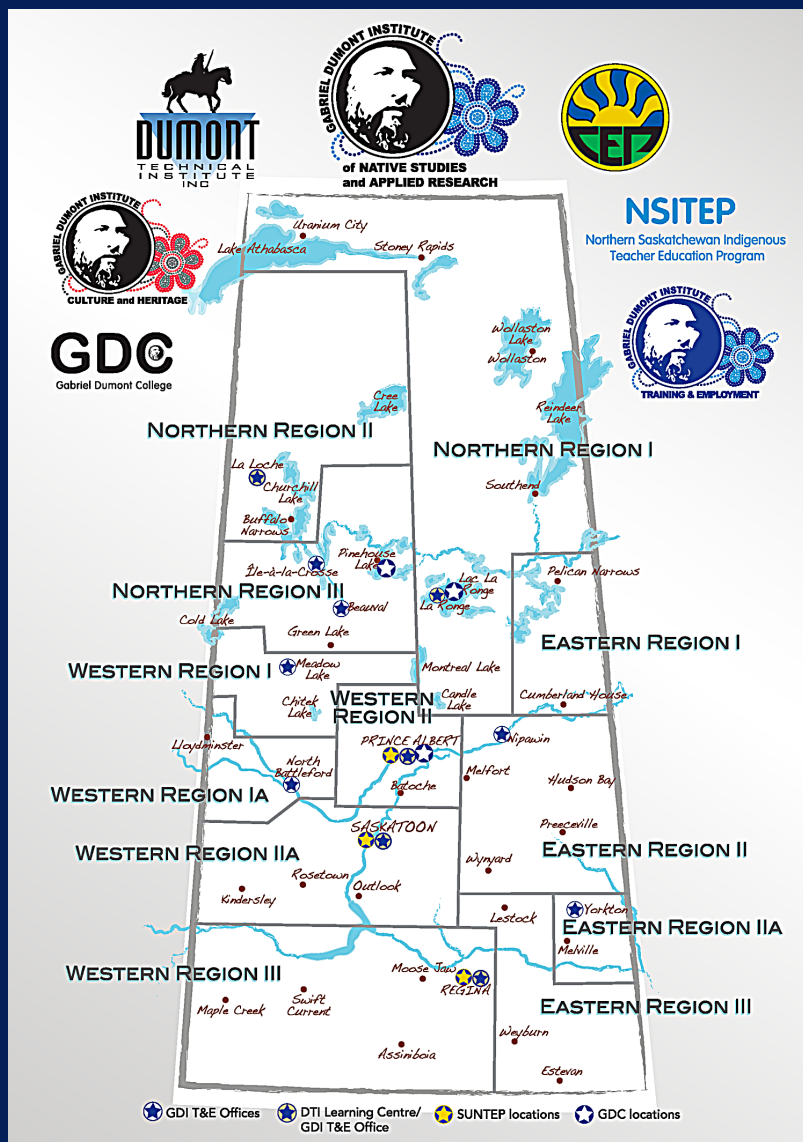
SEPTEMBER 2021 FINANCE & PAYROLL CUTOFF CALENDAR

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



CONTACT US



WWW.GDINS.ORG

1-877-488-6888

info@gdins.org

Back 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 Desirae Barker at desirae.barker@gdins.org

