

Gabriel Dumont Institute
Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP)
Operational Highlights
2011-2012

SUNTEP Regina

Location: University of Regina

Staff Complement:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Joanne Pelletier | Program Coordinator |
| Erma Taylor | Administrative Assistant |
| Russell Fayant | Faculty |
| Christina Johns | Faculty |
| Lorri Melnechenko | Faculty |

Student Update:

| | Female | Male | Total |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Year 1 | 12 | 4 | 16 |
| Year 2 | 9 | 3 | 12 |
| Year 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Year 4 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| Total | 32 | 8 | 40 |

Program Highlights:

- The SUNTEP Regina program is pleased to announce official approval for the NEW **ESST 100-370** course on **Métis Culture, Identity and Traditions**. After a lengthy and in-depth research process finalized with Dr. Sherry Farrell Racette, SUNTEP Faculty, Russell Fayant, and SUNTEP Administrative Assistant Erma Taylor - this class includes: identifying communities, securing human and historical resources, and provides students with the opportunity to gain that introductory understanding of the Michif language. We are very pleased this course is officially offered in our program.
- We are excited to report that the SUNTEP Regina SMART Classroom was set up for the staff and students. The SMART board, Mac cart, Mac books, and LED projector will provide additional support for the advancement of information technology in our program. The use of these tools will assist in enhancing our technological skills in the classrooms, and will further prepare our student teachers for the future.
- SUNTEP's contract with the University of Regina has been renewed for

another five years to March 31, 2017. Changes from the previous contract were minor, with the exception of the inclusion of key points from the Accord on Indigenous Education, Association of Canadian Deans of Education, 2010. We look forward to continuing our relationship with the University of Regina and appreciate their support.

- Initiating and establishing the "Order of the Sash," in partnership with, McDermid Elementary Community School continues to enhance our experiences in the community. This newly created award will be an annual event that honours and celebrates an elementary student who practices and displays the values of school, community, and self from the Métis community while receiving the continued support of SUNTEP students during the classroom placements. Three graduates of the SUNTEP Regina program work at McDermid School.

Awards and Scholarships presented at graduation and throughout the 2011-2012 academic year:

- The *David Amyotte Memorial Scholarship* was presented to graduate Teresa Thrun. This award was established by the Amyotte family to recognize those students who promote Aboriginal culture in the classroom, demonstrate teaching potential and leadership in the SUNTEP program, and promote the goals of cross-cultural education, much as David did during his time as a SUNTEP student and teacher.
- The *Spirit of SUNTEP* was awarded to Mandi Elles. This award recognizes community leadership and involvement by SUNTEP students, and is given to a member of the graduating class who has demonstrated the spirit of SUNTEP as visualized by the Métis people of Saskatchewan 32 years ago.
- The *Lebret Métis Cultural Days Award* was awarded and shared between Dallas Monpetit and Shyloa Jarrett. Established in 2010, this award is a ten-year scholarship project required by the Lebret Métis Cultural Days Committee. The purpose of the scholarship is to recognize academic achievement, financial need, and community involvement. This award also seeks to recognize Métis students who have a current or historical connection to the traditional Métis of Lebret.
- The *Doctor David Bale Scholarship*, long-time sessional instructor with the SUNTEP Regina program, established a onetime scholarship awarded to 2012 graduate, Anita Uhl. This scholarship recognized the instrumental role Anita played in diligently incorporating First Nations and Métis content and perspectives during her internship practicum. Special congratulations to all awards and scholarship recipients!

- A special note of congratulations to third-year student, Jenel Markwart (daughter of a SUNTEP Prince Albert graduate), who was diligent in both applying for and receiving several scholarships, bursaries and awards during the academic year. We were happy that Jenel was invited by the University of Regina to apply for a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University. However, the invitation came one day too late to submit her application. SUNTEP Regina will benefit from this, as it allows Jenel to complete her program, and the university will contact her to apply in the next scholarship period.

Centre Activities and Program Development:

- The Sterling McDowell Foundation, in collaboration with the SUNTEP Regina, partnered in a research study entitled: "OCHAPAN: Perspective of Elders and Students on the Elders in Residence Program," Teaching and Learning Research Exchange Project. SUNTEP faculty, Russell Fayant and Program Coordinator, Joanne Pelletier assisted in the completion of this research.
- SUNTEP Program Coordinator, Joanne Pelletier, together with Linda Goulet, Larry Steeves, and Rainy Gaywish, served as guest editors for a special fall 2011 edition (vol. 17, vol. 13) of the University of Regina, Faculty of Education's online journal, *in education, exploring our connective educational landscape*. This edition focused on Indigenous education and was intended to provide an opportunity for scholars, in particular new Indigenous academics, to contribute to the ongoing dialogue pertaining to Indigenous education in Canada. The journal is available online at (<http://ineducation.ca/>).
- All SUNTEP Regina students, under the leadership of our faculty member, Christina Johns, had the opportunity to be involved with *Project of Heart*. *Project of Heart* commemorates through art, those children who died while attending residential schools. Project initiator and U of R graduate student, Sylvia Smith, was a recipient of the 2011 Governor General's History Award for Excellence in Teaching-the nation's top teaching prize.
- For the third consecutive year, all SUNTEP Regina staff and students initiated the academic year by participating in the Lebret gathering. This gathering allows many of our students to research and trace the history of their Métis ancestry. The one-day gathering included a tour of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, the Lebret Museum, and the Métis Farm settlement. Students also heard many stories from local farmers and Métis area residents. The day ended with fun filled traditional Michif games.

Student Awards and Accomplishments

- Recipients of Métis Training and Employment scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year:

| Year 3 | Year 4 |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Jenel Markwart | Jolie Rebecca Brewer |
| Dennis Pepin | Ashley Dawn Luce |
| | Christine Morrissette |
| | Karla Parisian |
| | Robyn (Ashley) Pennington |
| | Joni Racette |
| | Megan Shiplack |
| | Teresa Thrun |

- Awards, Scholarships, & Bursaries-Fall 2011 and Winter 2012 semesters

| Year 1 | |
|-------------------|---|
| Melissa Burgbusch | University of Regina Aboriginal Bursary |
| Shalyn Cowan | Provincial Sport Governing Body Student-Athlete Award |
| Cassandra Fisher | University of Regina Aboriginal Bursary |
| Audie Murray | University of Regina Aboriginal Bursary |
| Year 2 | |
| Shyloa Jarrett | University of Regina Aboriginal Bursary |
| Dallas Monpetit | CIC Aboriginal Bursary |
| Leah Novak | University of Regina Aboriginal Bursary |
| Taylor Pelletier | De Ciman Women's Basketball Bursary |
| Year 3 | |
| Jenel Markwart | Canadian Federation of University Women |
| | Dr. Peter Hemingway Memorial Bursary |
| | City of Regina Henry Baker Scholarship |
| | CIC Aboriginal Bursary |
| | Muriel Welwood Scholarship for Women in Education |
| | Academic Gold Scholarship |
| Year 4 | |
| Joni Racette | Dr. Mary Cronin Literacy Scholarship |
| | CIC Aboriginal Bursary |

SUNTEP Regina 2012 Graduates:

The 29th annual SUNTEP Regina graduation ceremony was held at the Delta Regina on Friday, May 4, 2012 for nine SUNTEP students. The celebration was attended by well over two hundred family, friends, students, and invited guests. The graduation theme chosen was "Ni Ahkikinawn," We are Growing.

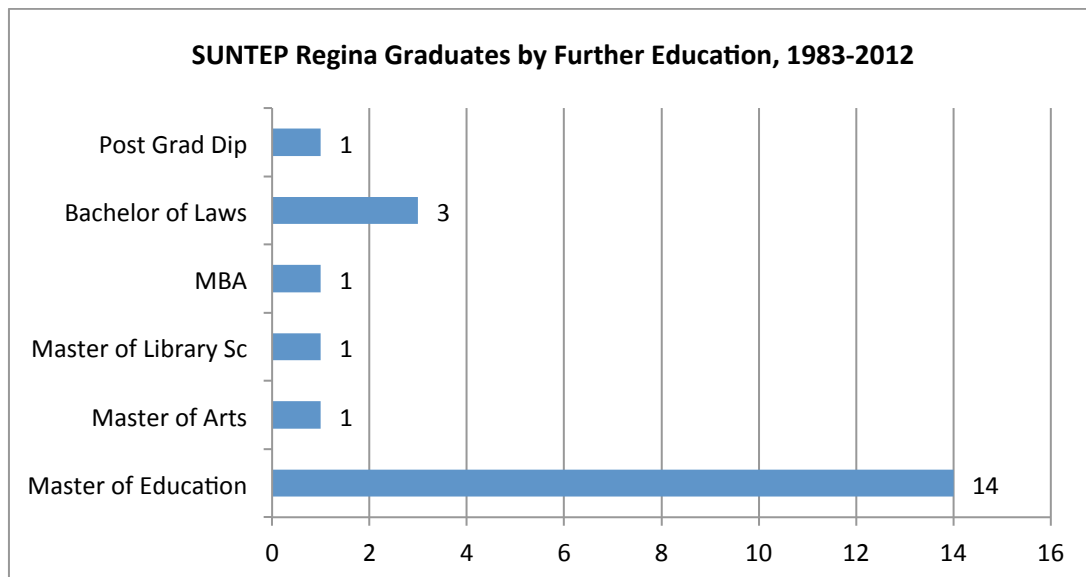
1. Jolie Brewer
2. Mandy Elles
3. Christine Morsissette
4. Karla Parisian
5. Robyn Pennington
6. Joni Racette
7. Megan Shiplack
8. Teresa Thrun
9. Anita Uhl

SUNTEP Regina 2012 Graduates' Employment:

| Employed as a teacher | | | | | | Employed-not as a teacher | | Unemployed | | | | Further studies | | Unknown | | Total |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|---------------------------|---|------------------|---|-------------|---|-----------------|---|---------|---|-------|
| FN | | Public | | Separate | | M | F | Looking for work | | Not looking | | | | | | |
| M | F | M | F | M | F | | | M | F | M | F | M | F | | M | |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 9 |

SUNTEP Regina Graduates Who Received Further Education (1983-2012):

Since its inception, SUNTEP Regina has graduated 233 Aboriginal teachers. Of these, 21 (or about 9%) have gone on to further their studies in such diverse areas as law, indigenous governance, business, education, and library science. Of those who continued their studies, 14 (66.6%) received Master of Education degrees, three (14.2%) received Bachelor of Law degrees, and one (4.7%) received a Post Graduate Diploma in Master of Business Administration, Master of Library Sciences and Information, and Master of Arts (Indigenous Governance) as shown in the Chart below.



SUNTEP Prince Albert

Location: GDI Centre, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

Staff Complement:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Michael Relland | Program Coordinator |
| Donna Biggins | Clerk-Steno |
| Sandy Sherwin-Shields | Faculty |
| Linda Lysyk | Faculty |
| Leah Dorion | Faculty |
| Corey Teeter | Faculty |
| Liza Brown | Faculty |
| Louise Legare | Faculty |

Student Update:

As of August 26, 2011 we had a total enrolment of 90 students, enrolled as follows:

| | Female | Male | Total |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Year 1 | 30 | 2 | 32 |
| Year 2 | 14 | 5 | 19 |
| Year 3 | 14 | 10 | 24 |
| Year 4 | 13 | 2 | 15 |
| Total | 71 | 19 | 90 |

Centre Activities:

On Thursday, September 1, 2011, SUNTEP Prince Albert held its orientation for all incoming students. The students spent the day in-centre getting acquainted, and the faculty and upper-year students providing an overview of SUNTEP policy and programming. On Friday, August 27, 2011, the first-year group travelled to Batoche on one of our annual field trips.

September 1-3, all first, second, and third-year students attended our annual Fall Cultural Camp at Camp Kinasao at Christopher Lake. This year we were joined by a number of Métis and First Nations Elders and workshop facilitators including Elsie (Dorion) Sanderson, Vikki Wilson, Bill Ermine, Danny Musqua, and Vivian Meabry. Also in attendance, as presenters, were several local artists, historians, and crafts people.

Regular session courses began on September 12, 2011, and we were fortunate to have most of our sessional lecturers returning from last year.

SUNTEP students were busy volunteering in Prince Albert area schools. For example, on September 29 and 30, the second-year students helped Riverside

Community School host a cultural camp at Christopher Lake. In addition, four SUNTEP students served as role models and youth Ambassadors at this year's Métis Fall Festival.

On September 26, the first-year students went to Little Red River Park to attend a workshop on Indigenous plants hosted by Bente Huntley. They then attended the farewell speech of Saskatchewan Lieutenant Governor Gordon Barnhart on October 3 at SIAST Woodland Campus. This function was followed up by a road-trip by the first-year students to Saskatoon to visit the U of S Campus and the main and Education Libraries.

In October, the classrooms in the centre were furnished with new tables and chairs that have dramatically improved its aesthetics. Students have commented on numerous occasions as to the improved comfort and functionality of the new furniture.

The centre re-opened after Christmas holidays on January 3, 2012. At this time, full-term courses resumed while 3 credit unit courses began.

Friday, January 21, SUNTEP hosted the "Fourth R" Program focusing on dealing with youth gangs. Also, on this date, James McNinch, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the U of R, spoke to the students regarding gender identity at our Friday lunch.

Students were out in school-based experiences the week of February 6 to 10, and they received a great deal of positive feedback regarding their performance in the classroom. This year, we had students placed throughout the Prince Albert area, in a number of First Nations communities as well as in the northern communities of Île-à-la-Croix and Pinehouse.

February 20 to 24 was study week for SUNTEP students. The week allowed students to catch up on their readings or get caught up on assignments.

SUNTEP Theatre continues to rehearse their original play entitled *Alex in Wonderland*, which the students wrote as a sequel to *Alice in Wonderland*. They presented their play to the entire student body on March 28, and performed it eight additional times to 1200 children from the Prince Albert area.

Classes concluded on March 30 followed by final exams from April 2 to 13. After finals, SUNTEP students completed their field experience April 16 to 20, or April 16 to 27, depending on which year the student was enrolled.

SUNTEP graduated 15 students on May 18, 2012. As in past years, this year's graduation ceremony was held at the E.A. Rawlinson Centre. We had several

School Divisions actively recruiting our students and making presentations at our centre this semester. This led to our graduating class doing extremely well in securing full-time employment with 14 signing full-time contracts and one choosing to work part time.

SUNTEP PRINCE ALBERT 2012 Graduates:

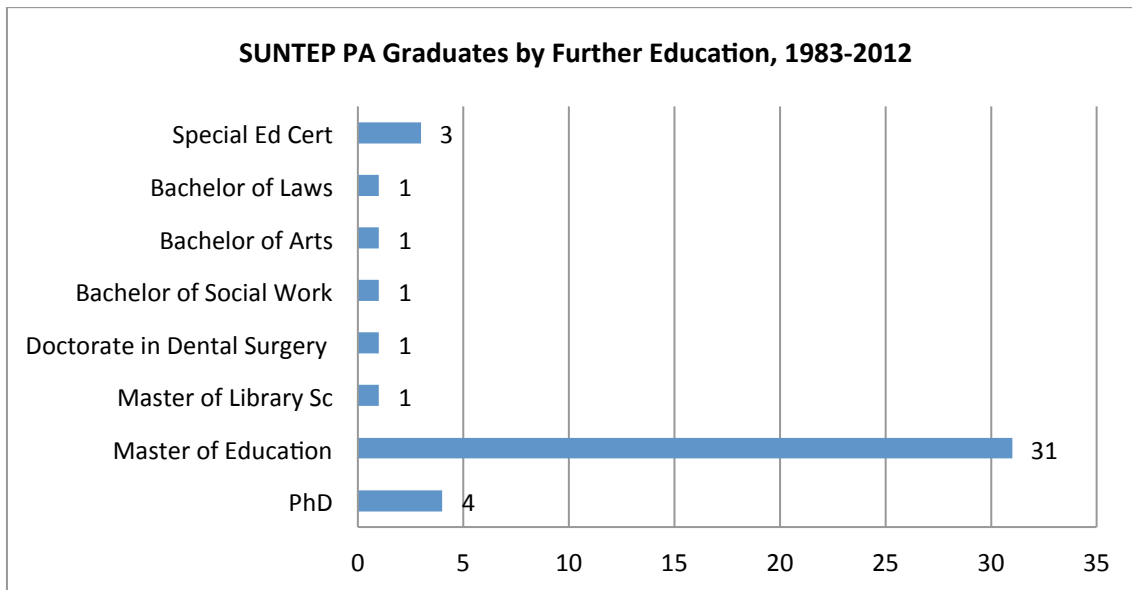
- Jesse Banks - Big River
- Jennifer Brown - Prince Albert
- Katherine Burak - Crutwell
- Joshua DePeel - Prince Albert
- Millissa Henry - Prince Albert
- Taryn Henry - Prince Albert
- Kayla Kaponyas - Prince Albert
- Destiny Martin - Prince Albert
- Lauren Tessier - Prince Albert
- Audrey McCallum - Pelican Narrows
- Troy Parenteau - Prince Albert
- Alisha Radke - Prince Albert
- Karen Rondeau - Crutwell
- Ashley Stalwick - Domremy
- Brittany Walker - Prince Albert

SUNTEP PRINCE ALBERT 2012 Graduates' Employment:

| Employed as a teacher | | | | | | Employed-not as a teacher | | Unemployed | | | | Further studies | | Unknown | | Total |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|---------------------------|---|------------------|---|-------------|---|-----------------|---|---------|---|-------|
| FN | | Public | | Separate | | M | F | Looking for work | | Not looking | | M | F | M | F | |
| M | F | M | F | M | F | | | M | F | M | F | | | | | M |
| 0 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |

SUNTEP PA PRINCE ALBERT Graduates Who Received Further Education (1983-2012):

As of 2012, 440 Aboriginal students have graduated with a Bachelor of Education degree from SUNTEP Prince Albert. Of these, 38 (or 8.6%) have completed post-SUNTEP studies in 43 different fields including postgraduate certificates, and masters and doctoral degrees as shown below.



SUNTEP Saskatoon

Location: University of Saskatchewan

Staff Complement:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Murray Hamilton | Program Coordinator |
| Cynthia Fey | Faculty |
| Melanie MacLean | Faculty |
| Kenneth Kutz | Faculty |
| Ruth Daniels | Administrative Assistant |

Student Update:

As of September 1, 2011, we had a total enrolment of 74 students, enrolled as follows:

| | Female | Male | Total |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Year 1 | 19 | 3 | 22 |
| Year 2 | 18 | 2 | 20 |
| Year 3 | 14 | 4 | 18 |
| Year 4 | 12 | 2 | 14 |
| Total | 64 | 10 | 74 |

Centre Activities/Program Highlights:

The SUNTEP Saskatoon year began early as a number of current students and past graduates gathered to celebrate and volunteer at the Back to Batoche celebrations.

Orientation began with SUNTEP Saskatoon's annual visit to the Batoche National Historic Site. Our group consisted of first years, upper-year students, faculty, staff and friends. Our guide for our visit to Batoche National Historic Site was Claire Thomson, currently a Gabriel Dumont College student who is completing an M.A. in History. SUNTEP Saskatoon students also participated in the general College of Education orientation.

SUNTEP Saskatoon students were quickly introduced to the rigours of academia and the challenges of the K-12 education system. SUNTEP Saskatoon faculty, Melanie MacLean and Cynthia Fey, placed their respective students in a variety of learning environments.

SUNTEP Saskatoon first-year students, in cooperation with students from Georges Vanier School, helped create a very impressive mural for Habitat for Humanity's main administrative office.

The SUNTEP Saskatoon Student Representative Council once again organized a well-attended Louis Riel Commemoration Day event. The featured guest speaker was noted Métis poet and writer, Gregory Scofield. The students also organized Halloween and Christmas parties for the family members of SUNTEP.

In February, the second-year students along with a couple of staff from SUNTEP Saskatoon and GDI journeyed to the Hudson Bay Company Archives in Winnipeg. This field trip is part of the Métis history course, and is intended to provide the students with an opportunity to do research on genealogy or other assigned Métis history projects. This field trip also includes visits to Louis Riel's gravesite, Riel House, Upper and Lower Fort Garry, La Fourche, the Métis Resource Centre, the St. Boniface Historical Society, and many other sites.

The research project, "*Li Michif Niyannan: Explaining Métis Traditional Knowledge,*" initiated last year, has been completed, and is in use as a foundational document for SUNTEP Saskatoon courses. Furthermore, SUNTEP Saskatoon played a significant role in the research and completion of Eric Howe's report, *Bridging the Aboriginal Educational Gap in Saskatchewan*. In 2011-2012, SUNTEP Saskatoon initiated another research project, "Measuring Success." This research project examined and documented the experiences of SUNTEP graduates in the context of School-Based Provincial Aboriginal Education Action Plans. The research will play a pivotal role in the Institutes strategic action plans.

SUNTEP Saskatoon staff and faculty continue to participate in a number of important U of S committees, including University Council, the Undergraduate Program Committee, the Aboriginal Advisors Group, and the Aboriginal Engagement Committee. Furthermore, the SUNTEP Saskatoon Student Representative Council participate in a number of student organizations.

Once again, staff and faculty made presentations to both the Saskatoon Public and Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Boards in an effort to secure employment opportunities for our students.

Much work remains to be done to raise the profile of the Métis at the U of S.

SUNTEP Saskatoon students, past and present, continue to make an impact by attending, presenting, and volunteering at events such as AWASIS, SaskTel Aboriginal Youth Awards, and the Saskatoon Indian and Métis Friendship Centre Native Grad Recognition Night.

SUNTEP Saskatoon concluded the academic year with graduation ceremonies held on April 28, 2012 at TCU Place. It was a lovely event as we witnessed our graduates join the ranks of their peers who are literally changing the face of education.

While GDI has accomplished much since its inception, we have reached a point in our development where we need to move forward in such areas as research, graduate studies, and entrepreneurship.

Recent Highlights

- Skip Kutz met with April Sora, Representative Work Force Manager for Agriculture Canada, regarding strategies to increase our graduates' employment possibilities. He met with the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission to obtain data on Education Equity matters.
- The second-year students (ECUR 200 and ECUR 370) visited St. Maria Goretti and Bishop Klein Schools for field experience study.
- The second-year students learned to use the SmartBoard as a classroom tool and resource. As part of ECUR 200, they built a web folio (e-portfolio) to showcase their learning and outline their teaching philosophy.
- The library has been automated. We would benefit from a self-checkout station to further facilitate this transition.
- EART 303 students made small houses with Grade 4 children at Georges Vanier School. The small clay houses were donated to Habitat for Humanity as a fundraiser at their gala event.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students participated in various events during Aboriginal Achievement Week, March 19-23, 2012.
- March 23, 2012 STARS Conference (Students and Teachers Against Racism Society)
- Saskatoon Public, Saskatoon Greater Catholic, Horizon, Prairie West, and Northern Lights School Divisions all made presentations to SUNTEP Saskatoon graduating students.
- A group of approximately 25 SUNTEP Saskatoon students journeyed to Regina to tour the Edward Poitras Art Exhibition at the Mackenzie Art Gallery and also visited the Science Centre.
- Jana Ross, a 2011 SUNTEP Saskatoon graduate, was awarded \$4,000 for a business proposal for her "Bannock Republic" line of clothing
- SUNTEP Saskatoon fourth-year student, Elizabeth Hudon was nominated for a Major 7 Award. The Major 7 Awards are handed to those athletes who have had outstanding seasons for the green and white, as well as big contributions on the field, in the classroom, and in the community during their time with the Huskies. Huskie Athletics will also honour Canada West All Stars and Major Award Winners, CIS All Canadians, Major Award Winners, and fifth year athletes, as well as announce the Trainer of the Year, Sponsor of the Year, Fan of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year awards. Her awards include Female Rookie of the Year, four-time all-star, captain, and Canada West record holder in soccer.

SUNTEP Saskatoon 2012 Graduates:

Kaylie Bell
 Sarah Clements
 Shane Cook-Laliberte
 Nicole Currie
 Amanda Goller
 Dayna Inkster
 Stephanie McLean
 Nicole Pambrun
 Danielle Piecowye
 Kelsi Pilon
 Justin Wiebe

SUNTEP Saskatoon 2012 Graduates' Employment:

| Employed as a teacher | | | | | | Employed-not as a teacher | | Unemployed | | | | Further studies | | Unknown | | Total |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|---------------------------|---|------------------|---|-------------|---|-----------------|---|---------|---|-------|
| FN | | Public | | Separate | | M | F | Looking for work | | Not looking | | M | F | M | F | |
| M | F | M | F | M | F | | | M | F | M | F | | | | | |
| 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 11 |

SUNTEP Saskatoon Who Received Further Education (1983-2012):

SUNTEP Saskatoon graduated its inaugural class in 1984 when it awarded three Bachelor of Education degrees (and four non-degree credentials). As of 2012, SUNTEP Saskatoon has awarded 371 Bachelor of Education degrees to Aboriginal students. Of the 371 graduates, 47 (or 12.6%) have proceeded to further education and earned a total of 54 post-SUNTEP credentials including postgraduate diploma's, masters degrees, and PhDs in a number of areas as shown below.

SUNTEP Saskatoon Graduates by Further Education, 1983-2012

