

## **Gabriel Dumont Institute Library and Information Services 2009-2010 Operational Highlights – Regina Branch**

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Library supports the information and research needs of Institute and Dumont Technical Institute programs with three branches located in Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. Its unique collection focuses on Métis and First Nations communities, culture, and history. Library staff work in partnership with other library and information service providers to provide free and unrestricted access to information for all library patrons. The library also works to develop the information literacy skills (research, critical thinking, and computer skills) of its patrons, which is an important step towards ensuring that Aboriginal people have full access to library services in Saskatchewan. Students, staff, and library patrons can access the GDI Library catalogue at the following web address: <http://gdi.voyager.uregina.ca>.

The Regina branch, in co-operation with the First Nations University of Canada (FNUC), co-hosted an Aboriginal veterans' storytelling event on March 8, 2010. Tony Cote and Dora Stevenson, both veterans of the Korean War as well as residential school survivors, presented to high school, SUNTEP, and FNUC students inside the smaller glass tipi at FNUC. Their presentations were followed by refreshments supplied by Dickie Yuzicapi, a Sioux chef, including various varieties of bannock, flavoured butters, and jam, and fruit juice. This unique chance for students to interact with Aboriginal veterans was deemed a success by all who attended.



Library staff accompanied the Métis History and Culture (INDG 221) class to Winnipeg to assist with genealogical research.

This year, GDI staff attended national and provincial library conferences, as well as continued their participation on the Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples (LSSAP) committee. Work continues on various projects geared towards expanding and improving library patrons' access to information and cultivating their information literacy skills.