# Gabriel Dumont Institute Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) Operational Highlights 2013-2014

## **SUNTEP Regina**

**Location:** University of Regina

## **Staff Complement:**

Janice R. Thompson Program Coordinator Erma Taylor Administrative Assistant

Russell Fayant Faculty
Brenna Pacholko Faculty
Jennifer Reid-Vandevord Faculty

**Student Update: 50** 

	Female	Male	Total
Year 1	17	5	22
Year 2	7	2	9
Year 3	12	2	14
Year 4	4	1	5
Total	40	10	50

# **Program Highlights:**

- SUNTEP Regina continues to support the Order of the Sash Award with McDermid Community School. In recognition of student achievement, this award is presented to a kindergarten to Grade eight student who practices and displays the values of school, community, and self from the Métis community while receiving the continued support of SUNTEP student teacher on practicum at the school. The annual award is a result of strong partnership between SUNTEP Regina and McDermid Community School.
- Frédéric Dupré, Manager of Community Engagement with the Institut français, sessional lecturer Jim Daschuk, and SUNTEP Regina staff organized a field trip to Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan for our year four students, along with students from the Baccalauréat en education program (BAC). Our students and the francophone students were provided a novel and unique opportunity to explore historical and contemporary relationship between French speaking Europeans and Indigenous peoples of the region. This one day gathering of students, faculty, community members and local museum administrators discussed the history of Indigenous settlement in

the region and the representation of Indigenous history at the former District of Assiniboia in southern Saskatchewan. Representatives of the Métis, Fransaskois, and First Nations communities shared their views on the history of the region and its present-day representation in museums and schools.

Faculty member, Russell Fayant, was invited, and represented SUNTEP Regina in Aotearoa, New Zealand for the 'Mamawitotak': Visit to Observe the Implementation and Results of 'Te Kotahitanga' Education Initiative. For over 13 years, distinguished Maori academics Dr. Russell Bishop, Professor of Māori Education, and Dr. Mere Berryman, Senior Research Fellow, at the School of Education at the University of Waikato, New Zealand, have conducted research and developed understandings around a culturally responsive pedagogy of relations. This is a restorative philosophy of education which places learners at the centre of the learning process and works to ensure that Maori students are able to succeed as Maori students. The philosophy has now been implemented across a myriad of secondary schools in New Zealand and now reaches approximately 25% of all Maori secondary school students. Continuing critical research conducted by the Ministry of Education in New Zealand provides strong evidence that not only is Te Kotahitanga improving literacy, numeracy and culturacy outcomes for Maori students, but indeed it is increasing achievement for all students.

Based on the success of the program, the Ministry of Education, Government of Saskatchewan, organized a cohort of 13 diverse educators to travel there to observe and learn about Te Kotahitanga in order to enrich understandings and to consider implications for implementation of a similar initiative in Saskatchewan. Participants included teachers, school-based administrators, directors, superintendents, consultants and representatives from the University of Saskatchewan and University of Regina. The end result for the cohort was a radical repositioning of educational assumptions and an invigorated drive to begin to set the wheels in motion for a similar model to be implemented in Saskatchewan.

- Facilitating the 2014 SUNTEP Internship Seminar at the Regina Travelodge
  was an opportunity for the staff to plan, prepare for, and be involved in this
  key aspect of teacher education. This annual event was attended by preservice teachers, co-operating teachers, and invited guests and was very
  successful. Métis Knowledge Keeper, Norma Welsh providing guidance and
  support for this event.
- After months of phone calls and emails with the SUNTEP Regina Program Coordinator Janice R. Thompson, Carissa MacLennan of the Jane Goodall Institute visited our offices and signed a formal partnership with SUNTEP Regina to promote the *Protecting Our Sacred Water* teacher resource

project. Training modules for our pre-intern students that focus on Indigenous ways of knowing, specifically Métis knowledge and culture with our students is a first of its kind in Canada. SUNTEP Instructor John MacDonald also participated in the event. Russell Fayant provided the culminating activity upon the completion of the training. We look forward to maintaining and enhancing this partnership. Additional information about this project is available online at http://content.yudu.com/Library/A2u8s8/EducationNews/resources/index.htm

## Awards and Scholarships presented during 2013-2014 academic year:

- The Faculty of Education University of Regina held its annual "Academic Excellence" student recognition reception. Ten of our students were recognized for their exceptional academic achievement in the 2013-2014 academic year. Students Marsha Ash, Trenna Beauregard, Melissa Bergbusch, Cassie Fisher, Shyloa Jarrett, Sydney Lemieux, Elsa McKenzie, Dallas Montpetit, Leah Novak, and Patrick Unrau attended and received their awards. SUNTEP staff attended the event and are proud the students' achievements.
- The David Amyotte Memorial Scholarship was presented to graduating student Shyloa Jarrett. 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 Award was presented to graduating student Melissa Bergbusch. 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 when the program was established 33 years ago.
- The Lebret Métis Cultural Days Award was awarded to Victoria Parisien.
   Established in 2010, this award is a ten year scholarship project at the request of 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 settlement of Lebret.

# **Centre Activities and Program Development:**

• The students actively participated in professional and cultural development throughout the academic year which included:

**Trip to Lebret** - All SUNTEP staff and students.

OCRE - Jennifer Reid-Vandevord and Brenna Pacholko.

Riel Walking Tour - Russell Fayant.

**Tipi Raising** - Roland Kaye, Lenny Daniels, and Dennis Omseasoo, Elders.

**Treaty Four Celebration Trip** – Brenna Pacholko.

**Aboriginal Content in the Classroom** - Russell Fayant and Brenna Pacholko.

Regina Red Cross, Respect ED – Norm Jakubowski, Facilitator.

**Information Technology** - Jo Szostak, Consultant.

**Métis History and Storytelling -** Joe Walsh, Métis Knowledge Keeper. **HART Project** – Dr. JoLee Saskamoose, Faculty of Education, University of

Regina.

- Former SUNTEP Regina Faculty member Christine Johns gave two
  workshops with the staff which focused on making leather portfolios for the
  2013 program graduates, and a Cultural Module Babies in Moss bags. The
  tradition of these experiences provided the staff with a hands-on approach
  in preparation for the students in the program.
- Faculty member Russell Fayant was invited to represent our program at the City of Regina's Cultural Plan Advisory Group/Committee meeting. The committee is responsible for the development of a Cultural Plan.
- SUNTEP Regina was invited to participate in the annual University of Regina Discovering Your Direction Grade Nine Conference. Faculty members Brenna Pacholko and Jennifer Reid-Vandevord provided a workshop to students participating in the Métis Sash Weaving session, in addition to promoting the program.
- The students participated in the 7: Professional Native Indian Artists Incorporated exhibit at the MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina. The exhibit provided our students with the opportunity to engage in the work of some of Canada's most celebrated early artistic alliances.
- Administrative Assistant Erma Taylor initiated, coordinated, and participated in a Southern Métis Elder's Circle with Darren Prefontaine from the Gabriel Dumont Institute Publishing Department in Saskatoon. The purpose of the gathering was to collect stories and vignettes from traditional Métis Knowledge Keepers in southern Saskatchewan.
- Numerous SUNTEP students participated in monthly meetings with the Program Coordinator Janice R. Thompson and SUNTEP Instructor Heather Ritenberg. These meetings provided a dialogue with students who are caregivers, and explored ways to enhance support and success during their

academic studies.

- The Gabriel Dumont Institute employees in Regina and surrounding rural areas gathered together for a Christmas Brunch at the University of Regina Faculty Club. It was a pleasure to take the time to get to know one another.
- The University of Regina URVoice Luncheon series hosted an event with special invited guest speaker, role model and SUNTEP student, Tyler Gervais. Tyler spoke of his experiences in Métis education as a student and parent.
- SUNTEP pre-service Interns attended Wilfred Burton's Métis Resources Workshop in Regina. This experience provided the students with an opportunity to implement these resources in their classrooms.
- In collaboration with the Faculty of Education University of Regina, Russell Fayant was an invited guest speaker for the *Talking about School Anti-Racist and Anti-Oppressive Education*. The annual event provides invaluable support for SUNTEP Regina and the Faculty of Education toward meeting the needs of the Indigenization plan at the University of Regina.

## **Student Awards and Accomplishments**

 Recipients of Métis Training and Employment scholarships for the 2013-2014 academic year:

Year 4
Shyloa Jarrett
Dallas Montpetit

Year 1	
Savannah Asapace	INDSPIRE Bursary
Marsha Ash	Centennial Merit Scholarship
	Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity
	Scholarship
	U of R Aboriginal Entrance Award
Kelly Blondeau	INDSPIRE Bursary
Gary Burgess	INDSPIRE Bursary
Joey Carriere	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity
	Scholarship
Brittany Chartrand	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity
	Scholarship
Lesley Hanson	CIC Aboriginal Bursary

Stacey Houghton	TD Bank Group Aboriginal Bursary						
Matthew Morris	Napoleon Lafontaine Entrance Scholarship						
Crystal Norris	INDSPIRE Bursary						
Travis Pelletier	Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship						
Kelly Regnier	Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship						
Trony regime.	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity						
	Scholarship						
	U of R Aboriginal Entrance Award						
	INDSPIRE Bursary						
	Athletic Entrance Scholarship						
	Provincial Sport Governing Body Student Athletic						
	Award						
Hayley Unrau	CIC Aboriginal Bursary						
,,	INDSPIRE Bursary						
Rebecca Wiens	Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship						
Year 2							
Garrett Legare	CIC Aboriginal Bursary (x 2)						
	U of R Aboriginal Bursary						
	INDSPIRE Bursary						
Alicia Gervais	U of R Aboriginal Bursary						
Tyler Gervais	CIC Aboriginal Bursary (x 2)						
,	Napoleon Lafontaine Undergraduate Scholarship						
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity						
	Scholarship						
Alicia Reiss	Saskatchewan Opportunity Undergrad Award						
Chelsea Sinclair	INDSPIRE						
Hannah Thrun	U of R Aboriginal Bursary						
Year 3	,						
Dalton Burzminski	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity						
	Scholarship						
	U of R Aboriginal Bursary						
Sydney Lemieux	Academic Silver Scholarship						
	CIC Aboriginal Bursary						
	INDSPIRE Bursary						
Trenna Beauregard	Academic Silver Scholarship						
Cassie Fisher	Academic Silver Scholarship						
	CIC Aboriginal Bursary						
	Napoleon Lafontaine Scholarship						
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity						
	Scholarship						
	Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan;						
	Regina Chapter Tuition Bursary						
Taylor Pelletier	Provincial Sport Governing Body Student Athletic						

	Award					
Year 4						
Melissa Bergbusch	Academic Gold Scholarship					
	CIC Aboriginal Bursary (x 2)					
	Napoleon Lafontaine Undergraduate Scholarship					
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity					
	Scholarship					
Shyloa Jarrett	Academic Silver Scholarship					
	CIC Aboriginal Bursary (x 2)					
	City of Regina, Henry Baker Scholarship					
	INDSPIRE Bursary					
	Napoleon Lafontaine Undergraduate Scholarship					
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity					
	Scholarship					
Dallas Montpetit	Academic Gold Scholarship					
	CIC Aboriginal Bursary					
	Dr. Mary Cronin Literacy Scholarship					
	INDSPIRE Bursary					
	Napoleon Lafontaine Undergraduate Scholarship					
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity					
	Scholarship					
Leah Novak	Academic Silver Scholarship					
	CIC Aboriginal Bursary (x 2)					
	INDSPIRE Bursary					
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity					
	Scholarship					
Patrick Unrau	CIC Aboriginal Bursary					
	INDSPIRE Bursary					
	Napoleon Lafontaine Undergraduate Scholarship					
	Marlene (Wood) Steininger Scholarship of					
	Education					
	Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity					
	Scholarship					

# **SUNTEP Regina 2014 Graduates:**

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual SUNTEP Regina Graduation ceremony was held at the Delta Regina on Friday, May 9, 2014 for five SUNTEP students. The celebration was attended by almost two hundred family, friends, students, and invited guests. The graduation theme chosen was a "The Roots that Bind Us – The Giving Tree."

- 1. Melissa Bergbusch
- 2. Shyloa Jarrett
- 3. Leah Novak

- 4. Dallas Montpetit5. Patrick Unrau

# **SUNTEP Regina 2014 Graduates' Employment:**

	Emp	oloyed	d as a	teache	r	Empl	oyed	Unemployed				Fur	ther	Unkn	Total	
	st tions nool	Pub sch		Sepa school		but no tead	ot as a cher	Looking for work		Not looking for work		looking for				
М	F	М	F	М	F	М	F	М	F	М	F	М	F	M	F	
0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5

# SUNTEP Saskatoon 2013-2014

**Location:** University of Saskatchewan

## **Staff Complement:**

Murray Hamilton Program Coordinator

Cynthia Fey Faculty

Louise Legare Faculty (Term)

Melanie MacLean Faculty
Kenneth Kutz Faculty

Wilfred Burton Sessional Instructor (Term II)

Ruth Bird-Anderson Administrative Assistant (on leave)
Claire Gagnon Part-time Administrative Assistant

Lori Perkins Term Administrative Assistant

#### **Student Enrollment:**

As of September 1, 2013 we had a total enrolment of 74 students, enrolled as follows:

	Female	Male	Total
Year 1	13	3	16
Year 2	19	4	23
Year 3	11	3	14
Year 4	23	0	23
Total	66	10	76

# **Centre Activities/Program Highlights:**

April is always a busy month with final exams and students undertaking the twoweek student practicum. Many of our students once again participated in the annual Awâsis Aboriginal Education Conference. Many SUNTEP alumni attend Awâsis Aboriginal Education Conference every year and so it is an opportunity to reconnect, network and socialize.

Interviews for prospective students were held the last week of May.

This year, the University of Saskatchewan and College of Education meetings were of a more pressing and urgent nature. Discussion and debate on the impact of the campus-wide implementation of "TransformUS" left many colleges and departments in a state of anxiety. Ultimately, the process resulted in some 300

people losing their jobs (SUNTEP faculty was not affected). TransformUS also saw the realignment of programs and services which have impacted all students and faculties and lead to state of uncertainty over which courses would be offered by the College of Education and SUNTEP.

Once again a number of current and former SUNTEP Saskatoon students volunteered and participated at the annual Back to Batoche Celebrations.

## **2013-2014 Highlights**

- GDI Executive Director Geordy McCaffrey and SUNTEP Saskatoon Program Coordinator Murray Hamilton met with Dr. Robert Regnier, Acting Dean, College of Education to discuss the impact of the new undergraduate program on SUNTEP Saskatoon.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon Program Coordinator attended the Métis National Council Education Roundtable in Vancouver.
- Presentations from Northern Lights, Prairie Spirit, Saskatoon Catholic, Saskatoon Public and Living Sky School Divisions to our graduating students.
- Presentation to SUNTEP Saskatoon faculty and students by Dr. Paul Whitinui, a Maori scholar and Associate Professor, College of Education, University of Otago, New Zealand.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students, staff and faculty travelled to First Nations University of Canada in Regina for the "Walking With Our Sisters" art exhibition. This was a very moving experience. Noted poet, Louise Halfe, accompanied us on the tour.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students and staff attended the Métis Nation Saskatchewan Education Task Force consultation meetings.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon participated in the annual College of Education Career Fair, which included recruitment teams from England.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon participated in the Native-Newcomer series headed up by noted University of Saskatchewan historian, Dr. Jim Miller.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students attended the Ile a la Crosse Career Fair and Expo.
- Meadow Lake Career Fair and Expo organized in part by SUNTEP Saskatoon alumni, Jana Ross and Danene King.

- SUNTEP Saskatoon took part in a Mathematics research project entitled, "SUNTEP Graduates' Teaching and Learning of Mathematics", with Dr. Egan Chernoff, College of Education.
- The SUNTEP Saskatoon Resource Centre and Library received a major renovation and resource overhaul. Much credit is owed to Ashley Shaw, Student Librarian, for her hard work and patience during this process.
- Once again several SUNTEP Saskatoon students were involved in a number of activities at St. Mary School.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students and faculty attended Dr. Cecil King's Balancing Two Worlds: Jean-Baptiste Assiginack and the Odawa Nation, 1768-1866 book launch and discussed the book.
- Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation Annual Golf Tournament included a team of students from SUNTEP Saskatoon.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students volunteered at the Bedford Road Annual BRIT Basketball Tournament.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students took part in the Wanuskewin Artisan Fair.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students worked with Faye Maurice, Cultural Coordinator, Saskatoon Public School Division, at Westmount Community School with SUNTEP Saskatoon alumni, Chandrelle Micklewright.
- Nicolette Hilton, Science Education Officer, Teacher Earth Success Education Programme in Armidale NSW, Australia presented to the second year group and also participated in some social activities with the SUNTEP Saskatoon Student Representative Council.
- Several students and staff participated in the Métis flag-raising ceremony on campus. Dignitaries included the University of Saskatchewan President Ilene Busch-Vishniac.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon students and staff visited the Hillcrest Hutterite Colony to conduct educational activities at their school.
- SUNTEP Saskatoon was represented at the Anskohk Aboriginal Literature Festival, which featured readings from noted writers, Kateri Akiwenzie, Gregory Scofield, Lisa Bird-Wilson and SUNTEP Saskatoon's own Zoey Roy.

• The SUNTEP Saskatoon Student Representative Council under the leadership of President Ashley Shaw are to be commended for organizing the annual September Welcome Barbecue, Halloween and Christmas events; as well as a numbers of social activities that included commemoration of the Louis Riel Day.

#### **SUNTEP Saskatoon 2013 Graduates:**

- 1. Britney Baker
- 2. Tyshia Burns
- 3. Brooke Epp
- 4. Annette Finstad
- 5. Chantelle Fransoo
- 6. Chantelle Gaudet
- 7. Alana Heit
- 8. Bonnie Hrycuik
- 9. Lori Kindrachuk
- 10. Sarah Krawec
- 11. Kristi Ross (Langstaff)
- 12. Shelby Mackay
- 13. Jody Nolin
- 14. Sam Ouellette
- 15. Sarah Paquette
- 16. Taylor Pilon
- 17. Christine Quennelle
- 18. Amy Regnier
- 19. Jamie Samuel
- 20. Danielle Smith
- 21. Melanie Unruh
- 22. Alicia Worme-Littlewolfe

# **SUNTEP Saskatoon 2014 Graduates' Employment:**

	Emplo	oyed	as a t	each	er	Em	ployed		Unempl	oyed	Fui	ther	Unkr	nown	Total		
Na	First Nations School		blic	Separate			-not as a teacher Looking for work Not looking		9 1		•		stu	dies			
M	F	М	F	M	F	М	F	М	F	M	F	М	F	M	F		
0	0		10	4	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	22	

# SUNTEP Prince Albert 2013-2014

Location: GDI Centre, Prince Albert

## **Staff Complement:**

Liza Brown Program Coordinator
Donna Biggins Administrative Assistant

Sandy Sherwin-Shields Faculty

Linda Lysyk Faculty
Leah Dorion Faculty

Corey Teeter Faculty

# **Student Update:**

As of August 2013 we had a total enrolment of 96 students, enrolled as follows:

	Female	Male	Total
Year 1	21	6	27
Year 2	23	4	27
Year 3	14	4	18
Year 4	19	5	24
Total	77	19	96

#### **Centre Activities:**

The Centre began the 2013-2014 school year with its annual orientation. The new students took part in a two-day orientation with the Staff and SUNTEP Prince Albert Student Representative Council (SRC). They had two full days of information regarding academics, policies, student loans and other important items regarding what to expect for the year of studies.

The following week, all SUNTEP students were at the annual fall cultural camp at Camp Kinasao in Christopher Lake. The weather was beautiful, the food was excellent, and the elders and resource people provided interesting sessions for the students to take part in. The elders included Vivian Meabry, Florence Allen, Norma Welsh, Susie and Lyle Bear, and Maryann and Hector Kkailther. We also had a few resource people including Robert Shatilla, Grace LaFayette, Doug Allen, Dennis Huntley and Georgina Miller.

The fall cultural camps and spring camps are now part of a 3-credit class where

students collect information from interviews, and make journal reflections on their experience in the different activities at the camps. Over the students three years in our program, between the camps and the cultural events that occur periodically in the year at the Centre, the students will have a Cultural Portfolio that will assist them in their future careers as classroom teachers.

Term one classes began and were in session until the early part of December. At this time the first and second year students were in the new program of classes and the third and fourth year students were in the old program of classes. As the new classes are delivered, we are meeting periodically as a staff and Liza and Sandy are also in contact with particular University personnel to ensure the transition is going well. The usual active academic life was the norm for the students and the newly renovated space(s) were appreciated.

During the 2013-2014 school year, SUNTEP was highlighted as a "success story" with the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Julian Wilson was the person who worked out of the AANDC and he joined the film crew Bossy Jossy Productions (Jocelyn Rheaume) at our Centre for a few days. The crew interviewed some GDI personnel and students on site. The four minute video is available on Gabriel Dumont Institute YouTube channel at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ihKKB6sOTE">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ihKKB6sOTE</a>. Those few days were interesting and the crew was nice to have around as visitors. It was an honor for SUNTEP Prince Albert to host and be part of the video.

The SRC and the Cultural Committee provided various events and professional development sessions at the Friday lunches throughout the year. Some of the events were focused on the profession of teaching, or community building, or specific to the Métis and First Nations culture. The two committees did an excellent job planning and organizing these events for the students and staff.

As per norm, the third year students were in their field placement in November. In the second term the first, second and third years go out again in February and in April for one week in each month, with the exception of the third years who do two weeks in April. During the field experience weeks, all faculty assist with any supervision that is needed.

The first year students were placed at the Queen Mary Community School and were supervised by Neil Sherwin-Shields and Corey Teeter. The first year students were prepped and placed in a grade within the school to begin their understanding of what is involved with being a teacher. The fact that all the SUNTEP student teachers are in the same school makes for the management of supervision very efficient and we are very thankful for the school's request to have our students placed in such a way.

The second year students were placed in the surrounding Prince Albert First

Nation and Métis community schools including Chief Mistawasis School and Stobart Community School in Mistawasis First Nations and Duck Lake respectively. The students are placed in pairs and in small groups at each of the schools. The second year students are prepared, placed and supervised by Linda Lysyk. Corey, Liza and Sandy also assisted with the supervision to ensure all second year students were observed. Our partnership with these schools is important and provides a wider range of experience and knowledge for the students. We appreciate the opportunity to place the students in these schools.

The third year students are placed within the Saskatchewan Rivers Public and Catholic system. These placements are very important as pre-cursor to their final practicum in fourth year and so the students' progress is of particular interest at this time for us as a staff. Jeannette Eddolls is the instructor who oversees the third year and Liza also assists with the supervision.

We had 24 interns out in their final practicum this fall. We will typically have somewhere just below or above 20 interns every fall. Sandy oversees the internship and we also had two other supervisors who assisted with the student progress.

#### SUNTEP Prince Albert 2014 Graduation

The 2014 graduation ceremony was held at the E. A. Rawlinson Centre on May 16, 2014 to honour and celebrate 23 graduates. The third year students assisted with some preparations for the day's event, Sandy prepared a slideshow and the remaining faculty helped with other parts of the celebration. The Riverside Community School dancers did a wonderful presentation of square dancing and jigging. As well, the SUNTEP students who have a musical group called "The Lazy Eights" provided fiddle and guitar entertainment.

Special quests included Gabriel Dumont Institute Executive Director Geordy McCaffrey, Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Governors Vice Chair Glenn Lafluer, Department Head, Educational Foundations, University of Saskatchewan Dr. Dianne Miller; Chief Tammy Searson-Cook, and a representative of the Saskatchewan Rivers School Division, Gabriel Dumont Institute Research Coordinator James Oloo was also present and followed up with an article about the graduation event. The well attended ceremony also included families, partners, friends, and well-wishers.

Susie Nontell received the 2014 SaskEnergy Sharing the Warmth Award and was presented with a hand-made Star Quilt. The graduates were very happy and enjoyed the celebration. It was a wonderful celebration for all.

The graduating Class of 2014 was as follows:

- 1. Keegan Brodacki
- 2. Leslie Choumont
- 3. Brittney Dearing
- 4. Justin Dinney
- 5. Logan Fines
- 6. Jillian Ross (Fremont)
- 7. Chelise Gamble (Lloyd)
- 8. Karen Horne
- 9. Santana Johnson
- 10. Gerald Lisoway
- 11. Clarissa McDonald
- 12. Kayli McKay
- 13. Jennifer McLeod
- 14. Melissa Melnyk
- 15. Tanya Morin
- 16. Charmaine Natomagan
- 17. Susie Nontell
- 18. Nicole Parenteau
- 19. Chris Phalen
- 20. Jennifer Sanderson
- 21. Kristina Slater
- 22. Randeen Tomiak
- 23. Alicia Vandale

The SUNTEP Prince Albert theatre class produced a play called "The Giving Tree" based on the award-winning children's storybook *The Giving Tree*: A Retelling of a Traditional Metis Story by SUNTEP Prince Albert Instructor Leah Dorion. The play was performed at several schools and community centres in Prince Albert and area and received rave reviews.

In June, the annual Spring Cultural Camp was held at the Little Red Park. The theme this year was "Making Connections: Nehiyaw – Asonamatowina (Cultural Connections). The two-day camp presented the students with an opportunity to learn more about nature, fiddle music, mini-mocassins, Cree songs, traditional plants and their uses, and beading.

Twenty one students received scholarships/awards of some type during the 2013-2014 school year.

# **SUNTEP Prince Albert 2014 Graduates' Employment:**

	Emplo	oyed a	as a te	eache	cher Employed Unemployed Furthe				Unemployed					Unkr	nown	Total				
Fire	First Public		Public		Separat		as a	Looking for	Not		Not		k Not		stud	dies				
Nat	tions			е		tea	cher	Ü		looking		looking		looking						
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	М	F	M	F					
0	4	1	10	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	23				

# **SUNTEP Prince Albert Graduates Who Received Further Education (1983-**2014):

As of 2014, 479 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. It is expected the numbers will change within a year or so to reflect those SUNTEP Alumni who are currently enrolled in the Gabriel Dumont Intitute-University of Regina Master of Education program in Prince Albert.