



# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

## **Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research Policies and Procedures**

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# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

<b>Policy No: 1.0</b>
<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Effective:</b>
<b>Revised:</b>

## **1.0 ORGANIZATIONAL MANDATE**

The Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research Inc. (GDI) is the educational affiliate of the Métis Nation—Saskatchewan. The Institute is the only wholly Métis-owned and controlled educational institution of its kind in Canada. GDI is responsible for the design, development, and delivery of Métis-specific educational, training, and cultural programs and services. While the Institute is affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina and is federated with Saskatchewan Polytechnic, it has maintained its independence and Métis identity.

Through its network of learning centres across Saskatchewan, GDI maintains close contact with the people it serves. The Institute’s programs and activities are developed in response to the needs identified in the Métis community and are implemented according to the decisions of its Board of Governors.

GDI offers university-accredited educational programming in three main centres across Saskatchewan—Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. Through the Dumont Technical Institute, GDI offers Adult Basic Education and Skills Training at centres across the province. Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment Inc. offers employment services and assistance with student financial support from ten (10) regional offices across Saskatchewan. The Institute’s Publishing Department has amassed immense collections of work from Métis artists, writers, and craftspeople. The Department has completed or attained interviews with hundreds of Métis Michif speakers in the three (3) Michif languages spoken in Saskatchewan.

GDI’s library resources are available to all Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program and Gabriel Dumont College students. The GDI Library has one of the largest Métis-specific collections in Canada.



# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

<b>Policy No: 1.1</b>
<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Effective:</b>
<b>Revised:</b>

## **1.1 HISTORY and PROFILE**

The Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research Inc. (GDI) was formally incorporated as a non-profit corporation in 1980 to serve the educational and cultural needs of the Saskatchewan Métis and Non-Status Indian communities. The Institute is designated as the official educational affiliate of the Métis Nation—Saskatchewan (MN—S). GDI offers a variety of accredited educational, vocational, and skills training opportunities for the province’s Métis in partnership with the University of Regina, the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, and the province’s various regional colleges.

As a completely Métis-directed educational and cultural entity, GDI is unique in Canada. At its inception, the Institute focused on education through cultural research as a means to renew and strengthen the heritage and achievements of Saskatchewan’s Métis. It soon became apparent, however, that the Institute needed to become more directly involved in education if it were to fully serve the multifaceted needs, including the employment needs, of Saskatchewan’s Métis community.

In response to these critical issues, the Institute began developing Métis-specific curriculum and historical publications. It also began to train Aboriginal teachers and to deliver programming contracted from the province’s universities, colleges, and technical institutes. The first, and perhaps the best known of these efforts, was the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP). SUNTEP trains Métis and First Nations teachers to meet the specific needs of the province’s Aboriginal students in the K-12 system. SUNTEP also serves as a model for Aboriginal adult education programs across Canada.

### **Special Features of GDI Programs**

All GDI, Dumont Technical Institute, Gabriel Dumont College, and Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment programs are designed with a number of special features:

- ∞ Programs are, for the most part, community based;
- ∞ Most programs offer a preparatory training phase or run concurrent update courses with regular programming when the course begins;
- ∞ All courses offer Métis Studies programming and are sensitive to Métis culture;
- ∞ Programs provide comprehensive academic and personal counselling support to students;
- ∞ Whenever possible, an applied practicum phase is included as an integral part of all programs;
- ∞ All training and professional education is fully accredited and recognized; and
- ∞ Instruction and programming is of the highest quality.



Policy No: 1.2
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

## 1.2 MISSION, VALUES, and GOALS

### POLICY

#### **Gabriel Dumont Institute Mission Statement**

To promote the renewal and the development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collections and the distribution of those materials, and the development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.

#### **Institute Objectives**

The Institute's objectives shall be as follows:

- ∞ To develop unique Métis education programs and resources for use in both Métis and non-Métis education programs;
- ∞ To establish a Library Resource Centre where such resource materials and aids are used and distributed for such programs;
- ∞ To conduct historical, cultural, and social research;
- ∞ To promote the unique educational needs of Métis youth by implementing special programs such as the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program and by encouraging and assisting Métis students to pursue a number of careers and professional opportunities;
- ∞ To promote and participate in the development and the implementation of a Native Studies program in cooperation with both the provincial universities and to be involved in the development of a Native Studies program with the University of Saskatchewan;
- ∞ To promote and assist in the planning of community education programs to be delivered to local Métis communities;
- ∞ To provide special programs of a remedial nature to assist Métis individuals improve their employment opportunities and realities;
- ∞ To provide special training programs relating to Métis cultural awareness with a focus on both the historical and current cultural situation of Métis people; and
- ∞ To promote, develop, and implement programs designed to improve cross-cultural relationships and increase cross-cultural understanding and awareness.



Policy No: 1.3
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised: Oct. 2014

### 1.3 MEMBERSHIP and ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

#### POLICY

Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) membership shall consist of the following:

**A) Voting Members**

All Métis Nation—Saskatchewan (MN—S) Locals shall be entitled to appoint, from among their membership, delegates who, upon appointment by their respective locals, shall become voting members of the Institute. Each MN—S local shall be entitled to appoint delegates calculated upon its registered membership according to the following formula:

Four (4) delegates to represent the first one-hundred of portion thereof of its registered membership; and three (3) delegates to represent each additional one-hundred of portion thereof of its registered membership; one (1) delegate per fifty (50) students not to exceed six (6) delegates.

Such delegates shall be entitled to vote at all GDI general meetings and attend other Institute meetings during the tenure of their appointment.

**B) General Membership**

All MN—S members shall automatically become members of the Institute. This includes any Métis who is a resident of Saskatchewan. Such members shall be entitled to receive GDI’s regular news publication, its annual reports upon request, use of its library, and be allowed to attend GDI membership meetings.

**C) Associate Members**

Any non-Aboriginal person who is sixteen (16) years of age or over may become an Associate Member of GDI on the payment of a \$5.00 annual membership fee. This shall entitle the member to receive GDI’s regular news publication, its annual reports upon request, use of its library, and be allowed to attend GDI membership meetings, as observers only.

**D) Sustaining Members**

Any Canadian citizen may, on application, and on the payment of an annual \$25.00 membership fee, become a Sustaining Member of GDI. Such members shall receive GDI publications and annual reports, and may attend GDI membership meetings, as observers only. \$20.00 of each membership shall be placed in the GDI Scholarship Foundation.

**E) Group Membership**

Any Métis organization which is incorporated in the Province of Saskatchewan and is on the Provincial Secretary’s active, register may apply for membership and become a GDI member on payment of a \$10.00 membership fee. Such organizations may appoint two (2) delegates to attend the GDI annual

general meeting or other general membership meetings, as observers only.

Any bonafide organization in Canada may, on application and the payment of a \$100.00 annual fee, become a Sustaining Member of the Institute. They will receive membership publications and reports, and may appoint two (2) delegates to attend GDI's annual or general membership meetings, as observers only. \$95.00 of the membership fee will be placed in the GDI scholarship trust fund.

In the case of Associate, Sustaining, or Organizational Members, the Institute reserves the right to refuse any membership application. The Institute also reserves the right to withdraw the membership of any Associate, Sustaining, or Organizational Member at any time.

## **Amendments**

GDI Bylaws may be amended at any general membership meeting, provided that notice of such amendments and the proposed written amendments are circulated at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting. Such amendments shall require a majority approval of those members present and voting.

METIS NATION -  
SASKATCHEWAN



**GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**  
of Native Studies and Applied Research

*12 Member MN-S Regional Board  
and one Board Chair - appointed by MN-S*





# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

<b>Policy No: 1.4</b>
<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Effective:</b>
<b>Revised: Sept. 17, 2008</b>

## **1.4 PROGRAMMING**

### **POLICY**

Gabriel Dumont Institute programming will always aim to serve the educational or skills training needs of Saskatchewan’s Métis in an effective, efficient manner. Needs will be identified at the community level with direct input from the membership. Great care will be taken to ensure that each program is administered and delivered in a fair, balanced, transparent, and financially responsible manner while maintaining focus on the most important part of the equation—the current and future needs of Métis student and trainees. The Institute will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that programming is equally accessible to Métis in all areas of the province: the north, centre, and south.





# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

<b>Policy No: 1.4.1</b>
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

## **1.4.1 GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

Thousands of Saskatchewan Métis who are assisted in some way by the Gabriel Dumont Institute on an annual basis are all dependent to some degree upon the Department of Finance and Operations. Under the Executive Director’s direction, this department handles:

- ∞ Day-to-day administration;
- ∞ All financial administration;
- ∞ Client information processing and handling;
- ∞ Payroll;
- ∞ All human resource management issues;
- ∞ Communication with the Executive Director to ensure all matters of importance are communicated to the Board of Governors in a timely fashion;
- ∞ Contract negotiations for program delivery and union matters;
- ∞ Public relations and marketing;
- ∞ Relations with government representatives at all levels;
- ∞ Production of the annual financial statements;
- ∞ Production and dissemination of the annual report;
- ∞ Production of annual budgets for all programs for Board review;
- ∞ Production of annual strategic plans and business plans for all program for Board review; and
- ∞ Reporting to all contract partners



Policy No: 1.4.2
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

## 1.4.2 DUMONT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Established in 1992, Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) serves the educational and technical training needs of Saskatchewan’s Métis as the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research’s adult upgrading and technical training program. DTI provides quality educational opportunities and services for Métis people in Saskatchewan. The Institute develops courses that are deemed essential for Métis self-determination and the development of strong, independent individuals living and working in Saskatchewan communities.

DTI is unique in that it delivers a wide variety of adult upgrading opportunities and technical training programs throughout the province. Many of these programs are community-based. DTI delivers programs in cooperation with several educational partners, including Saskatchewan Polytechnic (formally the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology or SIAST), the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, and the province’s regional colleges.

DTI is federated with Saskatchewan Polytechnic. The terms of the DTI/Saskatchewan Polytechnic Federation Agreement (2006) call for the partners to:

- ∞ Enhance access to and completion of technical education and adult upgrading by Métis individuals and communities;
- ∞ Enable collaborative planning between DTI and Saskatchewan Polytechnic;
- ∞ Increase the involvement, decision making, and accountability of Métis people in technical, adult upgrading and basic education programming; and
- ∞ Facilitate the delivery of DTI training programs to Métis communities.

DTI offers a wide range of adult basic education and skills training programs. The three main categories are as follows:

- ∞ Adult Basic Education—this includes basic literacy, upgrading for Grades 5-10, and Adult 12 (level 30) courses;
- ∞ General Educational Development (GED)—DTI provides preparation courses and testing for this international examination; and
- ∞ Provincially-Accredited Skills Training Programs—through the DTI/SIAST Federation Agreement (2006).

## **Student Support Services**

One of DTI's Strengths is its ability to offer a wide range of student support services. Small, community-based, Métis-focus classrooms often make a difference for DTI students. Time and again, students have expressed their appreciation for the close-knit, understanding atmosphere they find in DTI programs. Some of the student support services include:

- ∞ Student living allowance funding;
- ∞ Academic and personal guidance and counselling services;
- ∞ Tutoring and academic assistance in courses;
- ∞ Liaison with sponsoring agencies; and
- ∞ Referrals for student assistance.

## **Entrance Requirements**

Entrance requirement for programs vary. Students are encouraged to contact DTI directly for admission and programming information or visit the DTI website at *www.gdins.org*.



Policy No: 1.4.3
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

### 1.4.3 SASKATCHEWAN URBAN NATIVE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) was established in 1980. SUNTEP is a four- (4) year, fully accredited Bachelor of Education degree program, offered by the Gabriel Dumont Institute in cooperation with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education, the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan. The program is offered in three (3) urban Saskatchewan centres: Prince Albert, Saskatoon, and Regina. For their first two (2) years of study, SUNTEP students attend classes as a group, in an environment exclusive to SUNTEP learners. The final two (2) years include a four- (4) month internship, and may include class work at one of the university campuses in an elementary, middle years, or secondary education program.

The SUNTEP program includes Native Studies and cross-cultural education with an emphasis on Métis and First Nations history and culture. The program also provides a solid foundation in the educational theories and practical skills important in today’s teaching environment. A substantial amount of time is spent in schools working with teachers and students. Most fieldwork is done in urban centres.

Hundreds of Métis students have successfully convocated from the SUNTEP program with Bachelor of Education degrees. SUNTEP graduates have gained excellent reputations as teachers and role models in schools across Western Canada. Their training combines a sound academic education with extensive classroom experience and a thorough knowledge of issues facing students in our society.

SUNTEP’s goals are:

- ∞ To ensure that the Métis are well prepared to fill their just share of teaching positions in the province; and
- ∞ To ensure that SUNTEP graduates are educated to be sensitive to the individual educational needs of all students—particularly those of Métis and First Nations ancestry.

#### Funding

The program covers university tuition fees for qualified Métis and Non-Status Indian students. SUNTEP students borrow money from the Canada and Saskatchewan Student Loan programs while attending university. Sixty (60) weeks of this debt is forgivable for eligible students who are academically successful.

#### Entrance Requirements

Applicants who meet the following standards are considered for admission into the SUNTEP program:

- ∞ Meets the regular university entrance requirement;

- ∞ Successful completion of Grade 12 with a seventy percent (70%) average in seven (7) approved courses including Fine Arts and/or a Language at the 30 level;
- ∞ Meets adult or special admission requirements; and
- ∞ Twenty-one (21) years of age or over—ABE or GED 12 preferred.

## **Application Process**

To apply to the SUNTEP program, applicants must:

- ∞ Complete an application form and submit three (3) letters of reference;
- ∞ Submit a handwritten statement declaring their reasons for applying to the SUNTEP program. This submission should also outline/present their abilities as they relate to a professional education training program; and
- ∞ Applications are due by May 1st of each calendar year.

## **Selection**

Applicants will be interviewed by a screening committee. Successful applicants should demonstrate:

- ∞ A commitment to the program and a strong desire to work toward becoming an effective teacher;
- ∞ A desire to work with children and adults in educational settings;
- ∞ The ability and willingness to work full time in a teacher training program and continue the program to its completion;
- ∞ Experience working with Métis and First Nations children as a teacher associate or have previous involvement in an educational setting (e.g., as a member of an education committee, a coach, or parent-teacher group) or other relevant work or volunteer experience; and
- ∞ Interest in learning about Aboriginal cultures and working with and for Métis and First Nations peoples.



Policy No: 1.4.4
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

#### 1.4.4 GABRIEL DUMONT COLLEGE

Gabriel Dumont College (GDC) delivers the first two (2) years of a Bachelor of Arts and Science degree through the University of Saskatchewan. GDC courses are offered in Saskatoon, at the University of Saskatchewan, and in Prince Albert.

GDC provides an academic, cultural, and social environment that encourages learning and academic excellence among its students, and enhances their self-image, while at the same time stressing the high value of Métis culture.

The following two mission objectives will outline GDC’s direction and sense of purpose:

- 1) A high priority will be placed on the recognition and promotion of Métis culture and;
- 2) A high priority will be placed on the development and delivery of GDC programs and activities that are consistent with and promote Métis culture and which recognize the Métis students entering the program as members of a distinct cultural group.

GDC’s main focus is in Arts and Science, such as Native Studies, Métis history, Métis literature, and Indigenous languages. Other Arts and Science courses are also available. GDC courses are available to all Métis people who meet the entrance requirements and who are accepted by the College. Non-Métis may apply and be enrolled in GDC courses.

GDC’s aims and objectives are:

- ∞ To encourage and promote Métis cultural identity and heritage among Métis students, both individually and collectively;
- ∞ To provide an educational environment that meets the academic, social, and cultural needs of each individual student;
- ∞ To foster the development of each student’s potential, in terms of their skills, abilities, understandings, attitudes, and values;
- ∞ To educate students in a manner that is sensitive to the educational needs of Métis students;
- ∞ To develop the students’ potential as individuals and as contributors to both the Métis and non-Métis communities;
- ∞ To educate Métis graduates who will become role models for all students and the educational community as a whole;
- ∞ To encourage community involvement in GDC’s educational and cultural activities and to deliver a culturally sensitive program; and

- ∞ To ensure that Métis are adequately represented within the College of Arts and Science, as well as other professional colleges.

GDC delivers a culturally sensitive program that strives to:

- ∞ Instill a desire for learning and seeking knowledge;
- ∞ Instill a sense of responsibility as individuals belonging to a group with an ability to work cooperatively to define and achieve goals;
- ∞ Instill a better understanding of the full impact of Métis history and culture on Canadian development;
- ∞ Develop skills and upgrade students' abilities in academic areas as required; and
- ∞ Emphasize language training and the development of various Aboriginal languages and English as a second language, and to develop cross-cultural education courses to assist in the removal of racial barriers and cultural misunderstanding.

## **Student Services**

GDC offers the following services to its students:

- ∞ Individual pre-admission counselling;
- ∞ Personalized orientation to campus and academic life;
- ∞ Ongoing personal, academic, financial, and career/employment counselling;
- ∞ Referral to additional services;
- ∞ Information about social and cultural activities;
- ∞ Community liaison activities and recruitment;
- ∞ Diagnosis and individual help to develop skills that may be lacking;
- ∞ Coordination of tutorials, study skills, and other remedial measures at the student's request;
- ∞ Information about the University of Saskatchewan's various programs and colleges;
- ∞ Information regarding scholarships, bursaries, and employment programs; and
- ∞ Assistance with adjusting to the socialization factors associated with relocation and urbanization.

## **Funding**

For qualified Métis and Non-Status Indian students, the program covers university tuition fees. Most GDC students borrow money from the Canada and Saskatchewan Student Loan programs while attending university.

## **Entrance Requirements**

Applicants who meet the following standards are considered for admission into GDC:

- ∞ Meets the regular university entrance requirement;

- ∞ Successful completion of Grade 12 with a seventy percent (70%) average in seven (7) approved courses including Fine Arts and/or a Language at the 30 level;
- ∞ Meets adult or special admission requirements; and
- ∞ Twenty-one (21) years of age or over—ABE or GED 12 preferred.

## **Application Process**

To apply to GDC, applicants must:

- ∞ Complete an application form and submit three (3) letters of reference; and
- ∞ Submit a handwritten statement declaring their reasons for applying to the GDC program. This submission should also outline/present their abilities as they relate to a professional education training program.

Applications are due by May 1st of each calendar year.

## **Selection**

Applicants will be interviewed by a screening committee. Successful applicants should demonstrate:

- ∞ A commitment to education and a strong desire to work towards its achievement; and
- ∞ An interest in learning about Aboriginal cultures and working with and for Métis and First Nations peoples.





Policy No: 1.4.5
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised: Nov. 9, 2011

### **1.4.5 GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT INC.**

Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment Inc. (GDIT&E) was established in 2006 to assist Saskatchewan’s Métis looking to improve their educational and employment outcomes. GDIT&E programs and services allocate programming based on labour market needs and trends. Students may receive financial support through tuition support, living allowances and/or employer subsidies where eligible. A strong link between the training and sustained employment is a key element of the service.

GDIT&E has eleven (11) regional offices to ensure that Saskatchewan’s Métis have direct access to this service in their home community. GDIT&E also includes staff travel in outlying communities to ensure that the entire Métis populace has reasonable access. GDIT&E will continue to improve and build capacity as a result of its close link to its sister companies and their programs offered by the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

Funding for GDIT&E programs is provided through the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS). Under this strategy, Aboriginal agreement holders design and deliver employment design and deliver employment programs and services best suited to the unique needs of their clients. ASETS focuses on three (3) main priorities:

- ∞ Support for demand-driven skills development;
- ∞ Fostering partnerships with the private sector and the provinces and territories; and
- ∞ Placing emphasis on accountability and results.

#### **Programs**

Under ASETS, GDIT&E offers four (4) types of training and employment programs:

- ∞ Individual Sponsorship Programs (for complete program description refer to Section 5.4.1a);
- ∞ Employment-Based Programs (for complete program description refer to Section 5.4.1b);
- ∞ Immediate Employment Assistance Programs (for complete program description refer to Section 5.4.1c); and
- ∞ Partnership Programs (for complete program description refer to Section 5.4.1d).



**GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**  
of Native Studies and Applied Research

Policy No: 1.4.6
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

**1.4.6 COMMUNITY TRAINING RESIDENCE**

The Gabriel Dumont Institute was responsible for the creation and operation of the first Community Training Residence (CTR) for female offenders in Saskatchewan beginning in 1989. While the CTR program is no longer in operation, the Institute has ongoing obligations related to this project.



Policy No: 1.4.7
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

### 1.4.7 GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

Since 1985, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Publishing Department has developed more than seventy-five (75) Métis-specific resources. These materials have instilled pride among the Métis and have provided the larger Canadian community with a more balanced analysis of the Métis’ role in the development of Saskatchewan and Canada. GDI is the only book publisher in Canada that exclusively publishes Métis-specific books by Métis authors and illustrators. Our books and resources ensure that the Métis continue to tell their own stories. GDI provides an excellent service to Canada’s publishing and writing community because our publications are historically important and unique. They also fill tremendous voids in the literature relating to writing, history and culture.

GDI’s Publishing Department has the following mandate:

- ∞ To provide the public with a balanced analysis of Métis history and culture by producing high-quality and inclusive books, audio, audio-visual and multimedia resources, posters, and prints from a Métis perspective;
- ∞ To publish and promote the works of emerging Métis writers and artists;
- ∞ To put all sales revenue back into our community-based non-profit publishing program;
- ∞ To develop both a conventional museum/archives and resource centre and an online virtual museum, which will showcase the Institute’s artifact and archival collection; and
- ∞ To build partnerships with like-minded educators, community groups, non-profit agencies, and government departments to ensure a strong Métis presence in decision-making bodies affecting book publishing, education, and heritage issues.

The department develops Métis-specific curriculum to be used in Saskatchewan classrooms and is responsible for publishing of educational materials. GDI publishes books by Métis authors and artists that illuminate Métis history and culture and support the work, through publishing and advocacy, of Métis Elders, authors, artists, singers, songwriters, and video producers. GDI’s Publishing Department has become a Canadian leader in the production and dissemination of literary, audio-visual, and multimedia resources pertaining to Métis history and culture.

The Publishing Department is located in GDI’s Saskatoon office, where the department is also responsible for the Institute’s museum and archives. The museum and archive collection includes traditional arts and crafts, oral histories, and a print, video, and audio archival collection. The Publishing Department also oversees the development and delivery of *The Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture* ([www.metismuseum.ca](http://www.metismuseum.ca)), the most comprehensive collection of Métis material available on the Internet.

## **Community Display Program**

The Publishing Department prides itself on its activity community involvement. The department continues to participate in agencies that support our publishing program and GDI's mandate. These committees include SaskBooks, the Archives Council of Saskatchewan, and the Museums Association of Saskatchewan.

The Publishing Department believes that its success is due to being a community-based publisher. This has led the department to increase the amount of time and energy that it spends within Métis communities and at community events. We sincerely believe, through the support we receive, that we often serve as a liaison for the Métis community. To date, the Publishing Department has had a presence at over seventy (70) Métis cultural events across Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta.



Policy No: 1.4.8
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

### 1.4.8 THE VIRTUAL MUSEUM OF MÉTIS HISTORY AND CULTURE

On May 30, 2003 the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI)—in partnership with the University of Saskatchewan’s eMAP (Media Access and Production) —released *The Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture* to the public. The culmination of years of research gathering and resource production, the Virtual Museum is based on the Institute’s resolute desire to ensure that the Métis have their own stories told in a medium, which is user-friendly, free and accessible to all those interested in Métis history and culture. With 12,000 files, the website is the largest online collection of Métis-specific documents, videos, and audio files. For further information, go to [www.metismuseum.ca](http://www.metismuseum.ca).

GDI acknowledges the funding support of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education, the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Canada Council for the Arts, SaskCulture, and the Government of Canada.

#### **Museum and Archives/Artifact Repatriation Program**

To ensure the repatriation, preservation, and promotion of traditional Métis art forms, GDI has created what is perhaps the largest Métis artifact collection held by a Métis organization. This artifact collection can be viewed by the public in our museum located at 2-604 22<sup>nd</sup> Street West, Saskatoon. A large portion of this collection can also be viewed at [www.metismuseum.ca](http://www.metismuseum.ca)



**GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**  
of Native Studies and Applied Research

<b>Policy No: 1.4.9</b>
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

## 1.4.9 LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

### Library Services

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) has a Métis-specific library system—the largest owned by any Métis educational, cultural, or political institution—with branches in Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. With a large collection specific to Métis history and culture, GDI Libraries also provides computerized access to library services for all students.

The GDI Library collections held in Prince Albert, Saskatoon, and Regina are accessible through the University of Regina Library catalogue. GDI also has an archival collection housed in the Publishing Department in its Saskatoon location.



Policy No: 1.4.10
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised: Aug. 15, 2008

### 1.14.10 MICHIF LANGUAGE

The Institute recognizes that the traditional Michif language as a key component of cultural identity, pride, preservation, and ultimately, renewal. Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI)'s existing archival collection of interviews will provide material that will allow Métis historians to preserve and promote the Michif language for future generations.

#### **Michif Curriculum**

GDI will strive to produce high quality Michif resources for school curricula (grade school, secondary, post-secondary, and university levels) as well as for the general community and other academic users. To this end, GDI will continue to work with Michif speakers, language translators, and validators at events, conferences, and gatherings to enhance the Canadian public's understanding of our traditional language.