



Dear Valued Customer,

As of June 1, 2009 the Gabriel Dumont Institute has had to implement a "No Return Policy" on books and other learning resources unless they are damaged and returned within 14 days of being sent out.

Our justification for this decision is that we simply cannot afford to provide a substantial discount to book sellers, educational organizations, schools, libraries and Métis groups while we make the retail price at or below cost. We want to continue pricing our resources at a cost that makes it accessible to anyone interested.

Here is a snapshot of the Institute and more can be found at our website, www.gdins.org.

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 community. The Institute is designated as the official educational arm 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, the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, the province's various regional colleges and the Métis Employment and Training of Saskatchewan Inc.

As a completely Métis-directed educational and cultural entity, GDI is unique in Canada. At its inception, GDI 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 would need 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.

As a result, 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). In essence, SUNTEP trains Métis and First Nations teachers to meet the 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.

As you can see, we're not in it for the money, but to preserve our history, languages and culture. For this reason I am hoping you will continue to distribute our resources and accept our policy. We are happy to replace items that are damaged providing we are notified within 14 days and items are returned.

Sincerely,

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