

Gabriel Dumont Institute

Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) & Gabriel Dumont College (GDC) Operational Highlights

2021-2022

SUNTEP/GDC Regina University of Regina, College West

Staff Complement		Student Complement	
Russ Fayant	Acting Program Head	Year 1	9
	Faculty	Year 2	10
Bonnie Noels	Administrative Assistant	Year 3	8
Erin Kramer	Faculty	Year 4	11
Natalie McNabb	Faculty	GDC	8
Brenna Pacholko	Faculty	Total	46

Program Highlights

- ∞ SUNTEP at University of Regina shifted from hybrid (in-person and online) to fully in-person classes
- ∞ Learning opportunities, such as the program trip to Lebret and the Year 3 Michif immersion camp, were able to resume after a two-year hiatus
- ∞ Students and faculty had various opportunities to engage with the community through events, such as “Learn/Gather/Grow”, and projects, including “Cheekbone Beauty”

The 2021-2022 academic year was one of transition. Prior to registering for courses, students were required to provide proof of vaccination, as per the University of Regina (U of R) health guidelines. Also, in alignment with guidelines, the Fall semester began with both online and in-person classes. Online courses provided an opportunity to explore instructional technology (e.g., Google Classroom, JamBoard). However, students were eager to resume in-person learning, which came in Winter 2022. SUNTEP balanced keeping people safe by avoiding close contact when possible with encouraging collegial relationships through community events. We helped visitors, staff, students, and faculty feel safe and avoided a widespread breakout by following evolving recommended guidelines and ensuring access to personal protective equipment. SUNTEP maintained its high standard of learning and continued the development of their program, as well as the Indigenization at the U of R and within the community.

SUNTEP faculty, Erin Kramer, focused on developing interactive lessons/resources for teaching Indigenous geographies and kinscapes. Students in her class were given time to explore the “Indigenous

Peoples of Canada Floor Map”, purchased last year, to create lessons for their pre-internship and internships.

In May, Brenna Pacholko, SUNTEP faculty, worked with Campus Regina Public on a community-based project, creating ads for an Indigenous make-up company, “Cheekbone Beauty.” Brenna contributed wearable artwork for the ads.

SUNTEP Regina Alumni Committee, co-founded by faculty Natalie McNabb, was active for their second year, hosting various steak night fundraisers and raffles. Proceeds fund an annual scholarship awarded at SUNTEP Regina graduation.

Centre Activities and Program Development

- | | |
|---|--|
| ∞ Treaty Training from OTC (Years 1-3) | ∞ “Learn/Gather/Grow” event |
| ∞ SUNTEP Lebret Trip | ∞ All Centre Gatherings |
| ∞ “Time Management”, “Study Skills”, “Citing Plagiarism and Choosing Reliable Sources”, and “Academic Writing” modules (Year 1) | ∞ “Indigenous Maternal Methodologies” staff personal development session |
| ∞ Indigenization of Curriculum Module (Year 2 & 3) | ∞ Meeting with Regina Public Schools, Supervisor of Indigenous Education |
| ∞ Michif Immersion Camp (Year 3 & 4) | ∞ Meeting with Regina High School Indigenous Advocates |
| | ∞ Highschool recruitment at Riffel and o’Neil |

The academic year started with resuming the **annual trip to Lebret**. The trip centers around relationships and building connections to traditional communities. In Lebret, students visit the museum, church, and Lebret Métis farm, where Old Ones offered oral history of the importance of experimental farms to Métis people. September also brought the annual Off Campus Residential Experience (OCRE) to third year students. Students spent two days in Regina and Qu’Appelle Valley, participating in activities such as “Yoga in Nature”, making beignes, going on plant walks, and touring the Treaty 4 Governance Centre.

In the classroom, Educational Aesthetics 215 students had the opportunity to learn, teach, and create a curricular resource for **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls**. After learning more, students also hand-made a quilt to honour and humanize these women. It also became a catalyst for respectful classroom discussions around missing and murdered women from Indigenous communities.

In April, the entire SUNTEP program, students and faculty, planned a community-based event, **“Learn/Gather/Grow”**, at the Artesian Performing Arts Centre in Regina. It was an opportunity to celebrate a year of learning and progress. Year 1 students presented Métis square dancing. Year 2 students presented Métis artefacts they made (e.g., gauntlets, sashes). Year 3 students shared treaty

resource kits they developed. Year 4 students presented on contemporary Métis issues (e.g., fraudulent claims to identity, Métis rights).

Year 3 and 4 SUNTEP students participated in a 3-week, 6 credit **Michif Language Immersion Camp** through May/June. Irma Klyne, former GDI employee, and four Michif fluent Old Ones lead teachings. Sarah Woytas, a Year 3 student, shared:

“Michif camp inspired how I want to teach in the future. I was blessed to learn from the world that surrounds us naturally, rather than within four walls. The Old Ones taught me some Michif, but they also taught me to slow down and be present. The opportunities to build relationships, to encourage others, and to be proud of who I am, only enriched my experience learning Michif in the valley.”

Irma, along with Russ Fayant, continue to refine the course and offer suggestions to other programs on how to implement Michif revitalization into their communities. The language camp is the only of its kind in Canada.



In June, Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation sponsored a **trip to Duck Lake, Batoche, and Wanuskewin Heritage Park** for Year 4 students.

New Partnerships

Saskatchewan Polytechnical Institute

Russ Fayant and Bonnie Noels met with Indigenous Advocates to discuss how SUNTEP may be able to support their Early Childhood Education program

Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation (SCIC)

Brenna Pacholko and Russ Fayant provided an Indigenous lens to a discussion on “Global Citizenship” and received valuable teaching materials and resources for SUNTEP Regina students.

Faculty of Education

Russ Fayant helped organize and present a panel on “Métis Identity”, featuring Dr. Melanie Brice, University of Regina Gabriel Dumont Research Chair in Métis/Michif Education, Dr. Daryl Leroux, Rita Bouvier and Dr. Brenda McDougall. Organizing the panel evolved into a draft of a discussion paper and policy discussions access to Métis opportunities and resources.

Western Region III, MN-S

Regular communications with Area Director, Wendy Gervais, ensure Open House and Information Session notices reach a wide audience through the WRIII Facebook page. We have also been given permission to access and use an off-campus gathering space in the WRIII office.

**School Divisions
(Saskatoon Public/Catholic,
Regina Public/Catholic)**

Russ Fayant and Irma Klyne have been approached by various school divisions (in partnership with CUMFI) to assist with the planning and execution of a Michif language camp to be run at Batoche August 8th-12th. Irma and Russ regularly consult with SUNTEP Regina graduate and Michif immersion teacher, Victoria Parisien, of Sacred Heart Community School in Regina.

Student Awards

Connie Mussell	FCC Aboriginal Student Empowerment Fund \$1000
Noah Pelletier	Academic All Canadian Scholarship \$304.95 Academic All Canadian Scholarship \$523.45 Provincial Sport Governing Body Student-Athlete Award \$1000
Dylan McCabe	CIC Indigenous Bursary \$2,500 Academic All Canadian Scholarship \$304.95 Academic Silver Scholarship \$500 Provincial Sport Governing Body Student-Athlete Award \$1000
Roxanne Sims	Academic Silver Scholarship \$750 Florence and Grace Donison Bursary in Education \$2000
Colin Arlt	University of Regina Aboriginal Bursary \$500
Sarah Woytas	MacKenzie Alastair Lawrence Memorial Award \$1,100
Teralyn Ross	Academic Silver Scholarship \$500 Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Bursary \$1000 Lee & Lillian Forsythe Scholarship \$1,875 Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Scholarship \$2,400
Daniel Lafontaine	Academic Silver Scholarship \$500
Chantelle Love	University of Regina Aboriginal Bursary \$650
Dani Lavalley	Academic Silver Scholarship \$500

Graduation Awards, Scholarships, and Accomplishments

SUNTEP Graduation was held at the Queensbury Convention Centre, themed "kanawaymashownawn" (we take care of one another). The six graduates were supported by 120 friends, family, staff, and alumni. Each graduate was presented with a handmade leather portfolio, made by SUNTE Regina staff, and a Métis sash in the U of R colours, presented by GDI Executive Director, Lisa Bird-Wilson.

Scholarships

Dani Lavalley

David Amyotte Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship recognizes 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.

Jordan Parisian

Spirit of SUNTEP

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 established 35 years ago.

Awards

Chantelle Love

Teralyn Ross

Colin Arlt

Camryn Murray

SUNTEP Alumni Award

This award was created by the SUNTEP Regina Alumna group and is an annual bursary awarded to University of Regina SUNTEP students who have a passion for learning and professionalism that SUNTEP students are well known for within many communities.

Heather Witherspoon

Order of Gabriel Dumont Bronze Medal

The annual award honors GDI Métis students who have distinguished themselves through perseverance in the SUNTEP Regina program and community involvement. We showcase the recipient's dedication and commitment to leadership, cultural pride, and overall student performance.

Accomplishments

Chantelle Love

Heather Witherspoon

Dani Lavalley

B. Ed. with "Distinction"

A designation given to graduates who achieve a "Very Good" or "Excellent" on the Internship Placement Profile and have a GPA at or above 80%.



"The attitude of Ni Kanawaymashonawn 'we take care of each other' shines through with the SUNTEP program, professors, staff and fellow students. Throughout my 4 years in the program there isn't a single moment where I didn't feel encouraged, challenged or supported to delve right into my studies and my connection to the Michif culture. This program walks a balance of educating students to build their futures and deepens the knowledge of where we come from culturally, so that we can bring these teachings to our community as a whole."

- Heather Witherspoon, first from left

Employed as a teacher								Unemployed								
FN school		Public school		Separate school				Looking for work		Not looking for work						
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
			3	2									1			6

SUNTEP/GDC Saskatoon

McLean Hall

University of Saskatchewan

Staff Complement

Sheila Pocha

Tasha Neveu

Ashley Shaw

Lloyd Laliberte

April Chiefcalf

Emma Winrow

Program Head

Administrative Assistant

Student Support Coordinator &

Faculty

Faculty

Faculty

Student Librarian

Student Complement

Year 1 21

Year 2 23

Year 3 21

Year 4 26

GDC 4

Total 95

Academic Year Summary

SUNTEP graduates are now proud SUNTEP alumni who are already taking part in various teaching and leadership roles throughout our province. These fine teachers supported each other through the pandemic with online tools, without the usual in-person learning, and they proved their successes in various ways. Each one of the 19 graduates of 2022 have remarkable careers ahead of them. In fact, many of the graduates have already attained teaching or coordinating positions. As we bid farewell to the group, we are reminded of the joy, kindness and respect they have for each other and of the many youth they will mentor and inspire as they become the caring and responsible people needed now and in the future.

Finally, we anticipate a great upcoming 2022-2023 academic year. In May of 2022, we interviewed 40 SUNTEP and GDC students and accepted 27 First Year SUNTEP students. We accepted 6 Gabriel Dumont College students interested in Business and the Arts.

Administrative, Staff, and Faculty Duties, Responsibilities, and Activities

Lloyd and April co-led Year Two Learning Communities and the Gender and Sexual Diversity Alliance Club. Lloyd and Sheila co-taught multiple classes, including Truth & Reconciliation with Sheila. Sheila and Ashley help supervise the student librarian, from student borrowing to the purchasing of new

resources. They also plan and lead Year One Learning Communities, offer academic advising (e.g., academic misconduct, scholarships and awards).

All staff monitor and support the bingo fundraiser that supports annual trips to Batoche and Winnipeg. There are plans to host a gathering to unveil a new Red River Cart outside of McLean Hall on campus. Meetings with Angela Jaimie, Interim Vice-Provost, have been organized to help build a Louis Riel statue on campus, and an interactive website for the Red River cart. We are also pushing to have the Métis flag permanently hung in the Bowl, as being hung at Merlis Belsher Place is not enough.

It is the third year of implementing Learning Communities with our first two years. The groups help students develop learning and leadership strategies. A total of 56 students were placed in practicums – 19 interns in the Fall term and 37 student teachers in the Spring term.

Sheila Pocha supports both staff and students. She supports staff by monitoring their staff assignments and overall wellbeing. She also coordinates and chairs weekly staff meetings. Sheila supports students by helping them manage their course loads. She also helped the SRC plan clothing sales and other fundraising activities for their graduation ceremony. Sheila coordinates student placements, in coordination with Camille Hounjet. She is also on various committees, including the Undergraduate Program Committee and, Indigenous Advisory Council, and a new Deybwewin, Taapwaywin, Tapwewin Taskforce. Part of her work includes working with Indigenous Elders to move forward on Indigenous Identity. Sheila is sure to address anti-racism and anti-oppression at provincial conversations. She coordinated meetings with all TEP program heads, who met monthly to discuss program development and student success strategies.

Tasha Neveu organizes and disseminates student schedules, and various other administrative tasks to support students. She learned “SharePoint” to streamline the administration process, allowing SUNTEP and GDC students to access scholarship information sooner. She also supports staff in teaching and planning. She also helped plan and coordinate the annual Graduation Celebration at TCU place.

Ashley Shaw began is a member of many clubs and committees, including a self-generate Beading Club, USask Sustainability Council, and the Physical and Health Education Saskatchewan Council. She also developed a partnership with St. Anne’s school to incorporate field experience into student leading. She teaching a Michif Methods course, brining Michif Elder speakers in as guests. We hope to move the Michif courses into a camp, rather than a course during the winter term. Ashley also teachers Physical Education Methods, utilizing the College of Education gymnasium, where students receive an Aboriginal Coaching Certificate, and learn Métis cultural dance and movement. Ashley created Michif word/phrase of the week, building the content into a vocabulary wall. Ashley organized the Open House, meeting with potential students to discuss the application process. She also created new promotional materials for SUNTEP and GDC.

Lloyd Laliberte is an instructor who planned and implemented two new courses for the Fall term. He also joined three committees, including the Indigenous Advisory Committee and the Indigenous Course Committee. Lloyd also helped plan the Indigenous Graduation Celebration (previously known as Graduation Pow Wow).

April Chiefcalf teaches a range of classes, from Educational foundations to Métis History. She incorporates conversations around privilege, power, and oppression, and encourages student reflection on their personal experiences within those topics. In instructing courses, April easily handled the transition to a new online student assessment tool – CANVAS. April also supports many groups in the program, such as the Student Representative Council (SRC). She also plans activities, such as a professional development workshop for the Year Two Learning Community and a genealogical research trip to Winnipeg. In Winnipeg, students had the opportunity to visit Métis historical sites, and managed to locate information related to their family trees.

New Partnerships

St. Anne's School

ECUR 309 has developed a partnership with St. Anne's School to incorporate field experience into their learning.

Student Awards

Lexi Berscht LEADS Exceptional Student Award

Skye Landrie Indigenous Achievement Awards
Connor Johnston
Jacob Fritz



Skye Landrie is a proud Métis student from Glaslyn, Saskatchewan. She is currently enrolled in the College of Arts & Sciences and our Gabriel Dumont College Program. Skye actively seeks to improve the arts academy by promoting Indigeneity. She is interested in the field of screen writing, the film industry and in acting. We are very



Lexi Berscht accepted the LEADS Exceptional Student Award at the LEADS Spring Annual Conference on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022. Lexi is a fourth year SUNTEP student and interned at Westmount Community School in the Nikatenan

proud of her high academic average and her promotion of our Métis culture in the Fine Arts discipline.



Jacob Fritz is a very proud Métis gentleman from Regina. Jacob is a Huskie award winning athlete with the wrestling team. He consistently balanced his athletic skill while maintaining a high academic average. Jacob is a passionate and dedicated student who is invested in Indigenous and anti-racist education. His proud and humble disposition emanates among our SUNTEP community and within the schools he has worked in to the greatest degree.

Program. Lexi accepted a permanent teaching contract in Lloydminster, Saskatchewan.



Connor Johnston is a proud Métis from Saskatoon. He will graduate with his BED this coming spring. He is academically gifted and demonstrates great humility and respect with those he works with. Connor took part in leadership roles in our GSA club, the SUNTEP Anti-Racist Education Forum and was the Student Representative Council Vice-President. Connor is a conscientious leader; he passionately assisted fellow classmates with a food drive fundraiser for northern families in La Loche, Saskatchewan.

Graduation Awards, Scholarships, and Accomplishments

SUNTEP Saskatoon hosted their graduation at TCU Place, with over 270 people in attendance, including Executive Direction, Lisa Bird-Wilson, Director of Culture & Heritage, Karon Shmon, Director of University Programs, Brett Vandale, Interim Education Dean, Dr. Beth Bilson, Indigenous Vice Provost, Dr. Angela Jaime, Elder Maria Campbell, MNS Vice President, Michelle LeClair and the infamous Westmount School Jiggers, accompanied by Dallas and Phil Boyer.



Back Row – Sierra Parenteau, Kelly Camponi, Derek Bedard, Hunter Anderson, Luke Yakubowski, Jaden Holle, Troy Doucette, Mckenna Olson, Brett Lachance, Connor Johnston, Jacob Fritz, Program Head: Sheila Pocha. Front Row – Amber Thompson, Lexi Berscht, Trenton MacDonald, Katrina Bosch, Hunter Lee, Kara-Lynn Ranger, Logan Poitras, Tania Burdey

Trenton MacDonald Order of Gabriel Dumont Bronze Medal

The annual award honors GDI Métis students who have distinguished themselves through perseverance in the SUNTEP Regina program and community involvement. We showcase the recipient's dedication and commitment to leadership, cultural pride, and overall student performance.



Trenton Macdonald is this year's recipient of the Order of Gabriel Dumont Bronze Medallion. Trenton is a very kind and humble young man who spreads his gentle humility and proud Métis cultural ways around our center and in the classroom. Trenton MacDonald, our SUNTEP Saskatoon recipient was acknowledged for his humility, his courage, his perseverance and his graciousness in all he took part in within the SUNTEP program!

Gabriel Dumont Institute

Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) & Gabriel Dumont College (GDC) Operational Highlights

2021-2022

SUNTEP/GDC Prince Albert

48 12 St E, Prince Albert SK

Staff Complement		Student Complement	
Bonnie Novotny	Program Head	Year 1	30
Donna Biggins	Administrative Assistant	Year 2	23
Ashely Grimard	Faculty	Year 3	19
Beige Unger	Faculty	Year 4	15
		GDC	6
		Total	93

Program Highlights

- ∞ The 2021-2022 academic year has been an exciting year of celebration and renewal. Students and staff collectively planned in-person events and classes in new and creative ways.
- ∞ Two student led committees, the Culture Committee and Student Representative Council, play a fantastic part in creating an inclusive environment that reflects the interests and needs of both the SUNTEP student body and Prince Albert community.
- ∞ Interviews for the fall 2021 intake took place in person on June 2nd and 3rd. SUNTEP Prince Albert will have 19 Métis students and nine First Nation students as well as one Métis GDC student joining the program in the fall. The interviews are always an exciting time and the staff look forward to seeing all the new faces

The Student Representative Council (SRC) in Prince Albert focused the year on rebuilding community within the SUNTEP center and student body. Some highlights include the biggest giving week donation to the PA Food Bank to date, acts of kindness placed throughout the local community, spirit week and seasonal celebrations, a year end bowling event for students, and SUNTEP's first ever Pride Parade participation. Students managed the SRC social media platforms on Instagram and Facebook to celebrate events.

The student teacher field experience is always a highlight. Many schools in Prince Albert and area participated by supporting SUNTEP student teachers through placements for the practicums. This process provides a scaffold for students as they progress through the four-year program and gives a

snapshot of what teaching is all about. The field experience took place in the spring, with many partner teachers being SUNTEP alumni.

The First Year SUNTEP students had a fantastic year full of sharing, learning, and connection in Public Schools with high First Nations and Métis Population in Prince Albert. A highlight as always was their Student Teaching Experience. Students went out into the schools in pairs and spent two full weeks observing classrooms, teaching lessons, and creating relationships with students and staff in their assigned schools. An experience that students will carry with them as they move through the program.

Collaborating teachers from St. Louis Public School, Prairie Spirits Stobart School in Duck Lake, along with a wide range of First Nations schools on Treaty Six Territory mentored second year SUNTEP students. The students experienced a vast amount of new classroom and school knowledge from these Rural/Métis and Urban Public School Division that are often different from the local schools in the Prince Albert area. Having this experience allows the students to understand the true depths of teaching in a community that may be different from their own.

Third year students in SUNTEP focused heavily on curriculum and instruction education classes in Public and Catholic Schools. In the third-year cohort, SUNTEP is able to provide learning experiences for students within collaborating schools. This year, students facilitated a one-day Culture Camp for students at King George Public School. Their sessions included activities such as making talking sticks, learning about local animals and their furs, as well as learning about the Tipi. They also had the opportunity to conduct lessons centered on the Tipi and the meaning of its poles for elementary students at École Arthur Pechey School. In the winter session, students also facilitated a Winter Festival for Beregowksi Public School. Snowshoeing, drumming, making bannock on a stick and learning about trapping were some of the lessons they prepared and delivered. Students were able to use these unique environments to build on their teaching experiences. These opportunities helped to build confidence prior to going out into the third-year field experience in the spring. Many of the third-year classes also introduced resources that are in and around the Prince Albert area. Agriculture in the Classroom, Sask Environment, Let's Talk Science along with local experts conducted workshops that shared a wealth of resources. One of the favorites was "Technology in the Science Classroom" facilitated by Saskatchewan Rivers School Division teacher and SUNTEP Alumni Ron Fines.





Supporting and celebrating the accomplishments of students, staff, and community partners has been an important principle of SUNTEP. We are very proud of the thirteen Graduates, along with the SUNTEP and GDC students that have accomplished a successful year. We are very excited to welcome 27 new students in the fall. Tyson Fetch will join the SUNTEP Prince Albert team in August as the newest faculty member. Tyson is a SUNTEP graduate with many years of excellent teaching experience within the Prince Albert public school division. He will advise the third year SUNTEP cohort and co-teach the Métis History class. As we close this academic year, we also say goodbye to Michael Relland, a long time GDI employee and former SUNTEP Program Head. A celebration took place on

June 10th in Prince Albert to wish Michael a well-deserved retirement. Michael has been an influential leader for SUNTEP and GDI. Along with many talents, he is a well-respected leader, an educator, a mentor, a friend, Métis Knowledge Keeper, and an all-around great guy.

Centre Activities and Program Development

- ∞ Orange Shirt Day
- ∞ Pride Parade
- ∞ Story Telling Month
- ∞ Michif Language and Epistemology Class

The SUNTEP Culture Committee started the year off by leading an amazing Orange Shirt Day walk on September 30th to the MMIWG2S+ monuments on the Prince Albert Riverbank. Walking as a group to the monuments in a sea of orange was sure to capture attention of the local people. On the riverbank, SUNTEP shared a smudge with people from the community including Police Officer Horace Ratt. It was a very special moment for everyone involved.

We also welcomed Métis author David Bouchard virtually for Indigenous Storytelling month in February for the SUNTEP student body to attend. David talked about Mental Health, his background as an educator and read his newest released book *We learn from the Sun*. The Culture Committee consists of members from the first, second, and third year SUNTEP student body. The group proudly put together events throughout the year and welcomed new members at any time.



SUNTEP Prince Albert students were able to take a Michif Language and Epistemology class during Spring Session. Students spent eight full days immersed in language and teachings centered on Métis Worldview and Ways of Knowing. A combination of place-based learning experiences, guest presenters and classroom activities allowed students to learn in various ways, embracing the Métis culture and Michif language.



Student Experiences



Five GDC Students created a community of support for each other in the Prince Albert program. Of the five, two were taking pre-nursing, one bio-medical, one computer science, and one business. The second year GDC student is in arts and science undeclared. In the spring, the GDC students toured the Saskatoon campus as a final celebration of accomplishing the first year of university successfully. Three of the five will move to Saskatoon to continue with their degrees while the nursing degree is available at the Prince Albert USASK campus in its entirety.

“The GDI has been an absolute pleasure to be a part of and I am beyond grateful that I was able to be a part of the group that I was in. Having the ability to not worry about my funds for school has helped me focus on my schoolwork and helped me to make sure to put in my best efforts. I am looking forward to next year and again, am beyond grateful.” - Brie Boyer (1st year GDC from ST. Louis – Pre-Nursing)



“The financial, social, and academic support provided by Gabriel Dumont College is unparalleled to anything else in my academic endeavors. Having my tuition paid for and access to so many supports allows me to not only succeed but thrive in Biomedical Sciences. I truly cannot express the extent of my gratitude towards Gabriel Dumont College in words.” –



“The support brought by the GDC program has helped me tremendously throughout this year, which has been a large transition into a new academic environment. The GDC community support made intimidating aspects of post-secondary schooling much easier.”

- Ethan Minier (1st year GDC – Biomedical Science)
Taanshii, Erin dishinikashoon.

"As a later-in-life student making the decision to go back to school was intimidating. However, it quickly proved to be one of my greatest decisions. SUNTEP Prince Albert became my second home and the faculty and students, my second family. My educational journey has been one of enlightenment, growth and fulfillment. The faculty and staff have supported me as I connected with my Métis ancestry and culture. I move forward into my role as an educator understanding I am a proud Métis woman. The knowledge of who I am will help guide my teachings and in creating an inclusive environment infused with our Métis and Indigenous cultures. SUNTEP Prince Albert has forever changed my life. Michif niiya. Ni kishchiitayimoohek aen li Michif wiiyan. Kishchii itaytamihk niiya. Maarsii. "

Erin Dyck (SUNTEP PA 3rd year student)



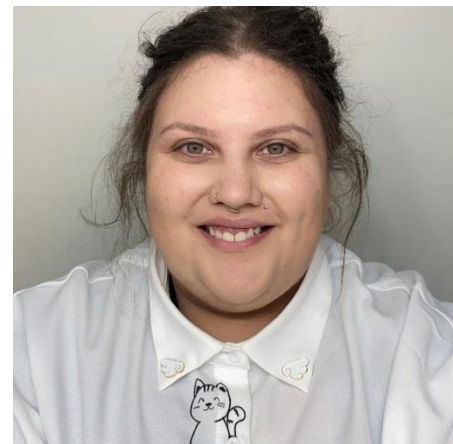
"Being a SUNTEP student is about more than just learning to be a teacher. It is about reaffirming Indigenous identity, revitalizing culture, and incorporating those Ways of Knowing into our identities as educators for the benefit of our future students. For me, being a SUNTEP student has also allowed me to play a part in working in and for my community, and to know I am on the right path to a fulfilling career."

Erika Warkentine (1st year student)

- Theoren Novotny (1st year GDC – Computer Science)

"SUNTEP Prince Albert had assisted me to reconnect to my cultural roots and helped me become a proud Metis citizen. I learned a lot of knowledge that I can use towards my educational teachings. I want to share this knowledge with my future Indigenous & non-Indigenous students. Empowering one another is my motto. The faculty and staff are my support system because my family is back home. My time at SUNTEP has made a big impact on my life. Maarsii."

Keeley Henry (3rd year student from Beauval, SK)





"The faculty, staff, and students of SUNTEP create a warm, family environment that makes learning fun and desirable. I am happy to call SUNTEP my second home with my second family. Being a student as well as a mother, the program allows me to work towards my dreams of being an educator who represents the Metis culture. The program also provides the understanding that we are all people who have lives and families, so I can focus on both my schoolwork and my family. At SUNTEP I can connect with my culture and show my true self while also learning how I can be the best educator I can be and how I can support the Indigenous culture through education."

Hannah Siwak (SUNTEP PA first year student)

Graduation

Jordanna Albers
Paige Gaudet
Shae Painchaud
Morgan Ripplinger

Alisha Burns-Head
Taryn Gunville
David Poulin

Cassie Denis
Shaylene Lussier
Shayna Regnier

Jean-Elie Fortier
Desire McKenzie
Madison Vandale



On May 19th the community celebrated the achievements of thirteen fourth year students on the completion of their program. The SRC President Erin Dyck and Vice President Keeley Henry emceed the Graduation program that concluded with the presentation of the Métis sash for each graduate. Family, friends, and SUNTEP supporters enjoyed the afternoon program followed by snacks and visiting.