

The Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education (SUNTEP) Operations Report 2016-2017 SUNTEP Saskatoon

Location: Room 7, McLean Hall, University of Saskatchewan

Staff Complement:

Sheila Pocha - Program Head – July of 2016

Ruth Bird-Anderson - Administrative Assistant

Bruce Sinclair – Student Support Coordinator – October of 2016

Carmen Gillies – Faculty 111 – August of 2017

Jaden Holle and Brittany Macnab - Student Librarians 2016, 2017

Student Enrollment:

<u>SUNTEP</u>	<u>GDC</u>	<u>Total</u>
Year 1 – 23	8	77
Year 2 – 14		
Year 3 – 21		
Year 4 – 11		

Administrative Activities:

Term 1 and Term 11 were busy with program finalizations, staff and sessional instructors selected for our sections, as well as coordinating visits in the schools for our first and second year students. Nicole Amiotte Bilinsky, Bruce Sinclair and Norman Fleury organized teaching activities for our first year students in term one. The students became busy in both terms with final exams and preparations for student teaching placements for the 2nd and 3rd year cohorts. Interviews of prospective students were held the last week of May. We selected twenty three Metis applicants and two non-status applicants. Three of the Metis applicants will complete their BED within two years as they came in with advanced standings from the Arts and Science College.

University of Saskatchewan related business includes but is not limited to attending:

- University of Saskatchewan Council
- College of Education Faculty meetings
- Undergraduate Program Committee Meetings
- Student Affairs and Academic Standards Committee
- Aboriginal Advisors Meetings

Much of the discussion arising from the aforementioned meetings was the revisions to and implementation of the current Bachelor of Education program. Including changes to the College's mission/vision statements. Murray Hamilton moved onto the GDC portfolio in the College of Education. Sheila Pocha took over the SUNTEP Program Head position in July of 2016.

Program Highlights:

Sheila Pocha became the new Program Head for SUNTEP in July of 2016 and Murray Hamilton moved into the GDC role at the College of Education in June of 2016. Due to the busy workload of the Program Head position and positions of faculty in years past, to support student intake and their on-going needs, it was determined to slowly transition new staff/faculty to the Centre in time. In late October, we interviewed a student support position that Ashley Shaw once held and hired Bruce Sinclair.

With the addition of Student Support Coordinator, Bruce Sinclair, we also believe it is imperative to gain faculty to teach some of the course loads that our current sessional lecturers teach. In doing so, we believe we can support our students more cohesively, compassionately and effectively to become proud Metis teachers and proud of their experiences at SUNTEP Saskatoon. We appreciate the support of our Executive Director, Geordy McCaffrey and our Board of Governors as we work hard to ensure the transitioning is very positive.

Sheila Pocha has also been appointed to sit as a Metis representative on the Provincial Learning Team; her roles are to be involved in two initiatives, the Following Their Voices and SK Reads committees. In addition to Sheila Pocha's membership on these provincial committees, she is also a new member of the provincial Curriculum/Assessment Committee.

Fall of 2016, we organized, through Nicole Amiotte Bilinsky and Joanie Crandall's classes, teaching activities with the first and second year students at Brunskill and Westmount schools. The students flourished as they worked hard at working with children in K-8 classrooms, while learning to develop and implement culturally appropriate lesson and unit plans. Also, our 13 interns began their internship in September and love the experience.

October 20th, SUNTEP Saskatoon students and staff enjoyed a special 'Old Time Metis Dance and Dinner' at the Gordon Oakes Red Bear Centre. Fiddle Music and guitar was supplied by Darren LaFonde and The Voyageurs.

October 28th, SUNTEP and ITEP Student Council's planned a great Halloween Party for the children at the Education Student Lounge.

November 16th, SUNTEP Student Council organized a Louis Riel cultural dance/cuisine at the College of Education student lounge. Metis square dancers performed to jigging music and staff, students and families enjoyed a great time.

December 4th – SUNTEP Student Council organized a Christmas Party for the families and children. It was held at CUMFI 165 office. The activities, the

supper and the visit from Santa Claus and his elves were great fun!

January 9th, 16th and 27th, our students received visits from Saskatoon Public Schools, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, Northern Lights School Division, and Prairie Spirit School Division and were involved in the annual Career Fair at the University of Saskatchewan. Our students are sought after; all thirteen graduates received temporary and permanent contracts, as well as appointments to substitute teach.

February 12th – 17th, SUNTEP Saskatoon 2nd year students once again enjoyed an inspirational and for some a life changing experience journey to Red River. The field trip is based around the Metis History 280.6 course and provides the students with an opportunity to engage in some primary research and to visit the numerous Metis historical sites.

March 2nd, five of our students were recognized during the Aboriginal Achievement Week at the University of Saskatchewan and received academic awards. The Student Council held a and arts/talent show in Louis' Upper Mub; it was very well attended!

March of 2016 - Jim Taylor facilitated a Project Wet and Wild Workshop for SUNTEP students. Project Wet and Project Wild are science and water educational resources for teachers.

May 1st – 12th, the second and third year teachers completed two weeks of required student teaching. The students are placed with a cooperating teacher to gain classroom and lesson planning experiences within a school setting.

May 6th, Thirteen SUNTEP graduates were honored at the annual SUNTEP Saskatoon Graduation at TCU Place. The graduates were addressed by GDI, the College of Education and the keynote speaker was Murray Hamilton. Each graduate was presented with a sash by Sheila Pocha and Bruce Sinclair. Ruth Anderson-Bird did an amazing job planning and coordinating the annual graduation ceremony.

May 24th, 25th and 26th, SUNTEP Saskatoon held their annual student intake interviews and as mentioned earlier, we had almost 40 applicants and selected 23 Metis students. Three of these students will complete their degree in two years as they came to us with a degree in Arts/Science.

SUNTEP Saskatoon 2017 Graduates:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Jordan Adilman | 8. Rylee MacKenzie |
| 2. Shannon Aubichon | 9. Brit Meyers |
| 3. Ali Baker | 10. Kyla Morin |

4. Karlee Climenhaga
5. Raelyn Fee
6. Shania Hounsell

7. Makenna Johnston

11. Jessie Pilon
12. Zoey Roy
13. Rachel Simes

SUNTEP Prince Albert Operations Report 2016/2017

Staff Complement

Sandy Sherwin-Shields	Program Coordinator
Donna Biggins	Administrative Assistant
Linda Lysyk	Faculty
Jed Huntley	Faculty
Kathy McMullin	Faculty
Corey Teeter	Faculty

Student Update:

	Female	Male	Total
Year 1	21	7	28
Year 2	11	3	14
Year 3	18	3	21
Year 4	14	4	18
Total	66	17	83

Centre Activities:

The school term started with our annual Fall Cultural Camp. The three day camp, held at Camp Kinasao, was busy with teachings from the Elders, cultural activities and workshops, sweat ceremonies, jigging lessons from SUNTEP Regina students and lots of fun games and activities provided by the SRC.

The following list is some of the events the Cultural Committee held throughout the year: A Cultural Bulletin Board was set up to research and celebrate local Indigenous role models, some of whom were SUNTEP students. The cool fall and winter semesters were warmed with a Hot Chocolate Day linked to our Indigenous South American relatives, and a Tea with Bannock Day in fine Métis/Scottish tradition. A traditional story about the Three Sisters; Corn, Beans, and Squash was shared as a Halloween Celebration. Each month ceremonies were available to students, their families and faculty (Pipe Ceremonies, Full Moon Ceremonies, Smudge Ceremonies, Sweat Lodge Ceremonies and a Thanksgiving Feast). The Cultural Committee also hosted a Box Social and helped the SRC organize the Sprinter Festival. Frank Carriere, King Trapper and grandfather to one of our students, was the judge for the many competitions held and did a wonderful presentation on his experiences as a trapper.

The SRC had a busy year with a long list of events and activities. Some of them are as follows: facilitating portions of fall camp, organized a Halloween party for family and friends along with a Halloween Spirit week, organized and sold SUNTEP clothing, put on a Riel Day memorial at the Cosmos Lodge at Little Red River Park (the event featured a communal meal and storytelling around a fire), hosted a Christmas party for students and families, coordinated Christmas hampers for two families at Riverside School, organized a glow bowling event and made sure healthy snacks were available during exam week. The SRC executive brought spirit to our Centre!

Program Highlights

All of the previous events and activities are in addition to students fulfilling the requirements of the 2016/2017 academic year. Each year of the program (1 – 4) students are engaged in field based experiences. Many requests come in for students to do workshops and help with planning for cultural days in Prince Albert and area schools. Working in the schools and classrooms reaffirms the reasons they are here at SUNTEP studying to be teachers.

Lynda Lysyk retired at the end of June and we held interviews to hire two new faculty. It is with great excitement that we have hired Bonnie Novotny and Ashley Grimard (both SUNTEP graduates) for the 2017/2018 year. They bring with them passion, energy and a combination of twenty years of teaching experience. It will be a wonderful year!

SUNTEP Prince Albert Graduates:

Our 2017 Graduation Ceremony was held on May 19, 2017 at the E.A. Rawlinson Centre for the Arts. We had seventeen graduates in attendance with family and friend there to celebrate. Nine graduates have been hired with Saskatchewan Rivers School Division. One graduate is teaching in La Loche, one in Red Earth First Nation (her home reserve), one at the Prince Albert Polytech and one at Muskoday First Nation School. The other graduates are working as substitute teachers. The employment rate of graduates in teaching positions continues to be very rewarding as a program.

The Graduates of 2017 are:

Jamie Beaulac	Priscille Fortier	Brittany Hing	Heather Tarry
Heather Mackie	Kyle Mackie	Jayson McLeod	Brendan Miller
Brittany Miller	Michael Mogg	Jordyne Mourot	Mariah Ringdahl
Amanda Rozvelt	Jamie Sanderson	Veronica Stewart	Alicia Whitehead
Tracy Zinn			

In Memory of Corey Teeter

It is with saddened hearts we acknowledge Corey Teeter, SUNTEP Faculty, who passed away on January 18, 2017. Corey was a SUNTEP graduate and he was passionate about the program. He believed strongly on the high standards and expectations held for SUNTEP students. Corey was loved by his students - he was the person they most often sought out for conversations when they had challenging situations. His many contributions (as a student and as faculty) to SUNTEP Prince Albert, Gabriel Dumont and the Métis community will be remembered by all of us who loved him.

Thank you to all of the Gabriel Dumont staff who were here to support us during this difficult time.

Sandy Sherwin-Shields

**Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP)
Operational Highlights
2016-2017**

SUNTEP Regina

Location: University of Regina

Staff Complement:

Janice R. Thompson	Program Head
Erma Taylor	Administrative Assistant
Russell Fayant	Faculty
Brenna Pacholko	Faculty
Jennifer Reid-Vandevord	Faculty

Student Update: 38

	Female	Male	Total
Year 1	08	03	11
Year 2	09	04	13
Year 3	09	02	11
Year 4	01	03	03
Total			38

Program Highlights:

- Faculty member, Russell Fayant attended a four day professional development gathering in Vancouver, British Columbia. Russell has been actively involved in a research project with New Zealand scholar, Dr. Mere Berryman, with the University of Waikato. The research project will result in the publication of an educator's book.
- Faculty members, Russell Fayant, Brenna Pacholko, and Jennifer Reid-Vandevord demonstrated and presented a workshop about the *Red River Cart* for grade nine students at the annual University of Regina Discovering Your Direction conference that drew together hundreds of grade nine students from all over southern Saskatchewan.
- The SUNTEP staff continues to strengthen relationships with its community stakeholders. Superintendents from Regina Catholic School Division and the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Coordinator all met to explore and renew ways to support our on-going partnership.
- National Aboriginal Day was a special day for the staff members and

Regina Métis community. We were invited, and attended the Gabriel Housing Corporation's re-naming ceremony of 5801 1st Avenue North building, to honouring local Métis Knowledge Keeper, Norma Welsh.

- Faculty member, Russell Fayant attended, and co-presented with University of Regina, Faculty of Education Faculty member, Dr. Andrea Sterzuk; *Towards Reconciliation through Language Planning for Indigenous Languages in Canadian Universities* at the Multidisciplinary Approaches in Language Policy & Planning Conference in Calgary, Alberta.
- Program Head, Janice R. Thompson met with YWCA, Managing Director of Wellness & Social Programs, Kendra Strong-Garcia, a SUNTEP Regina Graduate to initiate a working partnership. The purpose of this partnership is to engage and enhance Métis role models from the local Regina Métis community where SUNTEP students would assist in program development for young Métis women in the areas leadership, culture, and the arts.
- Faculty members, Russell Fayant, Brenna Pacholko, and the Year Three students coordinated, collaborated, and hosted a Pre-Conference event in Lebret, Saskatchewan for provincial educators. As co-sponsors, SUNTEP assisted with the planning of the *Social Justice and Anti-racist Anti-oppressive Forum on Education (SAFE)* alongside the University of Regina. *"This conference provided an opportunity to share work in pursuing anti-racism and anti-oppression. Sessions highlighted teaching and activism in their complex iterations, exploring both the possibilities of engaging in this work, and the challenges of working across differences in contexts already over-determined by racism and multiple forms of oppression. The Sessions engaged in discussions from various positions and the conference ended with organizing a meeting to imagine and declare what our paths might be going forward."* In addition to these memorable experiences, all on-campus GDI staff, students, Métis Old Ones, and SUNTEP staff hosted a luncheon with renowned Métis activist, Chelsie Vowel.
- Faculty member, Jennifer Reid-Vandevord and Year Three student, Haylie Bedore attended and presented at the Creating Learning Cultures conference in Saskatoon. Their session; ***Moving beyond Beads, Bannock and Buckskins*** received outstanding support from conference participants. *"The Saskatchewan Curriculum is packed with opportunities to integrate purposeful First Nation, Métis, and Inuit content and perspectives. Often as teachers, we may be uncomfortable or unaware of how to integrate First Nation, Métis and Inuit content beyond stereotypical topics. As much as intentions are good, sometimes we reinforce stereotypes unknowingly. Throughout this workshop, participants will be guided through a process on how to authentically Indigenize cross-curricular outcomes from Kindergarten to Grade 8."*

- Faculty member, Russell Fayant and Program Assistant, Erma Taylor volunteered their time at the Regina Public Library for the Riel Shevchenko: an evening of Poetry and Remembrance. *"Louis Riel and Taras Shevchenko are both seminal figures in the history of the Métis and Ukrainian peoples, but both were poets as well as inspirational figures."*
- The SUNTEP staff and additional Gabriel Dumont Institute representatives attended the University of Regina, SIDRU Director, Dr. James McNinch's retirement gathering. The event was a memorable farewell to a long time advocate, and friend of GDI and SUNTEP.
- The University of Regina, Aboriginal Student Centre in collaboration with SUNTEP arranged for the renowned Canadian filmmaker, Ms. Alanis Obomsawin to speak with Year Two and Year Four students and staff. Accompanying Ms. Obomsawin were local filmmakers, Janine Windolph and Trudy Stewart to engage in the guest experience.
- Faculty member, Russell Fayant and Métis Cultural Knowledge Keeper, Joe Welsh were invited and attended the Regina Public Library event; *Historical Métis Land Use*. The Regina Public Library personnel, and local Saskatchewan Naturalist, Trevor Herriott approached Russell and Joe to share their knowledge in this pre-planned event showcasing local Métis people.
- Safety first! Training and certification with St. John's Ambulance staff in Level A; First Aide/CPR/AED had SUNTEP; Janice R. Thompson, Russell Fayant, and Brenna Pacholko participate in this one-time event with Gabriel Dumont Training and Employment staff, and Dumont Technical Institute staff.
- The University of Regina continued to host "The Canada **150** Lecture Series: Marking the 150th Anniversary of Confederation, 1867 is an initiative of the Department of History at the University of Regina to commemorate the founding of the Canadian Confederation and examine the development of Canada since 1867. The Lecture Series was generously supported by the President's Office." The event, ***"The people of Canada want to have a white country"*** was hosted by Dr. Andrea Sterzuk, Faculty of Education; Dr. Michael Cappello, Faculty of Education; and Russell Fayant, Gabriel Dumont Institute-SUNTEP.
- Late spring witnessed ten Year Three students and long time SUNTEP Sessional Lecturer, John MacDonald travel to Los Angeles, California to attend the *National Science Teachers Association Conference*. This was an invaluable opportunity for the students.

Awards and Scholarships presented at graduation and throughout the 2016-2017 academic year:

- The University of Regina, Faculty of Education held the annual “Celebrating Student Success” event the La Cite Rotunda – Language Institute Building held in spring 2017. SUNTEP students; Venus Kay, Taylor Frei, Crystal Norris, Haylie Bedore, Danielle Pelletier, and Kayla Ward were recognized for their academic achievement, community leadership, and school/classroom involvement.
- The *David Amyotte Memorial Scholarship* was presented to graduate, **Venus Kay**. 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* was awarded to graduate, **Taylor Frei**. 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 34 years ago.
- The *Lebret Métis Cultural Days Award* was awarded to **Brandon Cardinal**. 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 METIS settlement of Lebret.

Centre Activities and Program Development:

The students were actively engaged in a variety of professional and cultural modules and activities throughout the academic year;

- ✓ Treaty Four Celebrations
- ✓ Winnipeg trip, Métis and Family History
- ✓ Teaching Treaties in the Classroom, OTC, Faculty of Education, and FNUC
- ✓ Traditional Métis Storytelling
- ✓ Social Justice & Anti-Racist Anti-Oppressive Forum on Education Conference
- ✓ GDI Publishing Department and Museum
- ✓ Louis Riel Vigil Walk and Luncheon
- ✓ Métis & First Nation Teaching and Curriculum Perspectives
- ✓ Traditional Métis Practices with Métis Cultural Knowledge Keeper
- ✓ Métis & First Nation Teaching and Curriculum Perspectives
- ✓ Information Technology Computer Services Training
- ✓ First Nation Protocol with Cultural Knowledge Keepers
- ✓ Saskatchewan Teachers Federation

- ✓ Red Cross, RespectEd
- ✓ Aboriginal Storytelling Festival
- ✓ Regina Globe Theatre, Salt Baby Production
- ✓ Regina Teacher's Convention day
- ✓ Métis Food Preparation & Cooking with Métis Cultural Knowledge Keepers
- ✓ Inclusive Education Professional Development
- ✓ Regina Public Schools Northern Games Event
- ✓ Walking Together: A Day of Reconciliation

In the spring of 2017, SUNTEP Regina was recognized for the introduction of the newly offered **Michif** language class at the University of Regina, Faculty of Education annual "Celebrating Student Success" event the La Cite Rotunda – Language Institute Building. Highlights of the celebration can be found at;

"SUNTEP First Post Secondary Institution to Offer MICHIF 100"

<https://view.joomag.com/education-news/0545375001494882062?short>

Student Awards and Accomplishments:

Year 1	
Boyer, Logan	GDI – Napoleon Lafontaine Entrance Scholarship
Frei, Tristan	GDI – SK Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship
	University of Regina Cougar Men's Hockey Athletic Award
Pelletier, Danielle	GDI – SK Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship
Rees, Petra	University of Regina Scotiabank Aboriginal Entrance Award
Tourond-Bouvier, Tresley	GDI – SK Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship
	City of Regina - Henry Baker Scholarship
	National Indian Brotherhood Trust
Ward, Kayla	National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund
Year 2	
Fisher, Chad	Napoleon Lafontaine Undergraduate Scholarship
Morrow, Alicia	TD Bank Group Aboriginal Bursary
Year 3	
Hanson, Lesley	University of Regina CIC Aboriginal Bursary
	University of Regina Morley Wood Memorial Bursary for Aboriginal Females
	INDSPIRE Award

	National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund
Legare, Garrett	University of Regina Mackenzie Alastair Lawrence Memorial Award
	University of Regina CIC Award
Loreth, Tara	National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund
	GDI – SK Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship
Norris, Crystal	University of Regina CIC Aboriginal Bursary
	INDSPIRE Award
	City of Regina Henry Baker Award
	National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund
	G'Wichin Child Care Bursary
Ramos-McKenzie, Elsa	National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund
	GDI – SK Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship
	University of Regina - Dr. Hellmut Lang Education Award
Skilliter, Kaitlyn	GDI – SK Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship
	University of Regina Lee & Lillian Forsythe Scholarship
Unrau, Hayley	University of Regina CIC Aboriginal Bursary
Year 4	
Frei, Taylor	GDI – SK Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship
	University of Regina Academic Silver Scholarship

SUNTEP Regina 2017 Graduates:

The 34th annual SUNTEP Regina Graduation ceremony was held at the Delta Regina on Friday, May 5, 2017 for two SUNTEP students. The celebration was attended by over one hundred family, friends, students, and invited guests.

The graduation theme, "*gee mochikihtawnawn sur li shmaen d'icole. Lii boon choer kee wiichihiwewuk.*" Translated; Celebrating the Road to Success, with Kindness along the Way. There were many people who contributed to the 2017 graduating class learning journey, and we celebrated this important milestone.

1. Frei, Taylor
2. Kay, Venus

SUNTEP Regina 2017 Graduates' Employment:

Employed as a teacher						Employed but not as a teacher		Unemployed				Further studies		Unknown		Total
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	
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2