



# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

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

### **1.0 Organizational Mandate (Pg. 1)**

- 1.1 History and Profile
- 1.2 Mission, Values and Goals
- 1.3 Membership and Organizational Structure
- 1.4 Programming
  - 1.4.1 Gabriel Dumont Institute
  - 1.4.2 Dumont Technical Institute
  - 1.4.3 Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program
  - 1.4.4 Gabriel Dumont College
  - 1.4.5 Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment Inc.
  - 1.4.6 Gabriel Dumont Institute Culture and Heritage Department
  - 1.4.7 The Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture
  - 1.4.8 Library and Information Services
  - 1.4.9 Michif Language



# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

Policy No: 1.0
Approved by: GDI Board of Governors
Effective:
Revised: July 21, 2022

## **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 & Employment Inc. offers employment services and assistance with student financial support from ten (10) regional offices across Saskatchewan. The Institute's Culture and Heritage Department has amassed an immense collection 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 Institute staff, students, and clients, and certain library services can be provided to others depending on local branch policy. The GDI Library has one of the largest Métis-specific collections in Canada.



Policy No: 1.1
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

## 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.

# Gabriel Dumont Institute Organizational Chart



## Métis People of Saskatchewan



## 12 Member Board of Governors





# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

Policy No: 1.4
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised: Sept. 17, 2008

## **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

Policy No: 1.4.1
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



## 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: December 15, 2023

### 1.4.3 SASKATCHEWAN URBAN NATIVE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) was established in 1980. It is a four-year, fully-accredited Bachelor of Education degree program, offered by the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) through affiliation agreements with the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina. There are three SUNTEP locations in the province: Saskatoon, Prince Albert, and Regina.

Distinct features of the SUNTEP program include small class sizes, one-on-one academic and instructor support, tutorials, access to professional development opportunities, and Michif cultural experiences on and off campus.

One of SUNTEP's unique characteristics is its dedication and focus on providing students with culturally-responsive pedagogy, land-based education, as well as anti-racist/anti-oppressive learning in each classroom and community. Faculty and staff work hard to provide students with creative learning opportunities, including culture camps, Michif-language camps, historic learning trips, and various workshops to immerse students in Métis culture.

The primary goals of SUNTEP are:

To ensure that Métis are adequately represented in the teaching profession, and

To ensure SUNTEP graduates are trained to be sensitive to the individual needs of all students, particularly Indigenous students.

SUNTEP promotes a community of practice between peers, educators, Elders, Métis Old Ones/Knowledge Keepers, and the Michif community seeking to enhance equality, inclusivity, and diversity.

#### **Funding**

SUNTEP sponsors qualified Métis students for all tuition and required fees during the four years of pre-service teacher training.

#### **Financial Assistance**

SUNTEP students may apply to the Métis Nation University Sponsorship Program for assistance with program costs. Other forms of financial assistance may be accessed through Canada and Saskatchewan student loan programs, other funding agencies, as well as various scholarships.

## **Entrance Requirements**

Entrance requirements may vary by program and affiliated university. Please visit the GDI website ([www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org)) for more details.

## **Application Process**

The application process and application deadlines vary by program. Please visit the GDI website ([www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org)) for more details.

## **Selection Process**

Prospective students are selected based on a wide range of criteria and must meet the admissions criteria of both the affiliated University and GDI.



Policy No: 1.4.4
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised: December 15, 2023

#### 1.4.4 GABRIEL DUMONT COLLEGE

Gabriel Dumont College (GDC) is an affiliated college of both the University of Saskatchewan, and the University of Regina. Through the affiliation agreements with these universities, GDC delivers several accredited post-secondary education programs, including certificate, diploma, bachelor, and graduate programs. GDC programs are based on a community delivery model through strategic partnerships. Current program offerings and locations can be found on the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) website ([www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org)).

GDC focuses on Métis studies Indigenous languages an culture, and land-based education. With small class sizes, flexible delivery options, and a culturally-affirming learning environment, GDC focuses on academic excellence and encourages the holistic development of all students.

The primary goals of GDC are:

- ∞ Recognition and promotion of Métis culture and heritage, individually and collectively;
- ∞ Development and delivery of programs and activities that promote Métis culture in an 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 encourage community involvement in GDC's educational and cultural activities and to deliver a culturally sensitive program; and
- ∞ To offer further education to Métis graduates who will become positive role models and leaders in the educational community, ensuring that Métis people are adequately represented in professional roles.

#### Student Services

GDC offers relentless supports to their students, including:

- ∞ Individual pre-admission counselling;
- ∞ Personalized orientation to campus and academic life;
- ∞ 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 partnering universities' various programs and colleges;

- ∞ Information regarding scholarships, bursaries, and employment programs; and
- ∞ Assistance with adjusting to the socialization factors associated with relocation and urbanization.

## **Financial Assistance**

Eligible applicants can apply to the Métis Nation University Sponsorship Program for assistance with program costs. Other forms of financial assistance may be accessed through Canada and Saskatchewan student loan programs, other funding agencies, as well as various scholarships.

## **Entrance Requirements**

Entrance requirements may vary by program and affiliated university. Please visit the GDI website ([www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org)) for more details.

## **Application Process**

The application process and application deadlines vary by program. Please visit the GDI website ([www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org)) for more details.

## **Selection Process**

Prospective students are selected on a wide range of criteria and must meet the admissions criteria of both the affiliated university and GDI.







## 1.4.5 GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT INC.

Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment (GDITE) aims to eliminate the employment, earnings, and skills gaps of Saskatchewan's Métis through demand-driven skills development for long-term quality career success.

GDITE uses an assisted self-service model to deliver services to clients across Saskatchewan. Assisted self-service is based on a two-way relationship in which the client and staff work together to identify and overcome barriers to training and/or employment. Clients play a direct role in determining the services they require to succeed in their careers. To foster self-direction, an array of flexible, adaptable resources and staff are available:

- ∞ Minimal need of service—GDITE offices provide computer workstations with internet access, printer, scanner, copier, fax, phone, print materials, such as books, pamphlets, journals, etc., and a job board where local and provincial job opportunities are posted.
- ∞ Moderate need of service—Clients have access to GDITE staff who can guide and facilitate their access to, and use of, resources appropriate to their needs.
- ∞ Full need of service—Employment Counsellors are available to help clients navigate GDITE programs through a Client Management Plan to select the appropriate interventions depending on the client's unique needs and circumstances.

GDITE provides Métis with the opportunities necessary to be fully competitive in the labour force and delivers programming at eleven regional offices: Saskatoon, North Battleford, Meadow Lake, Nipawin, Prince Albert, La Ronge, Regina, Yorkton, La Loche, Île-à-la-Crosse, Buffalo Narrows, and Beauval. To serve additional communities, outreach service delivery is performed by staff in areas without reasonable access to the regional offices, and distance delivery is available to clients across the province.

Funded services are provided to Métis clients to advance their education and employment outcomes through the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Program. GDITE leverages the ISET Program to further increase capacity through other federal and regional programs. Clients may receive financial assistance through tuition support, living allowances and/or employer subsidies where eligible.

The ISET Program has a stronger focus on training for higher quality, better paying jobs, as well as assisting clients to gain greater skills that will support their long-term career success. The objectives of the Métis Nation Labour Market Strategy under the ISET Program are:

- ∞ to support Métis in developing employment skills and pursuing training for higher-quality jobs by recognizing their unique needs, with the ultimate objective of closing the employment and earning, and skills gaps between Métis and non-Indigenous people; and,

- ∞ to build capacity of Métis service delivery organizations by professionalizing services to better support their clients.

## **Programs**

GDITE provides career research and exploration, diagnostic assessment, and employment counselling to all funded clients, non-funded clients, and persons who are not eligible clientele.

GDITE provides a range of funded programs to eligible Métis clients aimed at closing the employment, earning, and education gaps between Métis and non-Indigenous peoples, including:

- ∞ Career Assessment Program (program description in Section 5.4.1a);
- ∞ Pre-Career and Skills Development Program (program description in Section 5.4.1b);
- ∞ Occupational Skills Training Program (program description in Section 5.4.1c);
- ∞ Work Experience Program (program description in Section 5.4.1d);
- ∞ Indigenous Apprenticeship Program (program description in Section 5.4.1e);
- ∞ Pathways for Entrepreneurship (program description in Section 5.4.1f);
- ∞ Employment Maintenance Program (program description in Section 5.4.1g);
- ∞ Métis Nation University Sponsorship Program (program description in Section 5.4.1h); and
- ∞ Partnership Program (program description in Section 5.4.1i).



Policy No: 1.4.6
Approved by: GDI Board of Governors
Effective: March 15, 2019
Revised: March 15, 2019

## **1.4.6 THE GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE CULTURE AND HERITAGE DEPARTMENT**

Since 1985, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Culture and Heritage Department has developed more than three-hundred (300) 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 Culture and Heritage 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 Culture and Heritage 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 Culture and Heritage 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 Culture and Heritage 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 Culture and Heritage 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 Culture and Heritage Department has had a presence at over seventy (70) Métis cultural events across Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta.



# **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE**

of Native Studies and Applied Research

Policy No: 1.4.7
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised:

## **1.4.7 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

Board Category: Organization Mandate
Policy Name: Library and Information Services
Policy No: 1.4.8
Approved: July 17, 2025
Supersedes: July 21, 2022

## 1.4.8 LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

### Library Services

The Gabriel Dumont Institute Library exists to assist the Institute in achieving its mission. The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) has a Métis-specific library collection—one of the largest owned by any Métis educational, cultural, or political institution—with branches in Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. With a unique collection specific to Métis history and culture, GDI Libraries also provide computerized access to library services for all students and staff, and welcome anyone wishing to learn more about the Métis.

The GDI Library collections are held in Prince Albert, Saskatoon, and Regina. The collection is also accessible through the GDI-Library catalogue (<https://tinyurl.com/gdilibr>).

### Vision

- ∞ support all GDI students in their educational pursuits by offering access to a rich, culturally relevant Metis specific resource collection, and by employing adequately trained and highly skilled staff to assist students in developing their information literacy skills;
- ∞ support all GDI faculty and staff in their work, research, and teaching by facilitating access to the Library's collections and being responsive to requests for information or purchase of library materials for the collection, as well as requests for instructional support;
- ∞ serve the larger Métis community by building, making available, and preserving for posterity a rich and comprehensive collection of Métis-specific resources that can be accessed in a welcoming, culturally appropriate atmosphere;
- ∞ provide the general public with access to accurate information and resources.

### Library Services and Priority:

1. The Gabriel Dumont Institute Library supports the academic programs and services of the Gabriel Dumont Institute.
2. The Library supports current students/clients/staff of GDI programming, as well as all services provided by the Gabriel Dumont Institute family.
3. The Library serves the community at large by offering access to the Library's physical collection and programming.
4. Library services are prioritized as follows:
  - 4.1 Current GDI students/clients and staff of the Institute;
  - 4.2 Métis community at large;
  - 4.3 Non-Métis public.



Policy No: 1.4.9
Approved by:
Effective:
Revised: Aug. 15, 2008

### 1.4.9 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.