



# The New Nation

La nœovel naasyoon



Summer 2010



# The New Nation

## La noovel naasyoon

is a publication of the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research.

Any correspondence or inquiries can be made to:

Gabriel Dumont Institute  
2-604 22nd Street West  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 5W1  
Telephone: 306.934.4941  
Facsimile: 306.244.0252

*The New Nation: La noovel naasyoon* is published quarterly.

All views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the various authors and are not necessarily those of the Gabriel Dumont Institute or its Executive.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, in any format without the express written consent of the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

Advertising rates are posted on the last page of the magazine, or can be obtained by contacting the Gabriel Dumont Institute Publishing Department.

Advertisers and advertising agencies assume full responsibility for all content of advertisements printed. Advertisers also assume responsibility for any claim arising therefrom made against *The New Nation: La noovel naasyoon* or the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

*The New Nation: La noovel naasyoon* is available for a subscription of \$20.00 for four issues. Please use the form included in the magazine.

All issues of the magazine will be available at: [www.metismuseum.ca](http://www.metismuseum.ca).

#### Editors:

Darren R. Préfontaine  
[darren.prefontaine@gdi.gdins.org](mailto:darren.prefontaine@gdi.gdins.org)  
David Morin  
[david.morin@gdi.gdins.org](mailto:david.morin@gdi.gdins.org)  
Amy Briley  
[amy.briley@gdi.gdins.org](mailto:amy.briley@gdi.gdins.org)  
Amaranta Sokol  
[amaranta.sokol@gdi.gdins.org](mailto:amaranta.sokol@gdi.gdins.org)

#### Editorial Board:

Geordy McCaffrey, Executive Director  
Karon Shmon, Publishing Coordinator

#### Contributing Writers:

Briley, Amy  
Clements, Kate  
Gardiner, Brandon  
Kastrukoff, Jennifer  
LaPlante, Cindy  
Letendre, Angela  
Linke, Kim  
McKenna, Steven  
Mihalicz, Deborah  
Morin, Crystal  
Morin, David  
Préfontaine, Darren R.

Shmon, Karon  
Sokol, Amaranta  
SUNTEP Prince Albert  
Wilson, Lisa

#### Front and Back Cover

#### Photographs:

Johanne Janelle, Tracey Verishine

#### Magazine Layout:

Meredith Penner  
David Morin



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



## Year of the Métis Celebrated in a BIG Way 1

On May 31, 2010 over forty people gathered at Batoche ...

## 125 Years Later—the Battle of Batoche Ends 2

On May 12, 1885 the Northwest Resistance concluded when the Métis were...

## We Remember with Sorrow and Pride 4

We gathered to pay our respects on May 12th, which is a special ...

## Construction Program a Huge Success 5

I was honoured to represent the Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) at the ...

## Week-Long Celebration for *Back to Batoche* 2010! 6

This year's *Back to Batoche* celebration is striving to be the biggest and best ...

## Maria Campbell Shares Stories at the MAS Conference Banquet 8

Author, playwright, director, activist, and hero: no matter the title, Maria Campbell is ...

## A Painter and a Poet—GDI Publishing Preview 10

It was with great pleasure that the staff and students of the Saskatchewan ...

## Two New Resources Available from GDI 11

*The Métis: A Visual History* is a stunning and visually commanding resource ...

## DTI Celebrates Practical Nurse Grads 12

The Dumont Technical Institute is celebrating the graduation of 174 graduates from ...

## Poetry Corner 13

Submitted by the Dumont Technical Institute Level Four Class

## SUNTEP Prince Albert Grad 2010 14

On May 21, 2010 fourteen excited graduates entered the E. A. Rawlinson ...

## Daniel Olver 1st Gold at CIS 15

In December 2009 the GDI Communicator updated readers about the wrestling success of GDC student and former GDI ...

## Remembering Madame Josephite Tourond and the 1885 Resistance 16

Public memory of the 1885 Resistance ...

## Gabriel Dumont Obituaries from 1906 18

GDI is presently working on a 300-page plus book of images and newspaper ...

## Tristen Wood and Barry Hodgson: Successful DTI Graduates 20

Tristen Wood and Barry Hodgson are recent graduates of the Heavy ...

## SUNTEP Scholastic Book Fair Fundraiser 21

SUNTEP Saskatoon has given the student representative council and student body ...

## Dream On: Inspiring Saskatchewan's Youth 22

"It starts with a dream." This is the message that Donny Parenteau is trying to share ...

## Losing Simpler Times 23

Imagine all the things that are a part of your morning routine—turning on the light, brushing your teeth, showering, doing ...

## Île-à-la-Crosse Michif Festival 25

The eleventh annual Île-à-la-Crosse Michif Festival was held in the Rossignol High School Gymnasium on May 17, 2010 ...

## Enbridge Pipelines Inc. Donates Métis Learning Resource to ... 26

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) and Enbridge Pipelines Inc. introduced ...

## Preparations Underway of GDI's 30th Anniversary 28

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) will be hosting a cultural conference and ...

## GDI Receives Saskatchewan Tourism Award 29

In March, 2010 the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) was honoured ...



# The New Nation

## La noovel naasyoon

### Subscription Information

I would like to subscribe to *The New Nation: La noovel naasyoon* for one year (Four Issues)  
Cost: \$20.00 (plus GST)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheque payable to:

Gabriel Dumont Institute  
2-604 22nd Street West  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 5W1  
(T): 306.934.4941  
(F): 306.244.0252

Receipt will be issued upon payment.

# Year of the Métis Celebrated in a BIG Way

Article by Karon Shmon and Photograph by Tracey Verishine

On May 31, 2010 over forty people gathered at Batoche National Historic Site to participate in a photo shoot destined to become this year's National Aboriginal Day and Year of the Métis poster.

A collaboration between the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), Batoche National Historic Site, and Friends of Batoche brought forth the idea to have people assemble for a photo in which they hold a 20 x 40 foot Métis flag in front of the Saint Antoine-de-Padoue Church at Batoche. The church is a well-known image familiar to many as representing the site.

A long run of cold and rainy days preceded the shoot which kept the grass and trees from showing their usual greenery at this time of year. It even seemed likely that the shoot would be called off because May 31st was cold and wet. Despite the conditions, over forty people assembled for what seemed to be the only few minutes of sun available that day.

Photographs were taken both from a crane and from a helicopter. Ultimately, a photo taken by Tracey

Verishine of Parks Canada was selected for the poster, which can be seen on the back cover of this magazine. Video footage taken from the helicopter by David Morin will be incorporated into other projects later in the year.

A great deal of coordination was required beforehand. Besides promoting the event and arranging for the helicopter, crane, photographers, and videographers, the shoot had to be held between the time school groups left and the sun went down. Batoche is a busy place in the spring and groups of students are frequently on the move from one area of the site to another. Some candid shots with school groups holding the flag will be archived on the Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture, known at GDI as the VM. As many people who wanted to be in the picture couldn't leave work to do so, the shoot

was scheduled between 4 and 6 pm to give people travel time yet ensure sufficient daylight remained.

This will someday be an historic photo and people will wonder who was in it. The photo releases for each participant included taking their picture with their name clearly evident so the participants can be identified in the future. Sadly, there are many archival photos in which the subjects are not known. This photo is different. GDI will be posting a "who's who" version of the photo, with all participants face forward, in the near future on the VM.

The Métis Nation—Saskatchewan provided its anniversary logo "Remember with Pride" to add a special touch.



# 125 Years Later—the Battle of Batoche Ends

Article and Photographs by David Morin

On May 12, 1885 the Northwest Resistance concluded when the Métis were forced to surrender. They had fought valiantly to retain their way of life, but the North West Field Force was too large and too well supplied for the Métis to continue the battle. By the end of the fight, the Métis had run out of ammunition, and resorted to using rocks, nails, and the lead balls that the Métis women had melted down from wire, and whatever else they could find to load in their guns.



*Leah Dorion*

125 years later, a large group gathered on Mission Ridge at Batoche to reflect and celebrate the fact that the Métis are still here, and are still proud to be Métis. The event

began with Adèle Gaudet serenading the crowd with her talented fiddle playing, followed by an Honour Song by the One Arrow Drummers. Lee Penner, an interpreter at

Batoche National Historic Site (BNHS), followed with a brief history lesson explaining the events of the battle's last day.

Stewart Prosper, a direct descendent of Chief One Arrow, followed Lee by telling the audience about the involvement of his ancestors from One Arrow First Nation in the Resistance, and the importance of the relationship shared by his First Nation and Batoche.

Robert Doucette, Métis Nation—Saskatchewan (MN—S) President, brought greetings and reflected on the past as well as talking about the importance of all of the surviving Métis communities



*Karon Shmon*

across the province. He also shared a story of how a peace pipe given to Gabriel Dumont by Chief Big Bear (Mistahimaskwa) was discovered by the Hobbema First Nation and will be repatriated to the MN—S. The repatriation of this sacred object will ensure that the Métis community can further honour Gabriel Dumont's many contributions to his people.

Leah Dorion was invited to the microphone to share her new children's book, *The Giving Tree: A Retelling of a Traditional Métis Story*. The story was beautifully read, and Leah gave insight into her book's illustrations that might not be noticed upon first glance, such

as how a Métis infinity symbol is painted over the head of characters who are thinking good Métis thoughts.

Karon Shmon, Gabriel Dumont Institute Publishing Coordinator, discussed the importance of language when referring to the Northwest Resistance. In the past, the terms "Northwest Rebellion" and "Northwest Resistance" were used interchangeably to discuss this cataclysmic event. Métis scholars presently use the term "resistance" when describing the events of 1885 because the Métis were forced by the federal government to take up arms in response to the government's indifference to Métis grievances. The Métis

were also trying to protect their rights as a self-determining people.

The ceremony closed with a tribute to Elder and Senator John Boucher who recently passed away. Ray Fidler, BNHS Site Manager, said a few words honouring John Boucher. A beautiful quilt was on display showcasing John's life from childhood to adulthood. Senator John Boucher was made a *Member of the Order of Canada* for all of his volunteer efforts. He regularly attended events out at Batoche, and was always available to offer an opening prayer to ensure that all of the events started off right. He will be missed greatly.



*Quilt of John Boucher's life*

# We Remember with Sorrow and Pride

Article by Karon Shmon

We gathered to pay our respects on May 12th, which is a special day because 125 years ago our ancestors bravely stood up for our rights against overwhelming odds and made the ultimate sacrifice to get their message across.

The Battle of Batoche was the last time the Métis were involved in armed resistance in 1885. Understanding why the Métis want the events of 1885 called a resistance and not a rebellion, as it has been called in so many older documents, and is still a term used by some to this day, is very important. The word rebellion has negative connotations and implies that the rebels choose to thwart authority at an early stage when two opposing views are present. On the other hand, resistance is less offensive and more accurate because it implies that something has happened that can be resisted. We also prefer the term because dozens of safe and legal strategies over almost a decade were first used by the Métis in order to protest against what was happening to them. The Métis sent the government many letters, petitions, and people to advocate on their behalf, none of which made any difference. Once you have tried all of the safe and legal means to resist being oppressed you only have a few options left, one of them being to fight back,

or in this case, armed resistance. We remember the Northwest Resistance and the events of 1885 with sorrow and with pride.

We remember with sorrow because any time a conflict turns to armed resistance and results in the loss of life, grief results. The 300 Métis that stood up for our rights were brave and put their own lives and the welfare of their families at grave risk. On this day, with only 50 or 60 of them left, the Métis continued to resist being forced off their land. They had little or no ammunition and were facing five times their numbers, a force of well-armed soldiers and a Gatling gun. Many of their friends and neighbours had already lost their lives. Métis homes were looted and burned to the ground. The women and children had been hiding in the caves for some time. They were cold, hungry, and afraid of losing their loved ones and their own lives. They still managed to give birth to babies, care for others and tend the wounded. In the final moments of the battle, the older men stayed behind, knowing they would surely be killed, so the younger men could escape to continue to look after their families.

These brave Métis made this sacrifice so others could live. After the resistance, Métis families were without homes, without sons, fathers, brothers,

and uncles, and with limited means of surviving. More Métis died from the disease and poverty following the resistance than died during it. Our people were marginalized for decades afterwards. It was a very dark time in our history and this is why we remember with sorrow.

In this, the *Year of the Métis*, we remember with pride because we are still here, thriving as a nation with our cultural roots and traditions sustained and becoming stronger in numbers. Our identity is even stronger. We remember with pride because our ancestors had the strength of character to stand up for our rights and to care about future generations of Métis who would be affected by the decisions made then. We remember with pride because their determination and struggle brought forth the leaders that followed, such as Harry Daniels, who advocated on our behalf until we were recognized in the Constitution of Canada. We remember with pride because the Métis are nation builders, before 1867, after 1867, and to this present day. The Métis have always played a significant role in shaping Canada.

We remember with pride because our story, from our perspective, can be told by us at this time, in this special place. This will provide a much

needed other perspective than the one that has been there for so long. The privilege of documenting history has always gone to the victors, and it wasn't our story that was told after the resistance. We must remember that the last five letters in the word "history" spell "story." Our storytelling tradition

enabled Métis scholars such as Howard Adams and others to bring our culture and history to the attention of others but more importantly, to preserve it for ourselves. Our Elders such as Rose Fleury and the late Senator John Boucher have added immensely as advocates and in their dedication to

carrying our culture and history forward.

At the sacred site of Batoche, we remembered our ancestors with sorrow and with pride and expressed our gratitude to them—marsî, megwetch, museecho.

# Construction Program a Huge Success

Article and Photograph by Deborah Mihalicz

I was honoured to represent the Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) at the Construction Readiness Program graduation ceremony in "Sakitawak" (Cree for Île-à-la-Crosse) on Thursday January 28, 2010, representing Jason (JJ) Johnson. This program was truly community-based. Through consultation with local Métis leaders, DTI program coordinator Jason Johnson was able to designate the renovation of Sakitawak's Métis Local building, the Jonas Favel Center, as the main hands-on class project. Renovations were literally conducted from the ground up, with the students learning skills starting in the crawl space, through to the floor joists, and continuing up to installing 12-foot sections of drywall.

Instructor Victor Landry, also a resident of Île-à-la-Crosse, informed me that throughout the program one student in particular stood out.

Edwin Corrigan consistently demonstrated determination and hard work. In fact, Edwin was so successful that he could not attend his own graduation ceremony due to already having gained employment with the Rabbit Lake Mine. Along with 300 other applicants, he wrote the entrance test for Underground Mining Core Training, and later made a point of personally visiting his instructor Victor to inform him of the good news, and to express his gratitude. "Because of what I learned in this program, I passed the entrance test with flying colours!" Edwin said. Out of the 300 test-writers,

Edwin was in the top 12 who went on to training and employment with the mine.

Congratulations, Edwin, you have contributed to a Métis legacy in your community. You have truly earned your bright future!



*Edwin Corrigan*

# Week-Long Celebration for *Back to Batoche* 2010!

Article by David Morin

This year's *Back to Batoche* celebration is striving to be the biggest and best event to date in celebration of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Northwest Resistance. This anniversary celebration is also highlighted by the fact that 2010 has been designated as the *Year of the Métis* by both the provincial and federal governments.

The festival is happening this summer from July 18-25, 2010, and boasts a large lineup of talented entertainers to go along with the many cultural events taking place at the festival grounds. Andrea Menard, John Arcand, Donny Parenteau, Michelle Wright, and the Asham Stompers are just a handful of the amazing talent performing during the week-long celebrations.

The Artisans' Village will showcase arts and culture and will include the return of the "Batoche Musical," as well as

"The Trial of Louis Riel," a Métis film festival, Michif language workshops held by expert Michif speaker Norman Fleury, a capote-making workshop, and a vendor area where arts and crafts can be purchased.

If visitors would rather get involved in activities, there is a great deal to choose from. Jigging, square dancing, bannock baking, slo-pitch, rodeo, horseshoes, and voyageur games are some of the events you can expect to see along with an attempt at setting a *Guinness Book World Record* for the most people to ever play wooden spoons to one song on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Do you have a talent that you would like to share with the Métis world? Enter the *Métis' Got Talent* event!

In honour of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Northwest Resistance, a reconciliation ceremony will be taking place on July 18 at the Batoche

National Historic Site gravesite to commemorate fallen soldiers on all sides of the battles.

Many sponsors have given generously to make this year's festival one to remember, including the Government of Canada, the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Government of Saskatchewan, the Clarence Campeau Development Fund, the Gabriel Dumont Institute, Cameco, the SaskMetis Economic Development Corporation, SaskEnergy, SaskPower, Young Canada Works, TransCanada, and SGI.

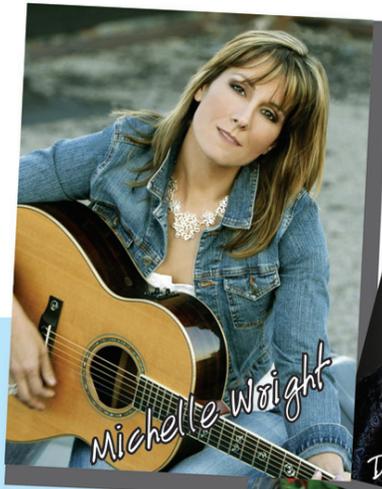
For more information and updates on what to expect at this year's *Back to Batoche* festival, be sure to check the official website:

[www.backtobatoche.ca](http://www.backtobatoche.ca).



**DRUG and ALCOHOL-FREE FAMILY EVENT**

- ∞ Adult Day Pass (ages 18 and up)  
July 18-22, 25th: \$10.00 per day  
July 23rd & 24th: \$20.00 per day
- ∞ Youth Day Pass (ages 12 to 17)  
July 18-22, 25th: \$5.00 per day  
July 23rd & 24th: \$10.00 per day
- ∞ Festival Passes  
*Admission for all 8 days of the Celebrations*  
Adult (ages 18 and up): \$50.00  
Youth (ages 12 to 17): \$35.00
- ∞ Child Pass (12 and under): Free!  
*Children still need to be registered to receive wristband*
- ∞ Veteran Pass: Free!



*Michelle Wright*



*Donny Parenteau*



*Andrea Menard*



*John Arcand*

***Competitions & Prizes for Square Dancing, Jigging and Fiddling!***  
***A Guinness Book of World Record!***  
***Youth and Children's Programs!***  
***Rodeo, Chariot & Chuckwagon Races!***  
***Batoche Musical, Métis' Got Talent, and the Trial of Louis Riel!***

**Information: [www.backtobatoche.ca](http://www.backtobatoche.ca)**  
**Email: [backtobatoche125@cntgrp.ca](mailto:backtobatoche125@cntgrp.ca)**  
**Phone: (306) 584-3524**



*Just the Boys*



*Dallas Fiddler Boyz*



*Asham Stompers*



*Summer Edge*



*Metis Fiddler Quartet*



*Wide Pylon*

# BACK to BATOCHÉ

## 125th Celebrations

**July 18-25, 2010 Batoche, Saskatchewan**



# Maria Campbell Shares Stories at the MAS Conference Banquet

Article by Amy Briley and Photograph by Karon Shmon

Author, playwright, director, activist, and hero: no matter the title, Maria Campbell is a woman with a story to share. She did exactly that at the Museums Association of Saskatchewan (MAS) Conference and AGM banquet on May 27, 2010. Well known for her memoir, *Half-Breed*, and for her work with the Saskatchewan Native Theatre Company, Maria is much more than an author to the Métis community, she's an icon and mentor. The theme for this year's MAS conference was honouring the *Year of the Métis*, and Maria was the obvious choice for guest speaker.

As the honoured guest and keynote speaker for the evening, Maria captivated the audience with her eloquence and stories. Reminiscing on her love of museums, Maria spoke of her own museum experiences, and how much she's always loved to visit them to look at artifacts. Making specific

reference to a shawl she once saw as a girl in a museum, she remembered wondering where the shawl came from and what stories could possibly be woven into its fabric. Maria explained how this one experience resulted in her life-long love of shawls. As she spoke about the influence and power of an item, it made one realize that stories really can be created by simply giving life to an object.

To conclude her presentation, Maria read her story "Big John" from *Stories of the Road Allowance People*. The

story—about one person's recollections of the aftermath of the events of 1885 and of Louis Riel's last days—was very touching, and perfectly enhanced by the soft music of the fiddle and guitar played by John and Vicki Arcand. The room fell completely silent while Maria read, and you could feel the history come to life as though the characters were sitting at your very table. GDI would like to thank Maria Campbell for sharing her enjoyable and thought-provoking stories with the MAS conference delegates.



*Maria Campbell, John Arcand, and Vicki Arcand*

**Celebrating the  
Year of the Métis**

# 13th Annual John Arcand Fiddle Fest

August 12 – 15, 2010

## ADMISSION per PERSON

- Day \$20 • Weekend \$50 • 12 & under Free •

Just Southwest of Saskatoon -  
Windy Acres, Pike Lake Highway #60

- Bring your lawn chair
- Free unserviced camping
- Special room rates at Heritage Inn
- Concession
- Activities for kids

**Phone 306.382.0111**

**[www.johnarcandfiddlefest.com](http://www.johnarcandfiddlefest.com)**

### THURSDAY

- 9 am - 4 pm WORKSHOPS (Fiddle and Jigging)
- 1-5pm Main Stage entertainment
- 7 pm Lifetime Achievement Award Presentation
- 7:30 pm CONCERT (Fiddle Instructors Showcase)

### FRIDAY

- 9 am - 4 pm WORKSHOPS (Fiddle, Jigging, Guitar, and Piano)
- 1-4 pm Main Stage entertainment
- 4:30 pm Andy Dejarlis Preliminaries
- 6 pm MÉTIS CONCERT SHOWCASE
- 9 pm Old Time Dance

### SATURDAY

- 9 am Fiddle Contest Preliminaries
- Jigging Contest Preliminaries
- 7 pm CONCERT (John Arcand & Special Friends)
- 9 pm Old Time Dance

### SUNDAY

- 7 am Fiddles & Flapjacks (pancake breakfast with live music)
- 9 am Gospel Hour
- 10 am Fiddle Contest Finals
- Jigging Contest Finals
- Fiddle Finale

**Workshops,  
Competitions,  
Concerts,  
& Dances**

**NEW  
Shuttle Service  
from Saskatoon!  
Call or visit website  
for schedule details**

**Over  
\$10,700  
in Contest  
Prize Money!**

Please bring a non-perishable food donation  
for the Saskatoon Food Bank



Canadian Patrimoine  
Heritage canadien



**Heritage Inn**  
Hotel & Convention Centre  
toll free: 1.888.888.4374



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts  
du Canada

# A Painter and a Poet — GDI Publishing Preview

Article and Photographs by Christina Johns

It was with great pleasure that the staff and students of the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) in Regina welcomed two artists, a painter and a poet, to discuss their newest artistic endeavours. On March 26, 2010, SUNTEP Regina hosted a preview of the official book launch for two fantastic new resources fresh off the press from the Gabriel Dumont Institute Publishing Department.



**Erma Taylor and Gregory Scofield**

Sherry Farrell Racette, in her fabulous storytelling format (like only Sherry can do), explained the history of the artwork that became the colourful resource *The Métis: A Visual History*. It was interesting to hear the impetus for the works were originally used as back drops for a University of Saskatchewan distance learning class. Staff and students were treated to a history lesson explaining the four panels' content. Included in the

presentation was a short chronological history of Métis people from the birth of a New Nation in the Great Lakes region to the revitalization of the Métis Nation in the 1970s and '80s.

Gregory Scofield then shared his poetic prowess by providing context behind his previously published work of poetry, *I Knew Two Métis Women*. This collection of heartfelt and hysterical poems was written as a tribute to his late mother and auntie. This new multimedia collection includes the book and two CDs with readings and music by Métis greats including Tantoo Cardinal, Andrea Menard, Maria Campbell, John Arcand, and Donny Parenteau. This compilation resource is definitely food for the Métis soul.

We were then treated to a live reading by Gregory and photo ops with both Métis role models.

Students had wonderful things to say about the experience:

“The Sherry Farrell Racette and



**Far Left: Gregory Scofield; Centre: SUNTEP Students; Far Right: Sherry Farrell Racette**

Gregory Scofield book launch was a wonderful experience, and one that I will cherish always when looking back at my school years. They both make you feel proud to be Métis!”

“The presentation was inspirational for me as a Métis person being two-spirited. Greg’s reading and his use of expression with word in poetry really meant a lot to me. I want to say that Greg inspired me as a writer, and that it meant so much to me to be present at this lecture.”

These artists surely fed our spirits. Many were left encouraged to write, paint, sing or create. Thank you Sherry and Greg, you inspire us all!

# Two New Resources Available from GDI

## *The Métis: A Visual History* (Book and 4-poster set)

*The Métis: A Visual History* is a stunning and visually-commanding resource covering over three hundred years of history and culture from the birth of the Métis Nation to our near past, a mere thirty years ago. Sherry Farrell Racette has blended her acumen as a historian and researcher with her skill as a visual artist to create four panels, each representing a different era of Métis history. The panels have been reproduced as

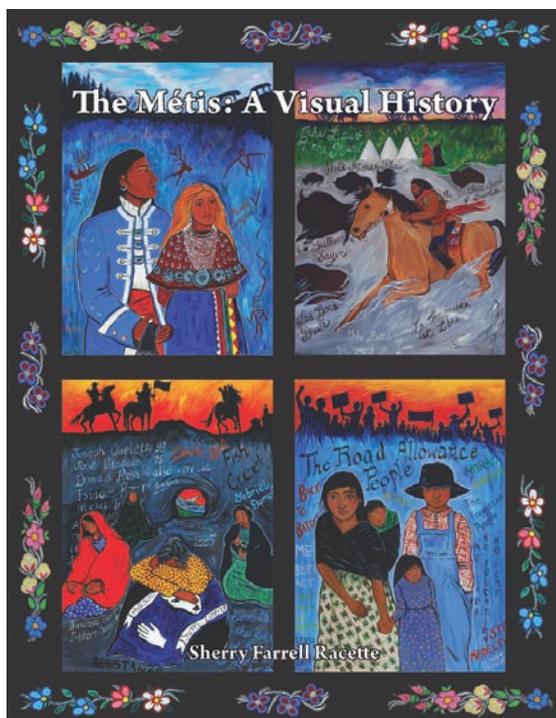
educational posters and have a companion book explaining the significance of each image.

This important resource is being shared with over 150 schools throughout Saskatchewan through the support from Enbridge Pipelines Inc.

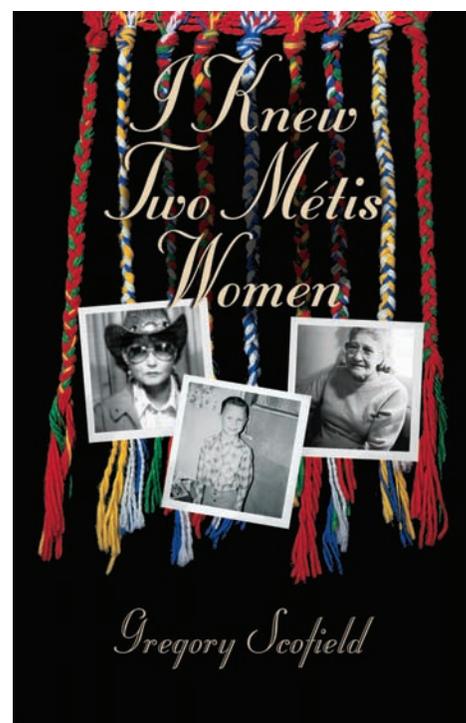
## *I Knew Two Métis Women: The lives of Dorothy Scofield and Georgina Houle Young* (Book and CD set)

Gregory Scofield's *I Knew Two Métis Women* recreates the world of his childhood and

celebrates his Métis family. The unforgettable voices of his mother Dorothy Scofield and aunt Georgina Houle Young wind through the book, telling tall tales, soothing hurts, offering love and sly humour as an antidote to hardship, poverty, violence, and prejudice. The companion CD includes Scofield's dynamic reading accompanied by the voices and music of an impressive group of performing artists including John Arcand, Maria Campbell, Tantoo Cardinal, Andrea Menard, and Donny Parenteau.



To order, contact:  
Gabriel Dumont Institute  
2-604 22nd Street West  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 5W1  
(T) 306.934.4941  
(F) 306.244.0252  
or order online at  
[www.gdins.org/catalog](http://www.gdins.org/catalog).



# DTI Celebrates Practical Nurse Grads

Article by Lisa Wilson

The Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) is celebrating the graduation of 174 graduates from its Practical Nursing program since it began offering the program in 1999. Today, DTI is the second largest trainer of Practical Nurses in the province, second only to the accrediting body for the training (SIAST). The Practical Nursing program was first offered by DTI to 16 students in Prince Albert in 1999. In 2001, the Institute began offering the program in Saskatoon where it had never been offered before. In the same year the Institute began offering the program in partnership with the Northwest Regional College in Meadow Lake.

DTI was the first “college” to offer the program outside of SIAST, and it broke ground for the off-site delivery of the Practical Nursing program by other institutes such as the Regional Colleges. In those early days there were many difficulties getting the program up and running since DTI was the first to take the program to community-based delivery. Establishing the program involved building a great deal of relationships with not only the people heading up the program at SIAST, but also with the health regions

involved in taking the students for practicum placements. Fortunately, the health regions saw this program as critical to their labour force needs and assisted and cooperated on all levels, including providing assistance with setting up complicated labs for the students to do their training. By and large, the support of the health regions has been critical to the program’s success.

The program is supported by a partnership between DTI and Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment to fund course delivery and student support. The DTI Practical Nurse program addresses both the shortage of trained nurses, particularly trained Aboriginal nurses, and the shortage of nurses in remote

areas in Saskatchewan. The program offers a unique four to eight-week preparatory program where students learn medical terminology, update their math and writing skills, and focus on particularly challenging practice areas. The course also includes a cultural component where students learn about Métis culture to help build their sense of pride and confidence. Lastly, the program aims to foster a sense of community within the class and with partners in the broader community.

The DTI Practical Nursing program boasts a successful completion rate of about 90%, and graduates have no trouble finding employment upon graduating and successfully writing their licensing exams.



# Poetry Corner

Submitted by the Dumont Technical Institute Level Four Class

Metis  
My people,  
A beautiful nation  
Proud to be  
Me!

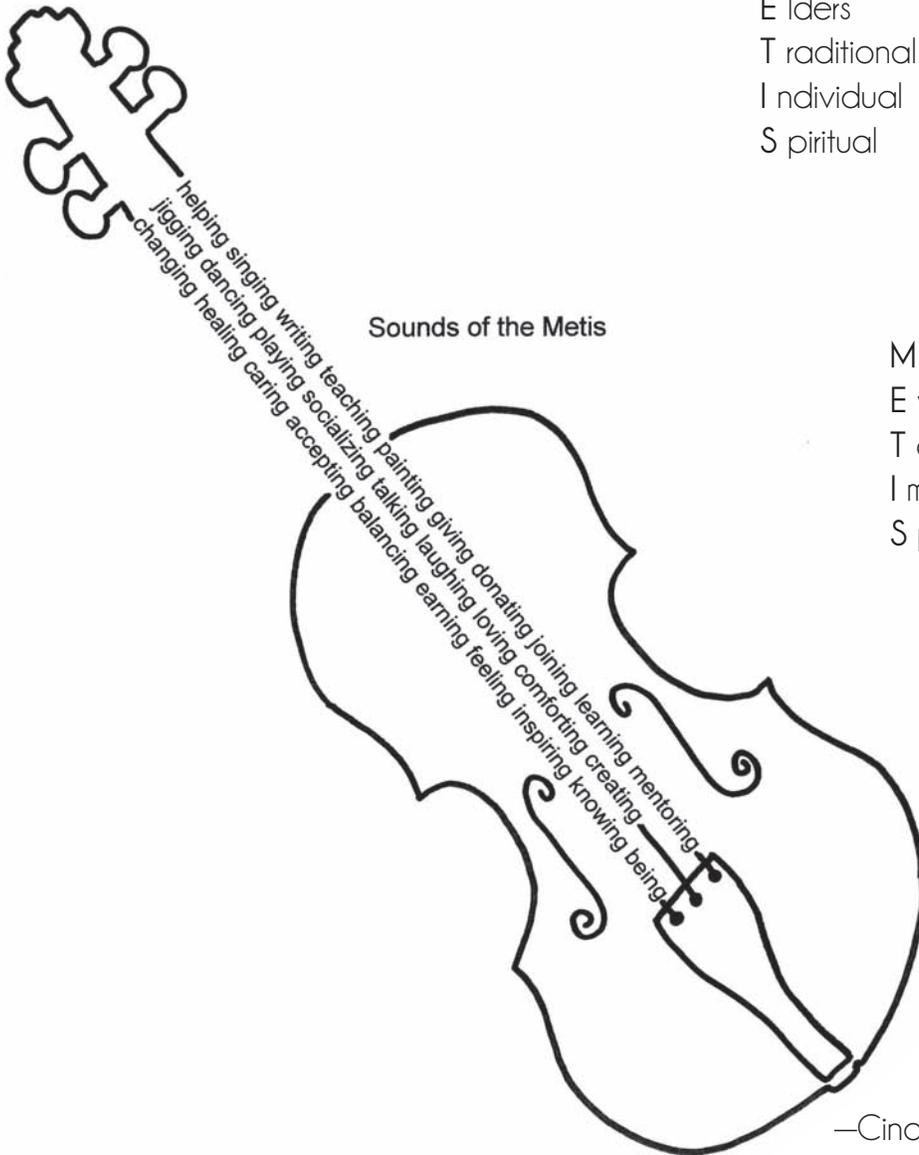
—Crystal Morin

Battleground, used during the battle between the Metis  
And the Canadian Army  
Tearing up a nation  
Outrage!  
Canadians becoming enemies  
Heritage that is remembered  
Everyday

—Steven McKenna

Majestic  
Elders  
Traditional  
Individual  
Spiritual

—Kim Linke



Sounds of the Metis

Metis children are the  
Eyes of the world  
Together we see the  
Impact of our  
Spirit and the changes in our homeland.

—Theresa Malboeuf

—Cindy LaPlante

# SUNTEP Prince Albert Grad 2010

Article by Bente Huntley

On May 21, 2010 fourteen excited graduates entered the E. A. Rawlinson Centre to the sound of drummers Jamie Chekosis and Trevor Amyiotte, and received a single red rose from the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) third-year students. Over 300 guests helped to kick start a memorable afternoon for the 25<sup>th</sup> SUNTEP Prince Albert graduating class. SUNTEP staff hosted the event, and the keynote address was given by Rene Baxter. Rene, their math instructor, was chosen by the graduating class because of her compassion, dedication, passion, and humour. Metis Elder, Vivian Meabry, gave the Blessing, and Coordinator Michael Relland welcomed family, friends, and special guests. Robert Doucette (Métis Nation—Saskatchewan), Rosalie Tsanni (Prince Albert Grand Council), Lynn Lemisko (University of Saskatchewan), Allan Nunn (Saskatchewan Rivers) and Gordon Burns (Student Representative Council) all brought greetings to the graduates.

A number of special scholarships were also presented. We are very proud of our students, as they excel in so many ways. The

quality of our students is such that two students, Allison Tait and Holly Wiberg, were asked by the College of Education to present a workshop to their faculty on incorporating Aboriginal content into the curriculum. Many of our graduates received numerous other scholarships throughout the year as well. However, the evening of the graduation, Mona Berg presented Ashley Bruneau with the *Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Award*, which is given to a student who has shown growth academically, personally and especially, professionally. The *Sharing the Warmth Award* (a Star Blanket made by the SUNTEP Cultural Committee) was

given to Trisha Gowan and presented by Trish Watier from SaskEnergy. This award winner is chosen by the graduating class, and honours a student who displays commitment to volunteering within SUNTEP and the community. The final award of the evening, the *Jocelynn Lavoie Memorial Scholarship*, was presented to second-year student Jennifer Brown by Michael Relland, on behalf of the Lavoie family. This award is presented in honour of Jocelynn, a student who was tragically killed during her first year, and goes to the student who gives the most hours for volunteering and community service.



**Back row: (left to right) Maureen McKenzie, Rose Morin, Heather McAuley**  
**Middle Row: Trisha Gowen, Ashley Bruneau, Crystal Ross, Allison Tait, Carlene Fosseneuve**  
**Front Row: Edward Benonie, Cindy Grambo, Kerri-Lynn Gareau, Leanne Gunderson**  
**(Missing: Suzanne DePeel)**

In between speeches and awards, guests were entertained by two energetic groups of dancers: Robin Cameron Memorial School Hoop Dancers under the guidance of former SUNTEP graduate Andy Debray and Riverside School Hip Hop Dance group under the guidance of SUNTEP graduate Edward Benonie, who also danced for the occasion. The evening ended with a slide presentation of the graduates during their internship followed by the graduates

speeches. After this, the third-year students presented the graduates with their plaques and sashes. Elder Vivian Meabry and Coordinator Michael Relland tied the sashes to the end the formal ceremonies. A wine and cheese reception followed, giving the graduates a chance to get photographs taken with their families. Congratulations and good luck to the graduating class of 2010:

Edward Benoanie  
Ashley Bruneau  
Suzanne DePeel  
Carleen Fosseneuve  
Kerri-Lynn Careau  
Trisha Gowen  
Cindy Grambo  
Leanne Gunderson  
Heather McAuley  
Maureen McKenzie  
Rose Morin  
Crystal Ross  
Allison Tait  
Kristen Workman

## Daniel Olver 1st Gold at CIS

Article by Lisa Wilson and Photograph by Peter Beszterda

In December, 2009 the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Communicator updated readers about the wrestling success of Gabriel Dumont College student and former GDI summer student, Daniel Olver. Daniel, team captain of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies wrestling team, is a Canada West champion, a U of S All-Academic team member, and Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) medalist. Daniel previously stated his goal was to win CIS. In March this year, Daniel won his first CIS gold after three straight silver medals in the 76-kg category. Daniel defeated Canada West foe Connor Malloy from the University of Regina.

Daniel was also recently one of four Métis youth delegates from Saskatchewan to participate in the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics and in an Indigenous Youth Gathering leading up to the games. GDI was proud to supply the youth delegates with traditional clothing for the opening ceremonies.

It's been a busy and exciting year for this GDC student! Way to go, Daniel!



*Daniel Olver*

# Remembering Madame Josephite Tourond and the 1885 Resistance

Article by Darren R. Préfontaine

Public memory of the 1885 Resistance has changed with time. Euro-Canadian interpretations of it traditionally focused on nation-building and East-West/English-French relations while the Métis have always viewed 1885 as an Indigenous resistance against distant and cold authority. Moreover, historians have tended to focus on Riel and Dumont's leadership, and on the various battles, and have generally been silent about the suffering of Métis non-combatants. Dozens of Métis, mainly women and children, died from disease due to the privations they suffered during the 1885 Resistance. Many lost property and were never compensated for their losses.

Perhaps no Métis family lost more than that of Madame Josephite Tourond. In 1882, Madame Tourond and her family, including her husband Joseph and their nine children, left Saint-François Xavier, Manitoba for the Métis settlement of Batoche. They settled at nearby Coulee Poisson (Fish Creek), which became known as "Tourond's Coulee" by all the local Métis families. Soon tragedy struck: Joseph, the patriarch of the



*Josephite "La Veuve" Tourond in front of Edmond and Berthe Boyer's home—Batoche. Born Josephite Paul July 1831—Died December 15, 1928. Aged 97 years.*

family suddenly died. In 1884, as the Batoche-area Métis met to decide upon a strategy to address their grievances, Louis Riel visited Madame Tourond's home and asked if he could count on her family's support during the negotiations and possible confrontation with the federal government. The Touronds were Riel loyalists who supported the Métis Provisional Government during the Red River Resistance in 1869-70. Madame Tourond treated Louis Riel to a fine meal and assured him of her family's support.

On April 24, 1885, the Battle of Tourond's Coulee broke out on her land. As a result, her family—including an elderly mother, a son (Charles) sick with tuberculosis, young daughters, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren—had to flee the battle. Both Madame Tourond's daughter Élise and Louis Riel carried her two-year-old grandson, Arthur, safely to an encampment near Bellevue. However, they were all tired and hungry. Madame Tourond watched helplessly as the troops burned her home, slaughtered her livestock, and pillaged her family's

possessions, including her horses and wagon. Madame Tourond knew that she needed the horse and wagon to transport her invalid son and elderly mother. Angered, she bravely entered the soldiers' encampment and demanded the return of her horse and wagon. Impressed by her bravery, the soldiers immediately hitched up her horses and wagon, and gave them to her. Unfortunately, tragedy soon followed as two sons, Calixte and Elzéar, were killed in the final hours of the Battle of Batoche (May 12, 1885), while another was severely disabled. Soon afterwards, she lost five more children, several more grandchildren, and members of her extended family to disease. When she died in 1928, at the age of 97, only two of her children were still living.

The tragic sacrifices of Madame Tourond and her family eventually led to a change in how Parks Canada commemorates the 1885 Resistance battle which took place on her land. This battle, in which 150 Métis and First Nations defeated 500-800 Canadian troops, became known in the dominant society as the "Battle of Fish Creek." The Métis, by contrast, have always known it as the "Battle of Tourond's Coulee." In 2005, Métis community members and representatives from Parks

Canada, Batoche National Historic Site (BNHS), the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), and Friends of Batoche formed a partnership in order to restore the Métis name to this battle, which would also honour the sacrifices of the Tourond family. Eventually, these lobbying efforts were successful. In 2008, Parks Canada officially unveiled new commemorative plaques, in Michif, English, and French, which commemorate the battle site as the "Battle of Tourond's Coulee/ Fish Creek National Historic Site of Canada." With this inclusive name change, a key piece of Métis corporate and family

history has been restored in the historical commemoration of the 1885 Resistance. On April 24, 2008, as a postscript to this successful lobbying effort, BNHS and GDI brought together many interested people on Madame Tourond's land to share women's and children's stories relating to the 1885 Resistance. Participants included several of Madame Tourond's descendants including her great-grandson, Henri Paulus, who shared the family history outlined above and her great-granddaughter, Margaret Tourond-Townson, who brought her great-grandmother's clock to the event.



*Henri Pahlus and Margaret Tourond-Townson*

# Gabriel Dumont Obituaries from 1906

Transcribed by Jennifer Kastrukoff, Introduced by Darren R. Préfontaine

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) is presently working on a 300-page plus book of images and newspaper accounts relating to the life of Gabriel Dumont. The book is entitled: *Gabriel Dumont: Li Chef Michif in Images and in Words* and it will be released in the fall of 2010. During the course of this research, we have uncovered many interesting and long-lost photographs and newspaper articles. Below are three obituaries from Saskatchewan newspapers marking Gabriel Dumont's death in 1906.

**"Riel's Lieutenant Dead,"**  
*Regina Leader*, May  
22, 1906: 1.

Gabriel Dumont Passes away  
Near Batoche, aged Seventy-  
Five Years—He was the  
Commanding Genius of the  
Rebellion

Rosthern, Sask, May 21.—Gabriel  
Dumont, the man who furnished  
the skill to conduct the Riel  
Rebellion, died suddenly near  
Batoche last Saturday morning.  
His death was not expected  
as he had not been ailing  
previously. He was about 75  
Years old but quite robust.

Gabriel Dumont figured in the  
rebellion as Riel's lieutenant,  
but in reality he conducted  
a campaign which thrilled  
all Canada. He afterwards  
escaped to Montana, but  
upon Riel being captured and  
executed Dumont was granted  
amnesty. He returned to Batoche  
and settled on a river lot.

Gabriel's crossing on the North  
Saskatchewan river (*sic*) due east  
of Rosthern, is named after him.  
Here he lived quietly. The Indians  
and half-breeds worshipped him.

Riel's Mother Dies Same Day

It is sad and remarkable  
coincidence that at the time



*Gabriel Dumont, Saskatchewan Archives Board (R-A6277)*

when the angel was summoning Gabriel Dumont, Riel's lieutenant, a similar summons was given Riel's mother, living at St. Boniface, Man. She was born 86 years ago at St. Boniface, the daughter of Baptiste Lagimodiere and Marie Anne Gaboury-Lagimodiere, the first white couple to place foot on the soil of the prairie west. At the age of twenty-two she was married to Louis Riel, trapper, the ceremony taking place at the old Mission Church, St. Boniface.

Thus in one day the two people who more than all others had confidence in Louis Riel pass from the scene where they endured many privations and suffered much.

*"Gabriel Dumont is Dead," Saskatoon Daily Phoenix, May 23, 1906: 4.*

End Came Suddenly to the Rebel Leader at His Home Near Rosthern—Sketch of His Career

Rosthern, May 21.—Gabriel Dumont, the rebel hero, of the Riel rebellion, of '85, and the man who inspired the Indians and half-breeds in their fight against the Canadian troops and mounted police is dead. The end came

suddenly and without warning. He died at his home a few miles due east of Rosthern, where he had lived since his return from Montana, whither he fled during the rebellion.

Gabriel Dumont was a French half-breed, of splendid physique and great endurance. He possessed the French alertness of mind and body and the Indian sagacity in war and the chase. He it was (*sic*) who led the fight at Duck Lake against Mounted Police when the first blood was shed which precipitated the armed revolt against Canadian authority. He was in command at Batoche, the stiffest fight of the whole rebellion. When he saw clearly that the cause was doomed he fled and succeeded in making good his escape to the United States. After amnesty had been proclaimed he still lived on in Montana where he settled.

He was about seventy-five years of age, but like many others (*sic*) of his people, his age was not surely known. He had been a familiar figure on the streets of Rosthern and Duck Lake. By his own people he was regarded with reverence for his fighting qualities. Indian-like he

was taciturn and cautious in his moves. He will be buried near his late home.

*"Riel's Lieutenant Dead," Saskatchewan Herald (Battleford), May 30, 1906.*

Gabriel Dumont, the able lieutenant of Louis Riel, was buried at Batoche on Monday, May 21st. Fully one hundred French half-breeds and Indians attended the funeral. Father Moulin conducted the burial services. The pallbearers, all relatives of Dumont, were as follows:—Alex. Dumont, John Baptiste Dumont, Joseph Dumont, Jr., Joseph Parenteau, John Smith and Joseph Champagne. Dumont had returned a few days previously from a hunting trip to Basis Lake, near Domremy and complained of pains in his chest and arms. On Saturday he went for a walk as usual. Returning, he asked for a bowl of soup, took a few mouthfuls and walked over to the bed and fell on it dead. Apoplexy was the cause of death. Dumont previously enjoyed splendid health and few persons could outwalk (*sic*) him.

# Tristen Wood and Barry Hodgson: Successful Dumont Technical Institute Graduates

Article by Angela Letendre

Tristen Wood and Barry Hodgson are recent graduates of the Heavy Equipment and Truck & Transport Mechanic Pre-Employment Program, which was first offered as a partnership between the Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure.

Tristen Wood is one of the Heavy Equipment and Truck & Transport Mechanic Pre-Employment Program's first graduates, which was offered by DTI Prince Albert. He grew up in Meath Park, and has always had an interest in mechanics so he enrolled in the program. His attendance was superb, and his work ethic made him a wonderful candidate for employment with the Ministry. He was hired by wage subsidy with the Ministry through Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment (GDI T&E), but shortly thereafter he was recruited by the Ministry as one of their own. Since his employment in 2008, he has gone on to take his second-year training in Saskatoon (in May of 2010). We are thrilled for his success. Way to go, Tristen!

Barry Hodgson is from Beauval, and moved to Prince Albert in 2008 in order to enroll in DTI's Heavy Equipment and Truck & Transport Mechanic Pre-Employment Program. He is a quiet and shy guy with a passion for mechanics and his family. He worked hard throughout the course in order to learn the material required, making trips back home to see family when he could. By the end of his course, he was picked up by the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure through a wage subsidy provided by GDI T&E. Eventually, Barry was formally hired by the Ministry, and in May of this year enrolled in his second year of training in Saskatoon. We are very proud to recognize Barry's accomplishments.

# SUNTEP Scholastic Book Fair Fundraiser

Article by Kate Clements and Photograph by Stacey Coulsen-Edwards

Saskatchewan Urban Native Education Program (SUNTEP) Saskatoon has given the Student Representative Council (SRC) and student body the opportunity to create a strong sense of community. Through the many events organized by our council, connections are built with Saskatoon's schools, the university campus, and the community. A Louis Riel Day celebration, family friendly events, and a Scholastic Book Fair all contribute to the SUNTEP SRC's success. The council celebrates Métis culture, but our goal is to also acknowledge Métis history,

and the importance of that history to ensure that celebrating Métis culture is authentic, honest, and educational. Being able to go into schools and work with children and youth to teach them about Métis culture gives SUNTEP teacher candidates the opportunity to remember why they want to be teachers.

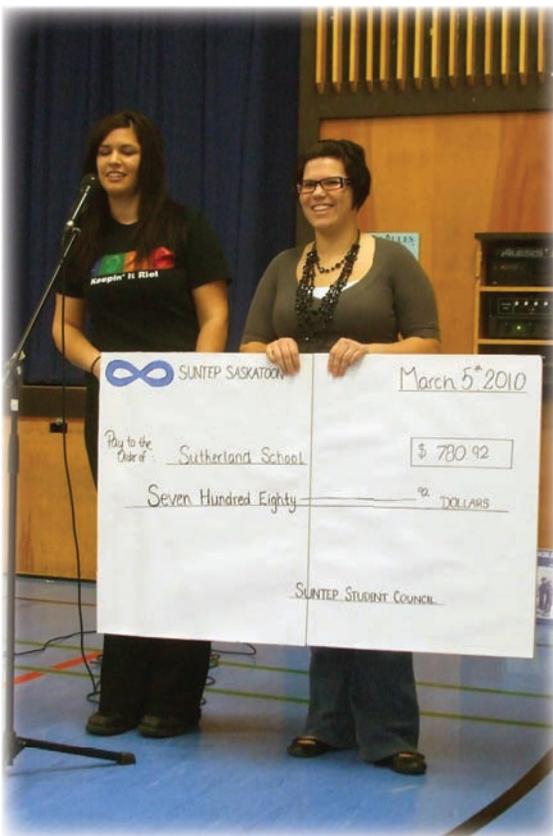
SUNTEP has been hosting the Scholastic Book Fair Fundraiser for the past several years. Each year, the SUNTEP SRC chooses a school to receive literature and materials for their library.

In 2009, W.P. Bate Community School was the recipient of a \$1000 certificate to spend at Scholastic. W.P. Bate Community School has welcomed SUNTEP teacher candidates to their classrooms to work with students doing activities related to Métis culture. It is always an amazing experience to see the celebration of diversity within the school. This, and the hard work of the teachers ensure that W.P. Bate students succeed. On March 31<sup>st</sup>, W.P. Bate Community School held an assembly and five representatives

from SUNTEP presented the school with the certificate. When the students were asked if they liked to read, the representatives were blown away with the excited shouting of "YES!"

This year, the Scholastic Book Fair, held on February 10 and 11, 2010 saw Sutherland School as the recipient of a \$780.00 certificate to spend at Scholastic. SUNTEP teacher candidates have been invited on numerous occasions to Sutherland School to volunteer in the classrooms and work with the students. They have received invaluable advice and guidance from the staff and teachers at Sutherland School for teaching in a culturally-responsive manner. On February 26<sup>th</sup>, the Sutherland School held an assembly and three representatives from SUNTEP presented the school with the certificate. The welcoming and excited atmosphere of the assembly, with students unable to stop clapping, made all the hard work of organizing this fundraiser well worth it.

These are the exact kind of reactions that ensures SUNTEP keeps giving back to the campus, to the community, and to our schools.



# Dream On: Inspiring Saskatchewan's Youth

Article by Amy Briley and Photograph by Kayla Morrison

"It starts with a dream." This is the message that Donny Parenteau is trying to share with youth across Saskatchewan. His ten school tour aims to reach out to students to show them that all dreams are attainable in life if you stay focused. "It's simple", according to Donny, "what is your dream and what are you going to do to achieve it?" With accolades and awards far too numerous to list, Donny's dream has provided him with a successful career both in the United States and at home in Canada, and has put him on stages with the biggest names in country music, making him fully accredited to speak on the pursuit of a dream.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) was pleased to be able to host the Saskatoon "It Starts With a Dream" tour date at E.D. Feehan High School on June 1, 2010. The auditorium filled with students from grades nine to twelve. The presentation opened with a video on the musician's life-long career that started as a boy living in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Donny

knew at a very early age that his dream was to create and perform music, a goal that he not only achieved, but continues to excel in. Donny's 90-minute presentation reminds students to hold fast to their dreams and to never let fear, intimidation, or the judgemental views of others stand between them and the achievement of their success. He tells them to give 100% effort at all times, and to give even more when someone else is working equally hard for the same thing. For the later part of the presentation, Donny gave a musical

say thanks, to E.D. Feehan High School," the auditorium filled with a roaring cheer.

After his large group seminars, Donny facilitates a song-writing workshop for each of the schools. Using the ideas of a storytelling to portray a message, Donny reveals to the students that music is an instrument for telling your own unique story and for portraying a message on any passionate subject.

To conclude an already successful and meaningful day, Donny and his band gave a free concert open to the public. The Saskatoon concert was held at Tommy Douglas Theatre where a silver collection was taken at the door with all proceeds going to the *GDI Scholarship Foundation*. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to meet with Donny and his band before the concert and to watch them do their sound check. As soon as we arrived at the theatre and the doors were unlocked, the band immediately began to unload their equipment. As



*Donny Parenteau (Far Right)*

performance that showcased his gift of music. In sticking with the tour theme, Donny performed, "Hold On To Your Dreams," a song that he wrote as a gift to the students of the tour, and as he sang the words, "So I must

I watched the band set up, I marvelled at how the group worked together with such proficiency. No one member worked more than another and no one stopped until everything was ready to go, demonstrating that no gig is too small or deserves less than 100% attention.

For a musician who has performed on stages like the Grand Ole Opry, and at the Canadian Country Music Awards, this quaint theatre must have seemed like a very intimate affair; but this didn't

stop Donny and his band from putting their hearts into every song they played. Donny took the opportunity to really personalize his concert for the audience. Repeatedly asking, "What do you want to hear?" he took requests and played songs that he knew would captivate the audience. Demonstrating his humility, a trait that he credits to his mother, Donny made sure to showcase the talents of each band member; sharing the stage, he gave constant recognition to his group of talented band mates. As I listened to and

enjoyed the different music styles and the many instruments played, it dawned on me that all this talent stemmed from one essential thing, a dream.

GDI, including myself and my colleagues present, would like to thank Donny Parenteau for bringing this tour to our province's youth, and for showing us that we are only a few steps away from achieving our dreams. For more information on the "It Starts with a Dream" tour and for upcoming tour dates, visit Donny's website at [www.donnyparenteau.com](http://www.donnyparenteau.com).

## Losing Simpler Times

Article by Amaranta Sokol

Imagine all the things that are a part of your morning routine—turning on the light, brushing your teeth, showering, doing your hair, and putting on your makeup. These are simple actions that we all take for granted, and yet if you ask your grandparents or even parents to recall what it was like when they were young, their answers would be quite different. They would reflect on how easy life is today with all the technology and everyday items that make things easier. Rather than a hot shower and breakfast popping out of the toaster, older generations share their memories of how a layer of ice would have



to be broken with a ladle in the water pail, and how their breath could still be seen as they started a fire in the morning. During cold

winter days, I often think of this question: as tough as we are, or like to think we are, could we have survived years ago after

enjoying the luxuries we do now?

As I get into my vehicle that has been warming up thanks to our remote car starter, I again think of what it was like for my grandparents at my age, and even for my parents when they were young. We do not have to hook-up a team of horses in winter or ensure a fire is started in the caboose's stove. My Grandpa shared his memories of having to stop the team to break icicles forming on the horses' nostrils, which would sometimes bleed if not broken off. How lucky we are to only stop for gas, and even then we do not have to get out of our vehicle. If our heaters do not work well, it is as devastating as is a lack of air conditioning in the summer.

Even in our homes, few people in Saskatchewan get up to feed the fire during the night and fewer still likely do not have a fan to cool their homes in the summer. Our grandparents and parents woke up to frost in the corners of their rooms. They hesitantly put their feet on cold floors, knowing that they had little time to sit and wake up since their days began with work. They went from breakfast straight to hard work outside—to the fields, to cattle, to hunting, and to other daily duties. The women were not left out from this work, they too had a lot to do—gardening and

canning in the summer, helping the men, and caring for the children. Now, machinery does the hard work for us. There are grocery stores that are open late on every corner and gardening has become a past time rather than the main means to feed a family. Professions have evolved from hard physical labour to more sedentary, computer-based employment, which means losing the valuable knowledge of how to survive if the need came.

While things have greatly changed, many things remain untouched or have only been slightly adapted. Past Métis traditions are still strong. For instance, fiddling and dancing at gatherings remain as popular as ever. These gatherings need not be fancy: all you have to do is show up, enjoy the company, and appreciate the music.

Families have remained close no matter the situation. Also, the simplicity of enjoying nature is still part of being a true Métis, whether it is sitting around a crackling campfire or adventuring in the forest. For my family and friends, we have traded in horses for something with more horsepower—quads. Hitting the northern trails and seeing untouched forest and wildlife, is unrivalled to any day in the city or any television show. The feeling of being in the middle of the

forest, seeing fresh bear tracks, and cooking on a fire made with collected dried wood next to a fresh water stream is beyond comparison or description.

So the question that has risen in my mind is how to live in a modernized world while not losing any of the values of previous generations. Already, I see many have begun to weaken as work ethic, appreciation for nature, the way people treat others, and even physical strength declines. Not everyone has an appreciation of simple things or a heartfelt love for nature or the natural world anymore. Too many individuals could not even fathom living a simpler life even for a day, let alone taking the time to truly appreciate the things we have lost they miss an episode of their favourite reality TV show or get dirty. It is their loss, for they may never experience wild strawberries, Kool-Aid from a sealer jar, the itch of tossing hay, or cool well water rinsing off the day's dust and dirt. Nevertheless, how lucky are those of us who take advantage of the opportunities before us, to open our eyes to the values of a simpler time that has been lost. Going back to living a hard but content life may be a near impossible idea, but taking the time to think about and appreciate the past links us back to those ideals.

# Île-à-la Crosse Michif Festival

Article by Brandon Gardiner and Photographs by Brian Suetta

The eleventh annual Île-à-la Crosse Michif Festival was held in the Rossignol High School Gymnasium on May 17, 2010. It was a time for not only Métis people, but everyone within the community to explore and discover another culture and language. It brought a sense of bonding within the community, and provided a comfortable, welcoming atmosphere in which one could enjoy and celebrate the growth of the Métis people over the years and our language. And it was a time when people of diverse cultures and optimistic personalities combined to create an extraordinary celebration of music, song, dance, and culture.

The celebration began in a traditional way with a prayer followed by musical performances by community members and students from

both the Rossignol high and elementary schools. Various musical arrangements, from a moving drum song by Elder Dorothy Dubrule to young fiddlers led by the renowned John Arcand playing foot-tapping tunes, entertained an audience of all ages. Additional performances included a high school music class proudly singing the Métis national anthem, singing and drumming with Mario and the grade 3 and 4 students, and also the singing of “*Kîspin kisâkihin*” by the grade 5 class.

There were also many comical acts that brought laughter to the crowd. The masters of ceremonies were “Ernestine and Alphonse,” characters performed by Île-à-la Crosse Mayor Duane Favel and Maureen Belanger. They portrayed a Métis couple celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Years of bickering



and arguments did not compromise the love Ernestine and Alphonse have for each other. This love helped them get through so many years of marriage. The final performance of the evening was by the much loved *Sâkitawahk Kohkoms* who have been a fan favourite from the start.

What a tremendous evening to increase one's pride and to honour one's heritage. Topped off with *libay* and *mîn'sâpoy* (bannock fingers and stewed berries), the festival gave Métis people laughter and excitement as this unique culture grows stronger without losing a sense of belonging. With that said, the Michif Festival is always fun and enjoyable for all, and gets better every year. So why not stop by next year?

*Êkosi!*



*Ernestine and Alphonse*

# Enbridge Pipelines Inc. Donates Métis Learning Resource to Saskatchewan Schools

Article by Karon Shmon and Photograph by Brian Cobbledick

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) and Enbridge Pipelines Inc. introduced a new resource, *The Métis, A Visual History*, as part of a partnership initiative to enhance the educational experience of Métis youth in Saskatchewan. The resource, by author and artist Sherry Farrell Racette, consists of four posters, each representing a different era of Métis history,

and an accompanying booklet highlighting what is portrayed by each image.

McDermid Community School hosted the launch in Regina at a school assembly where Teresa Homik, project leader from Enbridge Pipelines Inc., and trustee Cindy Anderson from the Regina Public School Division acknowledged the value of the

project. Author and illustrator Sherry Farrell Racette brought the posters to life with her engaging stories of what is depicted on each panel. Her blend of history and personalized stories about both well-known and lesser-known individuals demonstrated how interesting history can be when the stories and images are combined.



Teresa Homik, Dausen Elles, Faith Gruben, Mr. Ceane Dusyk, Sherry Farrell Racette, and Cindy Anderson

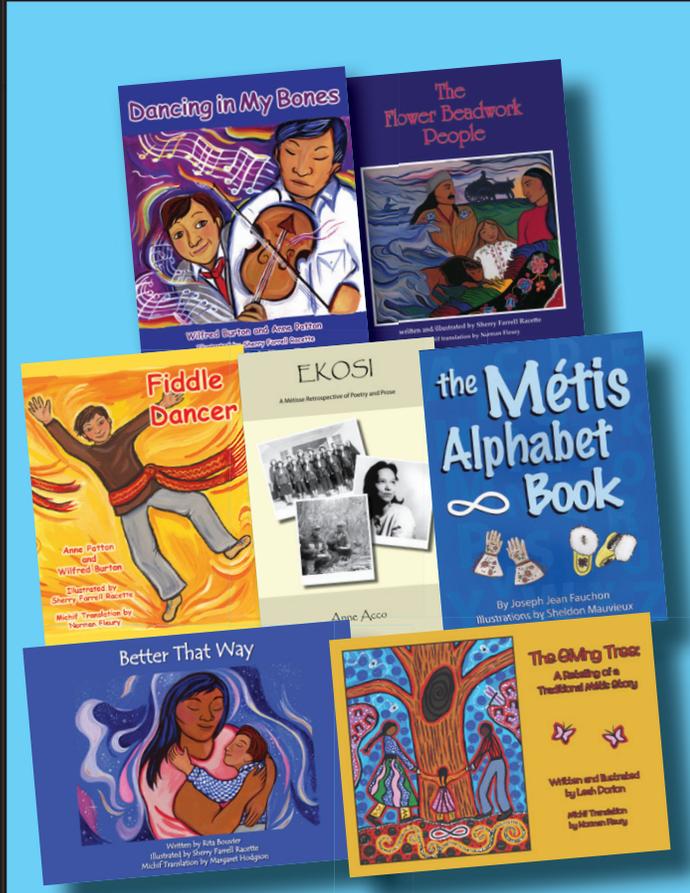
Karon Shmon, Publishing Coordinator at the Institute, believes the resource will allow children to learn about Métis history and culture through a medium that is appealing as a learning tool. “Sherry is a respected scholar and artist with a gift for engaging learners of any age. Our collaboration with Sherry over the years has resulted in a number of learning resources regularly in demand. The support from Enbridge means more children will have access to this important work”.

The culturally affirming learning experience provided by *The Métis, A Visual History*, fulfils the shared commitment of Enbridge and the Institute to build strength and sustainability in Métis communities in Saskatchewan. As sponsors, Enbridge, donated the unique learning resource to more than 150 schools and communities throughout the Province, including all schools in both the Regina Catholic School Division and the Regina Public School Division.

“We are proud to partner with the Gabriel Dumont Institute to enhance the educational experience of Métis youth in Saskatchewan,” says D’Arcy Levesque, Vice President, Public & Government Affairs, Enbridge. “By providing young people the opportunity to learn

about Métis history and culture through this visually commanding resource, we are encouraging them to remain engaged in the education process in preparation for the role they will play in revitalizing their communities.”

Karon Shmon thanked McDermid principal Tracey Brooks and the parent council for organizing the launch and the refreshments which were provided to all staff, students, and visitors to close the celebration.



Please contact us at the address below for ordering information or order online at [www.gdins.org/catalog](http://www.gdins.org/catalog).

 The Gabriel Dumont Institute  
 2—604 22nd Street West  
 Saskatoon, SK S7M 5W1  
 (T) 306.934.4941  
 (F) 306.244.0252  
[www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org) / [www.metismuseum.ca](http://www.metismuseum.ca)

# Preparations Underway for GDI's 30th Anniversary

Article by Amy Briley

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) will be hosting a cultural conference and annual general meeting to commemorate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, **November 18-20, 2010**. The conference will provide the Institute and the Métis community it serves with an opportunity to celebrate 30 years of successful Métis-specific education and cultural programming.

The theme of the anniversary conference, "Rooted in Culture, Seeding the Future" reflects GDI's continued endeavours to promote and renew Métis culture through education, research, and materials development. One special component of the conference is the *Order of Gabriel Dumont* which will recognize those who have served the Métis with distinction. The award is made at three levels. The bronze awards will honour the success and accomplishments of GDI students. The silver awards will honour those who have made a significant contribution to the Métis. The gold awards will recognize those who have distinguished themselves with outstanding service to the Métis.

In addition to the awards, the conference will have sessions under the general themes of culture, history, education, student leadership, and Michif awareness. The educational component will highlight research undertaken by Métis graduate students whose research was supported through the *GDC Scholarship Program* in such diverse areas as history, traditional land use and occupancy, education, oral traditions, health, toxicology, business, and finance.

GDI is very pleased to have Maria Campbell—an Officer of the *Order of Canada* and a recipient of a *National Aboriginal Achievement Award*—deliver the conference's keynote address. As a writer, playwright, filmmaker, and community activist, Maria Campbell has made enormous contributions to the Métis Nation and to Canada. She is currently a fellow of the Trudeau Foundation, a non-partisan agency which identifies and supports the finest thinkers in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

A gala on the evening of November 19<sup>th</sup> will wrap up the conference, and will include a variety of Métis talent. The gala will provide the community with the opportunity to celebrate GDI's past, present, and future, and will pay homage to the many individuals who collectively contributed to the Institute's success.

The upcoming summer and fall editions of *New Nation: La noovel naasyoon* and the GDI website will include more details on the conference and the nomination forms for the *Order of Gabriel Dumont*. Contact Amy Briley at 306.657.5719 or [amy.briley@gdi.gdins.org](mailto:amy.briley@gdi.gdins.org) or visit the website [www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org) for additional information.



# GDI Receives Saskatchewan Tourism Award

Article by Lisa Wilson and Photograph by Peter Beszterda

In March, 2010 the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) was honoured to receive a *Saskatchewan Tourism Award of Excellence* at the awards gala in Saskatoon. GDI's Publishing Department received the award for Corporate Partner of the Year for their partnership with Batoche National Historic Site (BNHS). GDI's Publishing Department has been involved in a four-year partnership whereby the staff have "made Métis history come alive by providing the expertise, knowledge, and activities to create exceptional visitor experiences" (Tourism Saskatchewan awards program).

The GDI and BNHS partnership has meant that there has been programming and events at the park interpretive centre that have focused on Métis storytelling, language, art, dance, and food. GDI has had an important role in bringing a true voice to the Métis cultural activities at Batoche, making the experience for visitors memorable and relevant. GDI has contributed to several on-going programs at BNHS, including the Caron Home Program Development, along with events such as the Métis

Women's History of Resistance and Survival: Stories of Tourand's Coulee/Fish Creek and Batoche, and the *Back to Batoche* website.

Recipients were named in fourteen different categories. These categories recognize excellence in both emerging and traditional areas of importance to the tourism industry. Finalists and winners were selected from nearly 90 nominations by a panel of industry representatives. The

Corporate Partner of the Year award is given to a partner who is not traditionally recognized as part of the tourism industry but has shown exceptional support of tourism in Saskatchewan at any level. Various types of partnerships are considered, including financial, in-kind services or other initiatives.

Congratulations to GDI's Publishing Department staff for this significant honour and recognition!





# GABRIEL DUMONT: LI CHEF MICHIF IN IMAGES AND IN WORDS



DARREN R. PRÉFONTAINE



PRICE: \$65.00  
ISBN: 978-0-920915-87-5  
AVAILABLE FALL 2010



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

**Canada**



# The New Nation

## La noovel naasyoon

### Advertising

*The New Nation: la noovel naaysoon*, is a publication of the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), which promotes Métis history and culture, the Institute's activities and programs, and the larger Métis community in the province. Four issues a year will be published, one for each season: winter, spring, summer, and fall. Subscription rates to *The New Nation: la noovel naaysoon* will remain relatively low as we would like to see as many people as possible read it, and these rates are only meant to recover the costs associated with shipping the magazine. *The New Nation: la noovel naaysoon* will be available for free at the GDI Publishing Office, at cultural events in which GDI has a display, as well as online at the *Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture* ([www.metismuseum.ca](http://www.metismuseum.ca)).

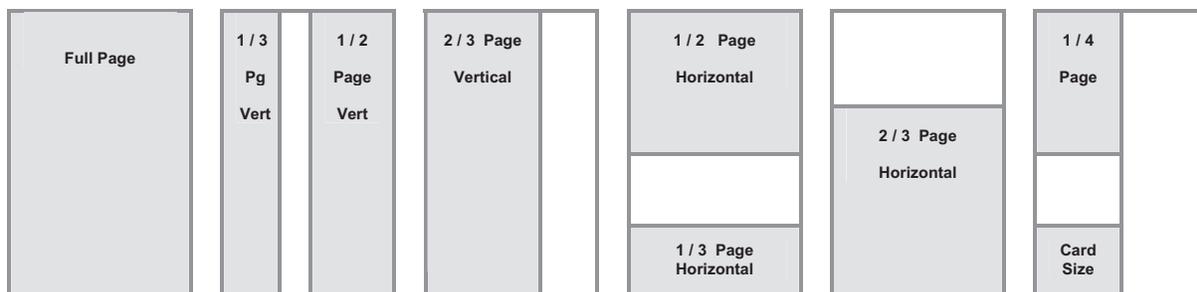
GDI's mission, which guides the Institute's work, provides a wide variety of topics to cover in the magazine.

*GDI mission: 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.*

For inquiries regarding *The New Nation: La noovel naasyoon* feel free to contact us by telephone 306.934.4941, by fax 306.244.0252 or by email ([david.morin@gdi.gdins.org](mailto:david.morin@gdi.gdins.org)).

The following rates apply to advertisements published in *The New Nation: La noovel naasyoon*. Advertisements appearing on the back cover are in full colour—these advertisements are subject to a 30% surcharge. All other advertisements are in black and white. There is a 20% surcharge for advertisements requested to be positioned on either the inside front or inside back covers. If you are a non-profit organization, please let us know when booking your advertisement to receive a 20% discount. GST must be added to these rates. Please make all cheques payable to the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

	AD DIMENSIONS		RATES
	Width	Depth	1 issue
Full Page	7 ¼ inches	10 inches	\$1,500
⅔ Page Horizontal	7 ¼ inches	6 ⅝ inches	\$1,200
⅔ Page Vertical	4 ¾ inches	10 inches	\$1,200
½ Page Horizontal	7 ¼ inches	5 inches	\$900
½ Page Vertical	3 ⅝ inches	10 inches	\$900
⅓ Page Horizontal	7 ¼ inches	3 ¼ inches	\$650
⅓ Page Vertical	2 ⅜ inches	10 inches	\$650
¼ Page	3 ⅝ inches	5 inches	\$450
Card Size	3 ⅝ inches	2 ½ inches	\$150



# Year of the Métis

 125  
1885-2010  
*Remember with Pride*



Gabriel Dumont Institute  
2-604 22nd Street West  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 5W1  
[www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org)  
[www.mefismuseum.ca](http://www.mefismuseum.ca)