



The New Nation

La noovel naasyoon



Fall 2011



The New Nation

La noovel naasyoon

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

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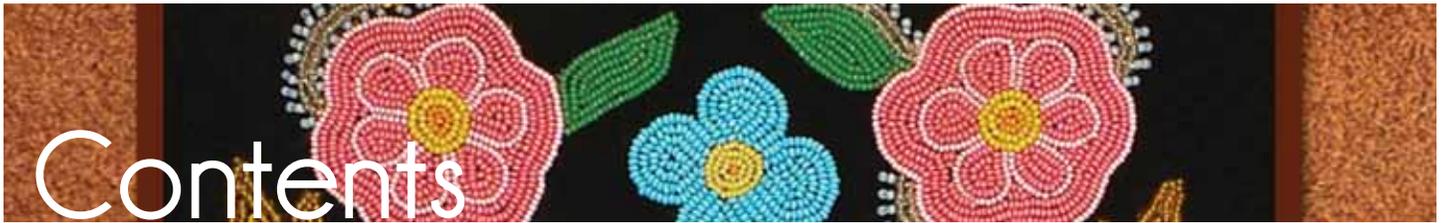
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of Native Studies and Applied Research



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The New Nation

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LPN Success Stories

Submitted by Tim Metz and Article by Lisa Wilson

Three graduates of Practical Nursing who were sponsored by GDIT&E (Gabriel Dumont Institute Training & Employment) have found success in their field. Carla Villeneuve graduated in April 2011, receiving her diploma with distinction. While she found the program “gruelling” she also managed to find the drive and determination to finish. Carla is a mother and wife and found keeping up with her school workload and the strain of finances to be a challenge. She indicates that without the support of GDIT&E for the second half of her program, she likely would not have been able to continue in her studies. She is now happily employed with the Prairie North Regional Health Authority as a casual Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) at the Meadow Lake Hospital. She loves her job and says, “Thank you to Angela and the rest of the GDI sponsoring agency. Without you my dream could not have been achieved.”



Carla Villeneuve



Donna Graham

Donna Graham also uses the word “dream” to describe her educational ambitions. Ever since she was a little girl, she dreamed of being a nurse but never thought it would be a reality. After dropping out of school in grade 11 and becoming a single parent, Donna’s dream seemed even further away. She persisted and finished her grade 12 and became a Special Care Aid in the Prairie North Health Region. Through a “Career Pathing” workshop she became aware that being an LPN was a possibility. She was accepted into the Meadow Lake program but struggled to put together financing for the program. GDIT&E sponsored Donna for tuition, books, and living costs and today Donna is employed at the Meadow Lake Hospital as a Licensed Practical Nurse. She says, “There are no words to

express my gratitude toward the Gabriel Dumont Institute for the funding and support.”

Bailey Moore graduated from the Meadow Lake LPN program in April 2011 after being sponsored by GDIT&E for her second year of the program. She says, “Without [GDIT&E] funding I would not have been able to complete it.” Bailey is currently employed with the Prairie North Health Region in a casual LPN position at the Meadow Lake Hospital. Her goal is to obtain a full-time position in the health region. She credits the funding and support she received from GDIT&E with enabling her to successfully fulfill her dreams of becoming a nurse.

Congratulations to these three Licensed Practical Nurses.



Bailey Moore

Donny Parenteau and GDI Teach

Students To Dream Big

Article by Amy Briley

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) and Métis musician, Donny Parenteau have partnered to bring the *It Starts With A Dream* motivational speaking tour to ten schools across Saskatchewan. The tour kicked off September 21st in Cumberland House and concluded in Île-à-la-Crosse on October 19th. GDI and Donny Parenteau came together in the Spring of this year to map out a plan for the 2011 tour. Grant funding, which was received from the SaskCulture's *Aboriginal Arts and Culture Leadership Grant* and the Saskatchewan Arts Board's *Indigenous Pathways Initiative - Grants to Artists*, enabled the tour to reach all regions of the Province.

The *It Starts With A Dream* tour was developed by Donny Parenteau in 2010 in order to teach the youth of Saskatchewan that it's alright to dream big. Through his life experiences of growing up in a poor Métis family and his abundant success as a musician despite adversity, Donny Parenteau spoke to students about the power of positive thinking, respect for oneself and others and the need for cultural identity. Growing up in the West

DONNY PARENTEAU
IT STARTS WITH A DREAM

"EVERY SINGLE PERSON ON THIS PLANET IS GIVEN A GIFT. ONCE YOU FIND THAT GIFT, IT IS UP TO YOU TO PURSUE IT."

CUMBERLAND HOUSE
NIPAWIN
SWIFT CURRENT
NORTH BATTLEFORD
REGINA
FORT QU'APPELLE
BEAUVAL
LA LOCHE
ÎLE-À-LA CROSSE

Globe PRINTERS PRINTED BY GLOBE PRINTERS

WWW.DONNYPARENTEAU.COM

Flat of Prince Albert, SK and picking up a fiddle at the age of 14, Donny's success has allowed him to perform with some of the biggest names in country music and has brought him to stages like the Grand Ole Opry.

Donny gave an approximately 90 minute presentation to each of the ten schools which included him speaking to the students, sharing stories and photos of his success, and also included a short musical performance with two members

of his band. Using the power of speech, visual media, and music, students listened attentively to Donny's powerful message. At the end of each show, the students were invited to receive an autographed postcard designed specifically for the tour.

Following this leg of the project, Parenteau would like to see the *It Starts With A Dream* tour continue to reach more youth in the province. GDI is grateful to have had the opportunity to share in this endeavour with Donny and we wish him all the best in his future motivational speaking



Donny Parenteau leading workshop (Photograph by Krista Erickson).

ventures. GDI would also like to thank SaskCulture, Saskatchewan Lotteries, the Saskatchewan Arts Board, and Globe Printers for their continued support for the Aboriginal community and its artists.



*Garrison (Gee-Day) Fineday, a student from Sakewew High School in North Battleford, dances during Donny Parenteau's musical performance following the *It Starts With A Dream* presentation (Photograph by Aron Albert).*



Aboriginal Police Prep Successful Program

Article by Lisa Burry

On Friday August 12, eleven students gathered in Meadow Lake together with their family, friends, and a few local dignitaries, including Member of Parliament Rob Clarke, MLA and Cabinet Minister Jeremy Harrison, and MN—S Regional Director Mavis Taylor, to celebrate the completion of all of their hard work. These students were part of the Aboriginal Police Preparation Program—a program offered through Dumont Technical Institute with accreditation brokered from Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST).

If you live in Meadow Lake, you may have seen these students around town dressed in their gear: black hoody, gray sweat pants with the Aboriginal Police Preparation insignia, and orange safety vest.

During the six month program, the students learned team building skills, gained confidence, participated in drill and marching, and completed 21 course modules which covered topics such as the Criminal Code and diversity. Program credits are transferrable and can be applied toward the first year of Corrections Studies at SIAST.

The students were able to participate in many extra-curricular activities. They completed 25 km of garbage clean up to pay for their class jackets. They toured the Saskatchewan Penitentiary in Prince Albert, as well as the Prince Albert Correctional Centre and the Pinegrove Correctional Centre for women. They were given the opportunity to spend four days in Regina at the RCMP Depot Division which is also the police training academy. During this time the students were considered to be RCMP cadets. Locally, the students were the Parade Marshalls for the Meadow Lake Parade and then proceeded to march behind the Meadow Lake RCMP members.

In her remarks, Mavis Taylor stated, "I'm very proud of the hard work and dedication the students displayed in completing this program. These are our future leaders."

Students in the program were Métis and First Nations and came from communities such as Beauval, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche, Waterhen, Makwa, Rapid View, and, of course, Meadow Lake.

These individuals came together on January 31, 2011 not knowing what to expect from the program and they were able to walk away as a team with clear goals in their minds. During this program, the students were able to make connections and gain training in specific areas such as a Saskatchewan Security Licensing, ASIST training, and First Aid/CPR. Many of them want to go into RCMP, Corrections, and Security. The Canadian Forces are also another option as Alyssa Gladue, a successful graduate from the 2010 Aboriginal Police Preparation Program, is now attending the Royal Military College (RMC) in Kingston, ON for the next five years. The RMC only accepts 20 applicants per year (out of 400+). She is in the process of making her dreams come true and is an inspiration to those who know her.

Congratulations to the Aboriginal Police Preparation Class of 2011: Lorraine Cardinal, Akeera Fiddler, Kelly-Dawn Gardiner, Dayna Hanson, Brenda Klassen, Renee Lasas, Jerica Lemaigre, Cal Murray, Ray Ross, Kelcey Roy, and Angie Weeseekase.

Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project

Celebrating our Métis Heroes

The importance of Métis veterans to the Métis community cannot be understated. Our veterans occupy a point of honour at all Métis gatherings and cultural events. The Métis Veterans Memorial Monument will be a landmark for generations of Métis people to gather and pay homage to the servicemen and servicewomen who have served our country. The Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project is supported by the Métis community by way of a Métis National Council Annual General Assembly resolution and a Métis Nation—Saskatchewan (MN—S) Provincial Métis Council resolution.

Already a site sacred to the Métis, Batoche is a fitting site for people to gather to remember and honour Métis Veterans. It is accessible to all Métis people and the general public. In July 2010 Métis Honour Runners ran 100 kilometers to raise funds and show support for the Métis Veterans Memorial project. Each July governing members of MNC make an annual pilgrimage to Batoche. The Batoche festival grounds are maintained by the MN—S and the Métis Veterans Memorial will be maintained as part of the existing maintenance of the site.

As a contribution to this project, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) has agreed to donate its time and resources and will oversee all work related to the completion of

this project. The cost to build this monument is \$300,000. Currently, GDI has received \$52,000 in funding for this project and is seeking the balance of \$248,000 from corporate sponsorship, private donations, and community fundraising activities.

Please consider supporting the Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project. All donations over \$10 are eligible for a tax receipt issued from GDI which is a registered not-for-profit charitable organization. Your donation to the Veterans Memorial Monument can be sent to the Gabriel Dumont Institute clearly indicating that the donation is for the Métis Veterans Monument.

Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
917-22nd Street West
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0R9
Tel: 1-877-488-6888

You may contact Amy Briley, at 306.657.5719 or at amy.briley@gdi.gdins.org for more information. Also visit: <http://www.gdins.org/veteransmonument>

Our goal is to ensure the monument recognizes and honours all of our Métis Veterans, past and present. If you know of a Métis veteran who should be recognized, please provide the following to the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

- Veteran's name
- Service Number, Rank, Branch (Army, Navy, Air) and Unit served
- Dates of service (enlistment and discharge)
- Date of birth (and death if applicable)
- Theatre of service (which war, overseas, etc.)

Marsii/thank you for your time and consideration!



Jennifer Villeneuve—Assistant Lab Technician

Article by Anna Stene

Jennifer Villeneuve is a Métis woman who calls Prince Albert her home. Jennifer successfully completed her Medical Lab Assistant program, which was offered at Dumont Technical Institute (DTI), in partnership with Prince Albert Parkland Health Region and funded through Gabriel Dumont Institute Training & Employment. The Medical Lab Assistant program was eight months in length. In finishing the program, Jennifer gained employment with Prince Albert Health Region's service lab centre which is affiliated with the Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert. Jennifer also has casual employment with the cooperative health centre in Prince Albert.

Before learning of the Medical Lab Assistant course, Jennifer was enrolled in the Nurse Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) program offered through First Nations University of Canada. She found it to be a struggle to continue her studies while working, raising four children, and dealing with her mother being diagnosed with cancer. After leaving the NEPS program due to her struggles, Jennifer continued to pursue a health career. Shortly after Jennifer started the Medical Lab Assistant program at DTI

she was faced with two untimely deaths in the family, one of which was her mother who had struggled with cancer up until her passing. This only tested Jennifer's strength and determination. Jennifer stayed in the program with the support of her colleagues and instructors. Jennifer finished the program at the top of her class and continues her employment with the Prince Albert Parkland Health Region as an assistant Medical Lab Technician.

Getting to where she is now was a hard journey for Jennifer. She asks herself, "How did I do it?" She explains that you have to bounce back from all the negative things

life throws at you and move on. One of her biggest reasons to continue on was her children and their futures. She wants to share her story so that others know of how everything can fall to pieces, but determination and hard work will pay off in the end. Jennifer wants everyone to know that success is the greatest gift and blessing that anyone could ever want. In closing, Jennifer would like to thank Dumont Technical Institute, Gabriel Dumont Institute Training & Employment, Prince Albert Parkland Region and the staff for supporting her through the program and helping her achieve her goal.



GDI Surpasses \$1 Million in Scholarship Awards

Article by Cory McDougall

With the latest scholarship adjudication in May 2011, the Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation (GDSF) is proud to announce that more than \$1 million in scholarships have been awarded to Métis students over the history of the fund. Since 1986, the GDSF has provided financial support to Métis students pursuing their academic goals. The GDSF operates with five trustees who meet twice a year to award scholarships.

The main scholarship program administered under the Foundation is the Napoleon Lafontaine Scholarship, which awards funds to qualifying students for Entrance, Undergraduate, Graduate, Loan Remission, and Graduation scholarships. The fund is named in honour of Nap Lafontaine, a Métis activist who devoted years of his life to the Métis and Non-Status people in Saskatchewan. He was an instrumental figure in the organization and establishment of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) in the mid-1970s. He also devoted his efforts to the development

and recognition of social and educational policy for Aboriginal peoples.

The original \$600,000 endowment, which was made in 1985 by the federal Department of Regional Industrial Expansion under the Native Economic Development Program, has grown over the years, as has the scope of the overall program. Today the amount restricted for endowment purposes sits at \$2.34 million after the establishment of the \$1.3 million Gabriel Dumont Institute Training & Employment Scholarship and Bursary program in March 2008.

The success of the GDSF, and more recently the implementation of the GDIT&E Scholarship fund, has led to the establishment of scholarship agreements with key industry partners such as SaskEnergy, SaskTel, Cameco, and the Saskatoon Health Region. Contributions from these various partnership agreements, along with the interest earned on the endowment funds, are awarded to students in May and October of each calendar year.

Over the 25+ year history of the GDSF, approximately 1,800 scholarships have been awarded to the deserving students who meet the criteria of the various scholarship categories. More than 70% of these scholarships have been awarded to female Métis students, who also tend to make up a majority of students enrolled in GDI programs.

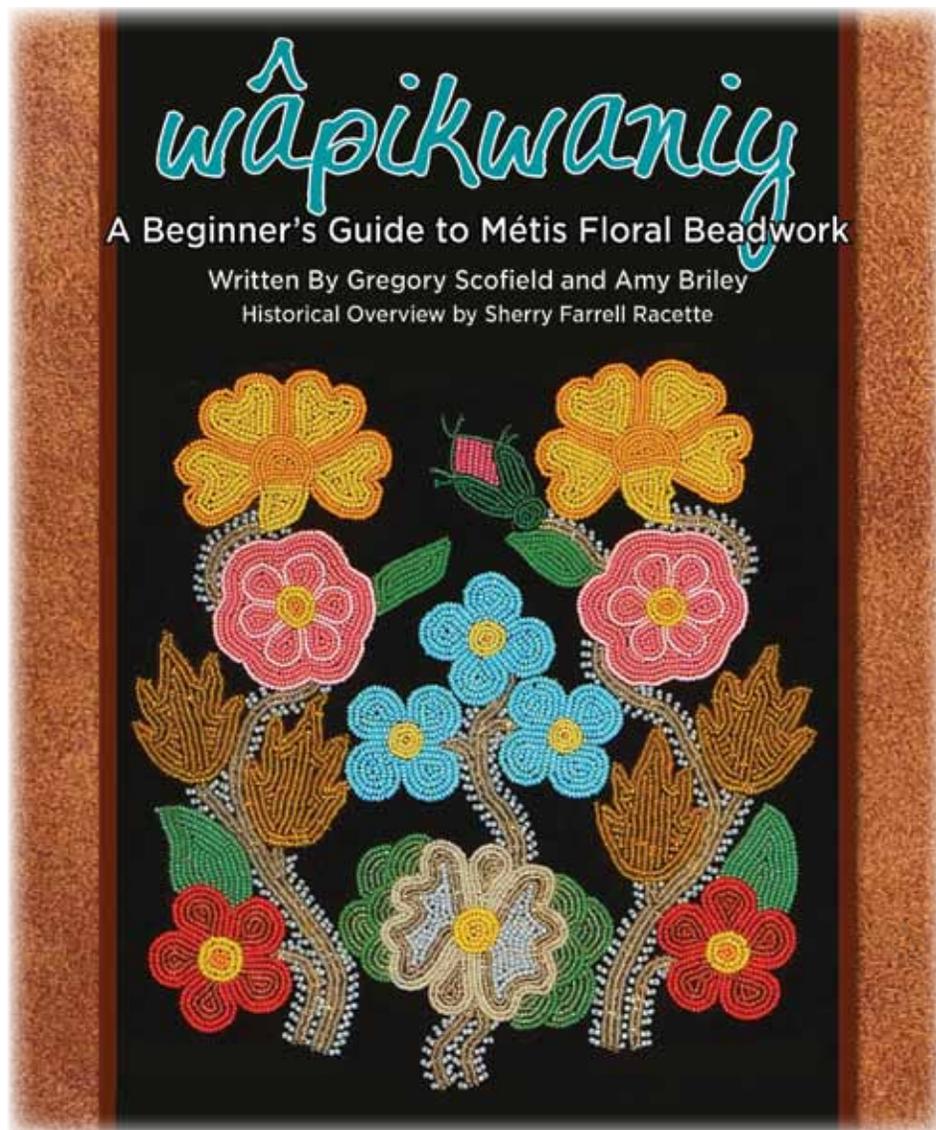
For more information on the scholarships available under the Foundation please visit the GDI website at www.gdins.org.

Métis Floral Beadwork Resource and Workshops Keep Tradition Thriving

Article by Amy Briley

At this year's *Back to Batoche* celebrations, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) hosted two beginners' learn to bead workshops facilitated by myself and Gregory Scofield. The workshops coincided with the release of one of our newest resources, *wâpikwaniy: A Beginner's Guide to Métis Floral Beadwork*. In writing this book, Gregory and I wanted to teach beginner beaders the steps to creating a traditional five petal flower. The book comes with an instructional DVD that can be used with the book or on its own. Gregory and I began working and brainstorming the script for this book following the 2010 *Back to Batoche* festival. One year later, the guide was ready for release and was available for purchase.

In writing this book, our goal was to create a resource that catered to the "beginner beadworker" as well as to teachers who wish to share this culturally relevant art with their students. Gregory Scofield is a nationally known Métis poet and a talented beadwork artisan. I feel so fortunate to have learned to craft from him and even more blessed to have collaborated with him on the resource. In the early stages of writing, we felt that



the book should have historical significance as well as be personal and relatable to the reader. Therefore, we decided to include anecdotal script throughout the book, which Gregory wrote from his auntie's voice, telling the story of how he learned to bead. In his introduction, Scofield attributes his love for beadwork to his auntie

by saying, "I am a cook because I loved a cook. I am a storyteller because I loved a storyteller. I am a beadworker because I loved my auntie, who made me thread my own needle."

In addition to the relatability of the anecdotal script, we felt it was important to include a

Historical Overview depicting the history of Métis beadwork. For this, we sought the expertise of Dr. Sherry Farrell Racette. Sherry is an accomplished artist, educator, and academic and the perfect choice for authoring this section as her knowledge of Métis beadwork is unsurpassed. The *Historical Overview* allows for learners to become familiar with the art and therefore will connect the beadworker with the craft, making it more meaningful. As written by Farrell Racette, “When you pick up the needle to learn beadwork, you are picking up a thread that connects you to generations of artists who came before you, and claiming their rich artistic tradition as your own.”

The workshops facilitated during the *Back to Batoche* festival were held at the newly re-opened Batoche National Historical Site Visitor Centre. Both workshops were very successful

with participants ranging in age from youth to Elder, including a family with three generations; grandmother, mother, and daughter. During the workshops, participants learned to create a beaded flower while telling stories to one another, much the way Métis beadworkers have done for generations. It was very humbling to be able to work with people who share a love for our traditions and heritage.

Beadwork with others not only brings us closer to our culture, it brings people together. When we teach people to bead, we become connected, the same way the individual beads come together to form a unique and beautiful flower.

For more information on Métis beadwork or to purchase a copy of *wâpikwaniy*, please visit www.gdins.org.



Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation

The Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation administers scholarships to Métis students twice per year. There are a number of different scholarship options, including:

Napoleon LaFontaine Scholarship (entrance, undergraduate, graduation, graduate, loan remission, and special)	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
SaskEnergy Métis Incorporated Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
SaskTel Métis Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
GDI/Cameco Scholarship	Deadline May 1st
Gabriel Dumont Institute/ Saskatoon Health Region Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
Basic Education Scholarship	Deadline October 1st and May 1st
GDC Graduate Student Bursary Program	Deadline October 6th and April 6th

For scholarship details including eligibility, academic criteria, and application forms, please visit our website at www.gdins.org or contact:

Secretary, Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
2—604 22nd Street West
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7M 5W1
(306) 934-4941

GDI Mission: *To promote the renewal and the development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and the distribution of those materials and the development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.*

Métis Cultural Development Fund Partnership Between SaskCulture and GDI Renewed

Article by Karon Shmon and Photo by Peter Beszterda

SaskCulture and the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) have entered into a partnership agreement in the delivery of the Métis Cultural Development Fund (MCDF).

“The Métis Cultural Development Fund is a project grant that

has been available through SaskCulture for a number of years now,” said Damon Badger Heit, the First Nations and Métis Coordinator at SaskCulture, “but after consulting with our colleagues at GDI and with our volunteers, we figured out a better way to deliver this fund

for the Métis community.”

The MCDF supports Métis cultural activity covering eligible expenses up to \$10,000.00 per initiative in communities across the province. Eligible applicants are Métis non-profit organizations and arts and culture organizations in



Damon Badger Heit and Amy Briley

partnership with Métis groups and communities. Activities range from heritage activities like genealogy, research, land based activity, language, and storytelling, to the arts in dance, music, fine arts, and film and video. Preference is given to projects that benefit children. All funding decisions are made by a volunteer jury of Métis peoples from across the province appointed in collaboration with GDI and SaskCulture.

GDI had been administering the fund on behalf of SaskCulture for several years. In 2009, winds of change were blowing at SaskCulture as a result of a funding review by the provincial auditor. Some of these changes required all third party funding programs of SaskCulture to be moved 'in house.' This meant that SaskCulture would be administering the MCDF from then on and the program was moved from GDI.

After two year at SaskCulture, MCDF applications declined and it became apparent that there were other problems with the grant as well. SaskCulture approached GDI to determine how the two organizations could work together to enhance and deliver the program.

There was a lot of baggage in the grant that really made it difficult for groups to apply. Much of the criteria was convoluted and difficult to understand. Simple things like who is eligible and what is eligible for funding wasn't as clear as it could have been either so SaskCulture and GDI worked together to tweeze out all the confusing and unnecessary elements to enhance its usability.

"This renewed initiative between SaskCulture and GDI will ensure that the Métis Cultural Development Fund continues to provide Métis groups with the

assistance required to promote culture and heritage and instill pride in Métis people throughout the province. By redeveloping the criteria and making the application more user-friendly, we hope to see an increase of interest in the program." said Amy Briley, Curriculum Developer in the Publishing Department of GDI.

GDI will continue to assist SaskCulture in the promotion of the fund and by organizing and selecting Métis jurors for the adjudications.

"This all really comes at an opportune time," says Badger Heit. "The program is being increased this coming year from \$150,000.00 a year in Métis project funding to \$250,000.00."

Applications are available on SaskCulture's website, www.saskculture.sk.ca.

GDI Launches Apprenticeship Initiative and Signs Scholarship Agreement

Article by James Oloo

On June 29, 2011, Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) held a well attended event at the Saskatoon Indian and Métis Friendship Centre to launch its two new initiatives: Aboriginal Apprenticeship Initiative and the signing of a GDI-Saskatoon Health Region Métis Scholarship. The launch of the apprenticeship initiative followed an agreement signed by GDI and the Government of Canada last winter under the federal Skills and Partnership Fund. The Initiative will receive \$2.4 million over two years.

The Apprenticeship Initiative seeks to, with a priority on Métis peoples, increase the number of Aboriginal peoples participating in apprenticeship and trade related employment; increase the number of industry partners; and develop a clear focus and understanding of the apprenticeship programming in the future.

Kelly Block, MP for Saskatoon-Rosetown-Biggan, represented Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, and said that her government is

committed to empowering Aboriginal peoples and that the Initiative is an important link between Aboriginal peoples and apprenticeship training and the industry. Ms. Block asserted that under the Apprenticeship Initiative, there will be wage subsidies to eligible employers. She was optimistic that a minimum of 120 Aboriginal persons will be registered in apprenticeship programs under the Initiative.

Noting the successes of GDI such as its graduating over 1000 Métis teachers through its Saskatchewan Urban Native Teachers Education Program (SUNTEP) and its award-winning publishing program, GDI vice chair Glenn Lafleur thanked stakeholders and governments whose partnerships have led to increased empowerment of Métis people.

President Robert Doucette of the Métis Nation Saskatchewan stated that apprenticeship is not a foreign concept to the Métis people because in the past, education among the Métis was informal and skills such as fishing, hunting, and trapping were acquired through on-the-

job training. He called on Métis youths to pursue opportunities in apprenticeship and appealed to “potential employers to partner with GDI to give Métis people a chance, for in the process you will not only attract and develop more competent and skilled employees, but you will also have access to a supply of skilled Métis workers.” As of August, GDI, in partnership with employer partners, has helped 30 Aboriginal apprentices find full-time jobs across Saskatchewan and continues to echo President Doucette’s appeal to employers and Métis youth to partner with GDI to enhance Aboriginal participation in apprenticeship.

The second initiative was the signing of the GDI/Saskatoon Health Region scholarship for Métis students to pursue post-secondary education in the health sector. The partnership agreement is a four-year pilot project cost-shared equally by GDI and the Saskatoon Health Region (SHR). The agreement will provide 17 awards of \$1,000 annually for Métis students enrolled in a post-secondary education institution

pursuing a program related to careers with SHR.

Recalling how as a single mother she benefitted from scholarships, Bonnie Blakley, SHR Vice President of People Strategies, said that the Health Region was happy to partner with GDI to create more opportunities for Métis people. Ms. Blakley emphasized that by 2014, at least 10% of the Health Region's employees will be Aboriginal peoples.

Joe Black, CEO of the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission stated that the labour shortage in the trades is real and hailed the Aboriginal Apprentice Initiative as an effective way of offering respected portable skills that are needed in the labour market today and in the future.

The event was also attended by Maura Davies, SHR President and CEO, Geordy McCaffrey, GDI Executive Director, board members from GDI and SHR, as well as

representatives from Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure, and Dumont Technical Institute and employer partners.

GDI's strategic partners in the initiative, Saskatchewan

Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure, Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission, and Dumont Technical Institute are also making in-kind contributions towards the initiative.



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of Native Studies and Applied Research

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TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT INC.

GDC
Gabriel Dumont College

Build Your Future
“Call for Apprentices”

GDI's Aboriginal Apprenticeship Initiative Offers:

- *Connections to Employers*
- *Opportunity to Earn while Learning*
- *Hands on Training*
- *Strong Industry Demand*
- *Good Salaries*
- *Tuition Subsidies & Tax Incentives*
- *More than 47 Designated Trades to Choose*

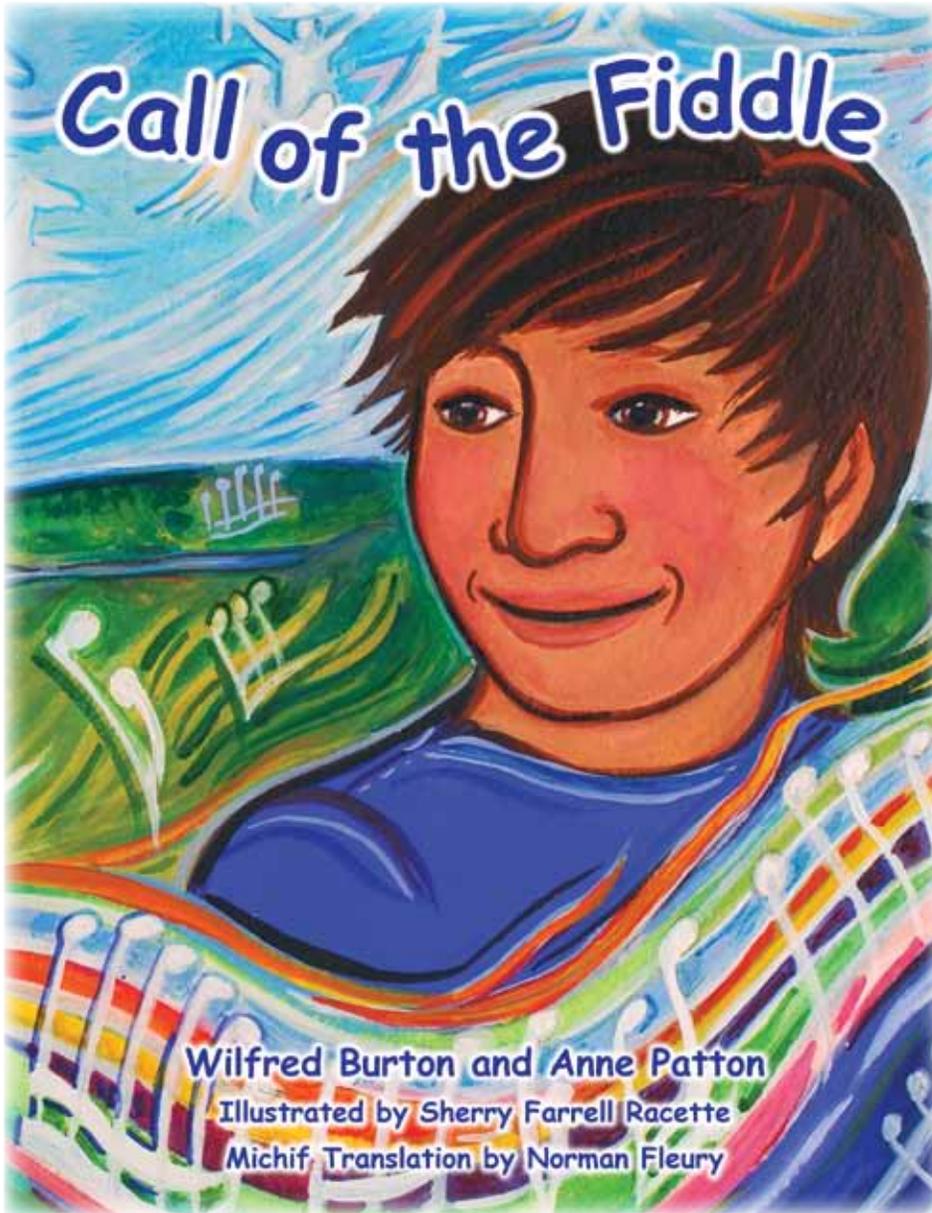
To find out if you qualify and how GDI's Apprenticeship Initiative can open doors for you contact your local GDI Office or:

Gabriel Dumont Institute
Apprenticeship Office
917 22nd St Saskatoon, SK
306-657-2256
1-877-488-6888
apprenticeship@gdi.gdins.org
www.gdins.org



Call of the Fiddle Now Available from the Gabriel Dumont Institute

Article by David Morin



The Gabriel Dumont Institute is proud to announce the release of the children's book, *Call of the Fiddle*. Written by Wilfred Burton and Anne Patton. This story completes the trilogy of a young boy, named Nolin, as he embraces his Métis heritage and carries on his family's traditions.

Nolin's journey began with *Fiddle Dancer* back in 2007, when he learns to jig from his moushoom after a New Year's Eve party awakens his desire to dance. His journey continued in *Dancing in My Bones* which picks up directly where *Fiddle Dancer* left off, following Nolin and Moushoom

on the road to a New Year's Day celebration. This award-winning chapter in Nolin's life has him show his family the fancy steps Moushoom taught him the night before.

Call of the Fiddle finds Nolin, Moushoom, and his mother at Batoche for the annual "Back to Batoche Festival." This last volume is where Nolin learns about the history and significance surrounding Batoche, as well as where he competes in his first jigging competition!

Sherry Farrell Racette continues to bring Nolin and his world to life with her vibrant illustrations. She does an amazing job capturing the essence of Batoche with silhouettes of the past and images from the present day site.

In an effort to help promote and preserve the Michif language, Norman Fleury provided a translation of the story, as well as a Michif narration track on the accompanying CD. The CD also contains an English narration by Wilfred Burton, and music by John Arcand, Edward Sayer, and Fred Desjarlais.

To order, contact the Gabriel Dumont Institute by phone at 306.934.4941, or online at <https://shop.gdins.org>.

Michif Lessons with Harriet Oaks—

Telling Time

1. What time is it?
Ke loer ooma.

2. It's 1 o'clock.
Aen noer ooma.

3. It's 2 o'clock.
Deu zoer.

4. It's half past 3.
Trwaa zoer in mee.

5. It's ten to 4.
Jhis minwit avaan kaatr oer.

6. It's a quarter past 5.
Kaynz minwit apray saenk oer.

7. It's a quarter to 6.
Kaynz minwit avaan sis zoer.

8. It's 7:12.
Dooz minwit apray set toer.

9. It's noon.
Li mijee.

10. It's midnight.
Maenwee ooma.

11. It's 9 am.
Neuf noer li mataen.

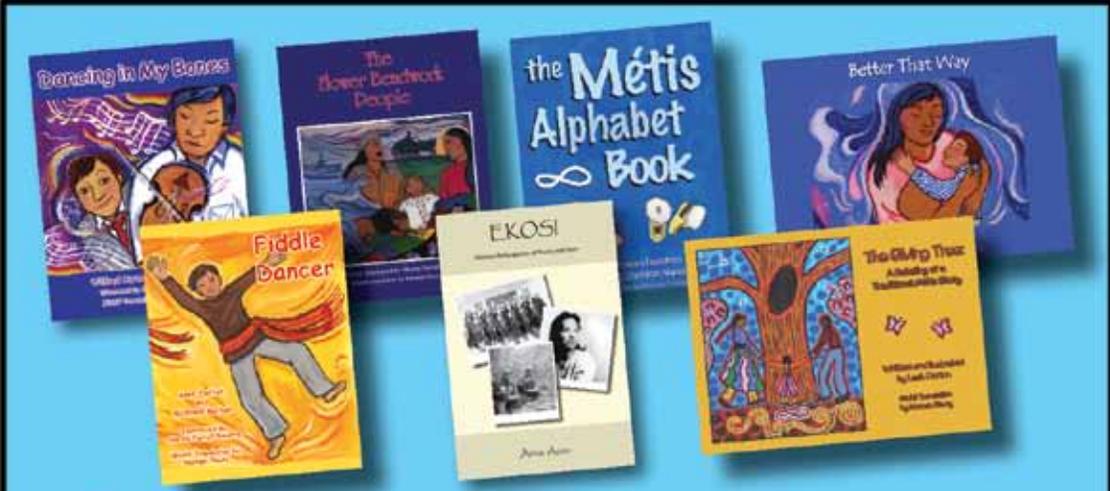
12. It's 10 pm.
Jhis zoer apray mijee.

13. It's 5 o'clock sharp.
Saenkoer.

14. In the morning.
Da li mataen.

15. In the afternoon.
Apray mijee.

16. In the evening.
Kaw atipihkismou.



Please contact us at the address to the right for ordering information or order online at www.gdins.org/catalog.



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Fiddle Fest Warms the Heart

Article by Karon Shmon and Photographs by Peter Beszterda

The 14th Annual John Arcand Fiddle Fest was held August 11-14 at Windy Acres, the home of the hosts, John and Vicki Arcand.

John and his wife Vicki have built the festival from their shared dream to “promote and preserve fiddle, music and dance and provide a forum to showcase youth talent and culture.” Founded in 1998, the festival is a combination of workshops, concerts, and competitions for those who love to play the fiddle, love to dance to fiddle music, or just love to listen to it. While a strong Métis theme ensures a focus on Métis fiddle music and dance, music and dance from all cultures is welcomed and embraced.

It seems redundant to remind anyone that John Arcand is also known as the “Master of the Métis fiddle” but there is a small chance someone out there hasn’t heard this. Perhaps I am so appreciative of his talent and commitment because I can’t remember when I learned this. I have had the pleasure of seeing John perform for most of my life.

Fiddle Fest is a heart warming event. It brings youth and Elders together. It brings cultures together. It brings old and new styles of music and dance together. It shows us that music is a language we can all understand and share regardless of our cultural background or age. It



Scott Duffee

reminds us that the best parties don’t need alcohol or flash, just an opportunity for people to come together and enjoy one



Fiddle Instructors Concert Showcase

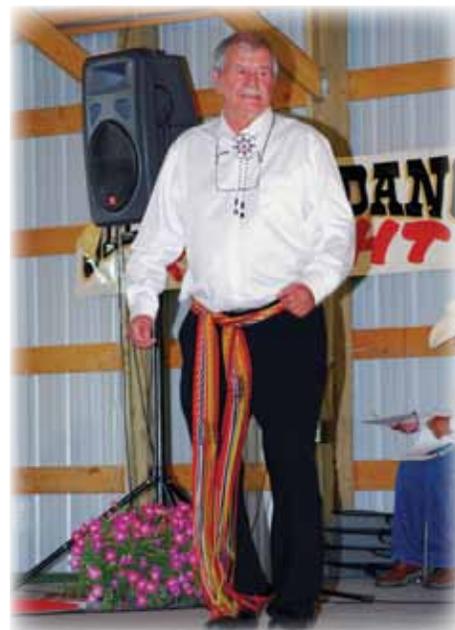


Fiddle Workshop

another's company while being entertained by something other than what is seen on MTV.

At Fiddle Fest, learners and teachers of all ages are sharing what they know. The young people can see that learning is a lifelong journey and that continued curiosity and growth

is healthy. Elders model that they have more to learn and that the teacher can be young. Youth are powerfully affirmed when they have the opportunity to share their knowledge. They see what practice, commitment, and dedication can do. Fiddle Fest is a great place for the continued renewal and transmission of Métis



Jules Chartrand

culture and other traditional forms of fiddle music at a festival which nurtures new expressions of each.

After each Fiddle Fest, I am sure I am not alone in feeling that I have been part of something special.



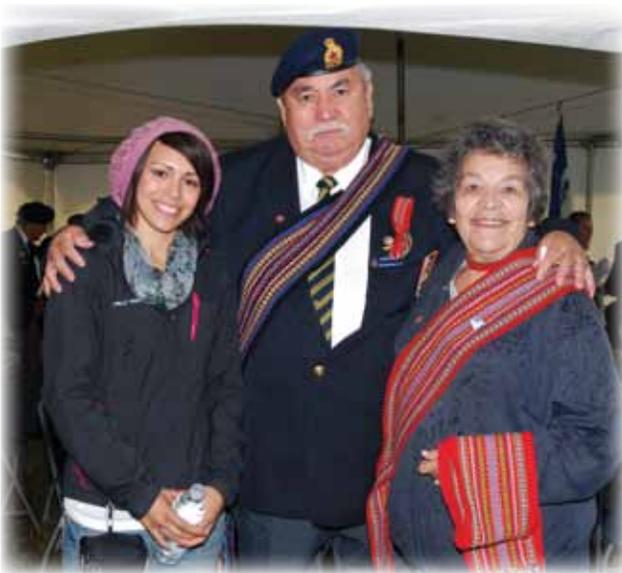
Impromptu Jam Session

Back to Batoche 2011 in Images

Photographs by Peter Beszterda







Jigging Program at

St. Mary's Community School

Article by Jennifer Altenberg and Photograph by Bonnie Hryciuk

Every Saturday from January to May 2011, fiddle music and laughter echoed throughout the gym and into the front yard of St. Mary's Community School in Saskatoon. In partnership with the Pleasant Hill Community Association, staff and students of St. Mary School, and a group of dedicated people gathered to learn the Red River Jig and other traditional Métis and Old

Time dances. Every week a new step or dance was practiced. The program was created for the Saskatoon Métis community to come together to have some fun and celebrate Métis culture. A huge thank you is sent out to the Gabriel Dumont Institute and John and Vicki Arcand for their support. The 2011-12 program is up and running again on Saturdays at 3:30, continuing until December

3rd, and then restarting again in January 2012. Everyone is welcome to participate, watch or play fiddle. The class runs for one hour and is a perfect way to spend the afternoon with family and friends. Please contact Jennifer at jaltenberg@gscs.sk.ca for more information.



A Day with Victor Rose

Article by Bradley Brown and Photographs by Karon Shmon

On a beautiful fall day in late September, I accompanied GDI Publishing Director, Karon Shmon, on a trip to Frenchman Butte, located in the North West area of the province. The purpose of the trip was to meet with renowned Métis Fiddle player, Victor Rose, and discuss the final details of a current project with him; a CD of traditional Métis fiddle music. It was just last year that Rose began the project by recording forty traditional Métis fiddle tunes for inclusion on the two disc album. GDI is in the post production stage of this project, anxiously wrapping it up to ensure it is ready for sale by Christmas. This was the primary reason for our visit; however, we were able

to do much more than talk about business, as we had the astounding opportunity to learn about the life and passions of Victor Rose.

The significance of this project to GDI and the Métis community cannot be stressed enough. Early last year, GDI was approached by John and Vicki Arcand who brought Victor Rose to our attention because of his fiddle playing



Victor Rose



Bradley Brown

proWess and the fact that he knows many traditional Métis fiddle tunes, most of which are unknown to anyone else. The Arcands urged us to pursue recording these tunes due to the nature of their rarity and availability. Knowing this, we eagerly pursued the project with Rose and recorded the tunes last year. GDI is pleased to be preserving this music for the community and know it will be a treasured legacy.

The CD itself will be a unique addition to Métis music for a number of reasons. GDI recorded the project alongside the Arcands who arranged for acclaimed fiddle player and recording engineer, Desmond Legace to master the CD. An interesting facet of the project was the discussion Rose and Arcand had about each track. These conversations about the Métis fiddle tunes were recorded and will be transcribed and included in the CD liner notes. So, in addition to some wonderful fiddle tunes, the CD will also have two fiddle legends setting the context of the songs and sharing their thoughts on Métis music. GDI is grateful to the Arcands for making recording arrangements and aiding in the creation of this project.

Prior to arriving at Frenchman



Butte, we came to Paradise Hill, and were delighted to find a beautiful park with a gigantic Red River cart and ox. Nearby signage informs visitors about the area's long history as a part of the Carlton Trail, which has been dubbed the "first great overland route in the northwest." Another sign showed that a variety of well-known Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people had passed through this area as early as

1776. Some of the famous visitors included the Earl of Southesk, artist Paul Kane, Isadore and Gabriel Dumont, and Chief Big Bear, to name a few.

When we arrived in Frenchman Butte, we were struck by the beauty of the location of the Rose home which is nestled alongside the North Saskatchewan River overlooking a valley coloured with gold and russet leaves



Frenchman Butte

offset by the beauty of the sky. We learned that Victor is happily married to his beautiful wife Tina, and together they are the proud parents of two daughters and one son. Victor's primary occupation in life was as a barber and carpenter in Lloydminster. He is now retired and spends a good deal of his time working on his home and playing music. Numerous trophies won from fiddle contests can be viewed throughout the house, but it is only when he takes you up to his studio that you can fully appreciate his real love for music. His studio is filled with

fiddles, banjos, and guitars, many of which he has made by hand. While showing me one handmade instrument he explained that it took him three years to create. Our visit to the Rose household revealed that he was much more than a fiddle player, but also a loving husband and father, a man of hard work and persistence, and a humble person.

Before leaving, the Rose's insisted they show us some of the town. We were privileged to see the museum, even though it is closed for the season. It

is a wonderful log home with many antiques and a warm and inviting atmosphere, making it a favourite local gathering place. We were also shown a lookout from which you can see the entire town, set in the valley alongside the river. We snapped a few photos, shook hands, and were off on our way back home after an amazing day with the Rose family. I am really looking forward to the release of the CD in December as I will always think of this day when I listen to it.



Victor and Tina Rose



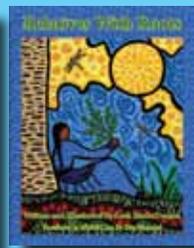
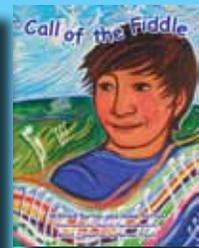
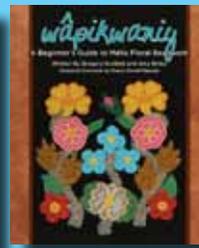
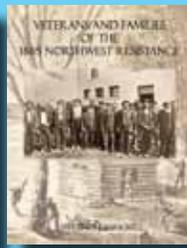
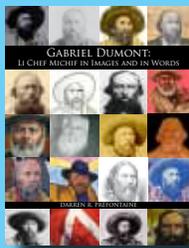
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The Gabriel Dumont Institute, in partnership with Parks Canada, is looking for people who can share Métis history, information and stories about **Grasslands National Park**, and the surrounding areas around **Swift Current, Val Marie, Wood Mountain, Rockglen, and Willow Bunch**. The partners are looking to identify and interview Métis community members who have a connection to these historically and culturally significant places.

Are you Métis? Do you or your family have a historic and/or contemporary connection to the areas in and around Fort Walsh, Fort Battleford or Grasslands National Park? Would you like to share your stories with the partners? If so, please contact me so we can arrange an interview.

Darren Préfontaine
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If you would like to call collect, please phone 1.877.488.6888 and ask for Darren Préfontaine. Please leave a message with your contact information if we are unable to speak directly and we will return your call.

Marsii/Thank you for your time and consideration!



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).

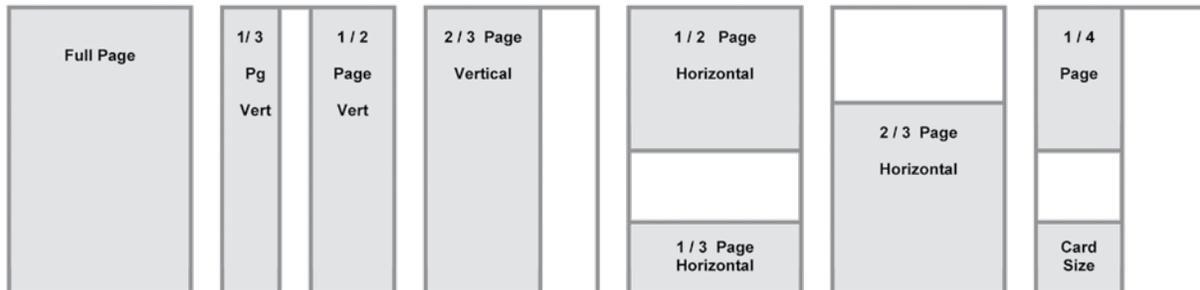
GDI's mission, which guides the Institute's work, provides a wide variety of topics to cover in the magazine.

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).

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.

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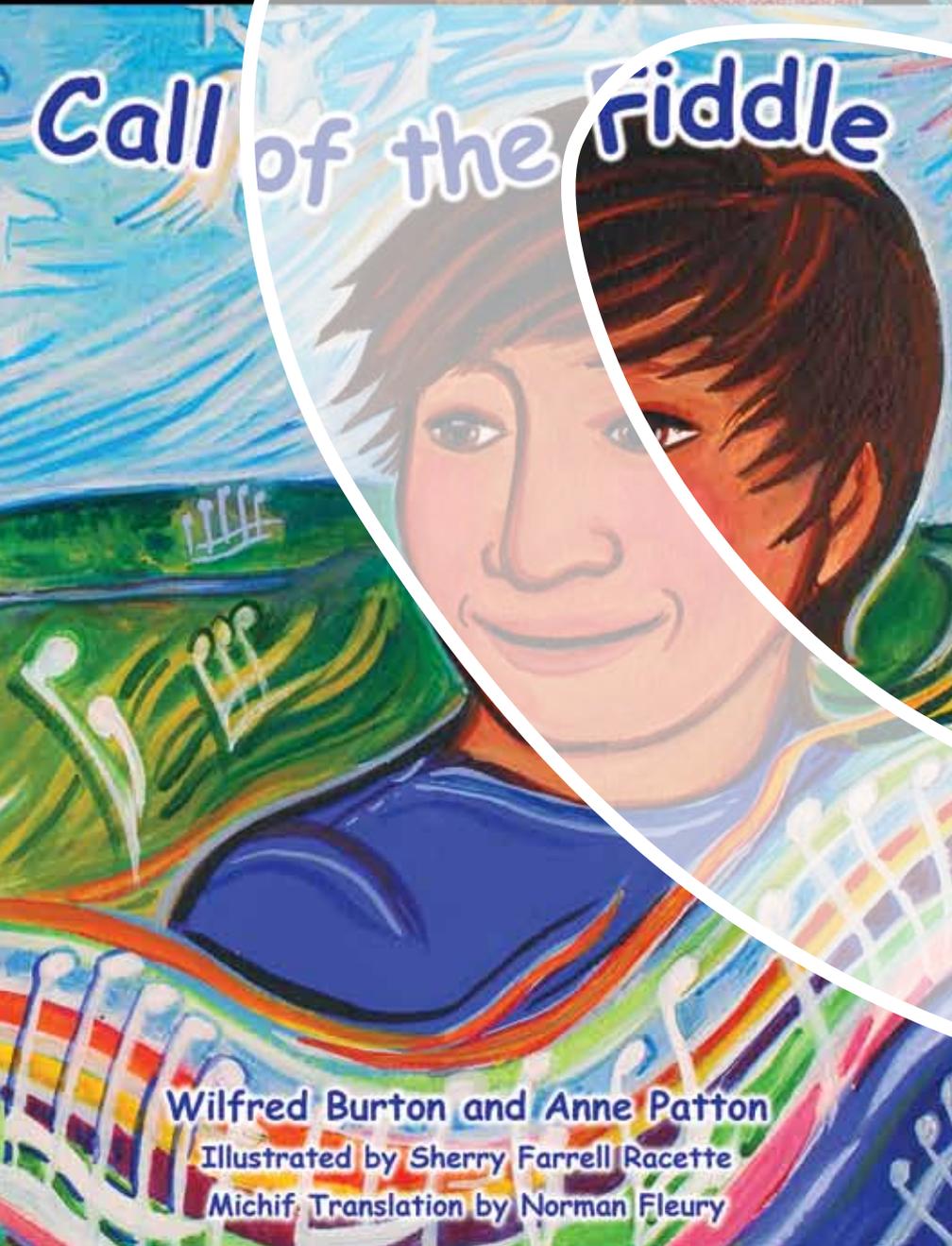
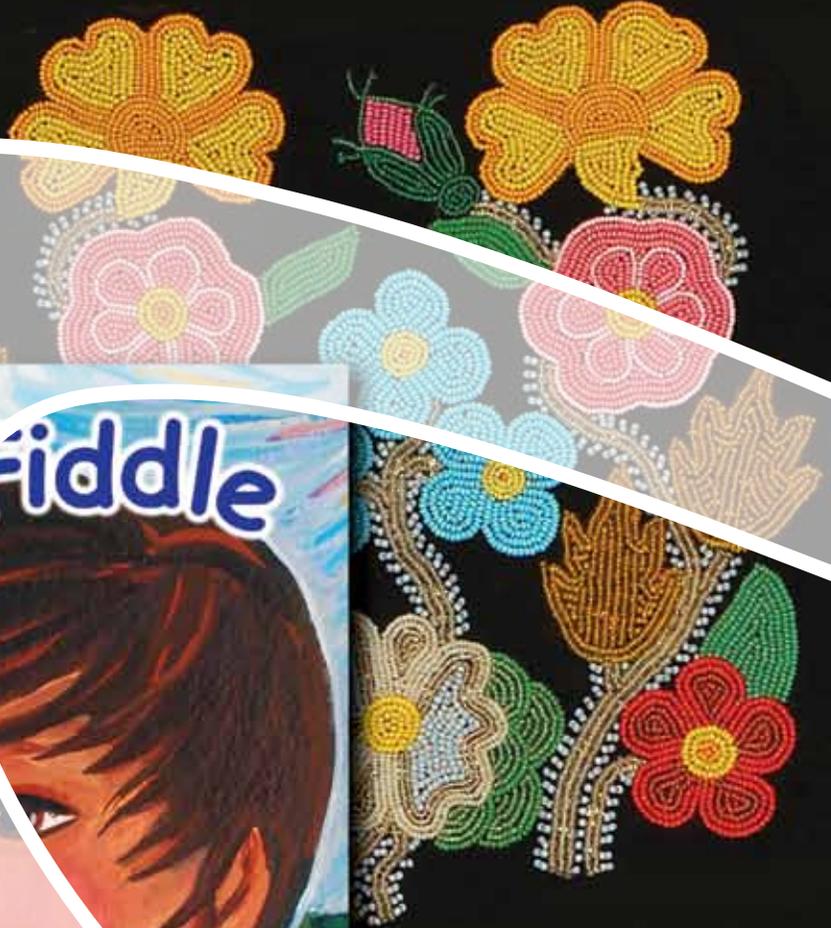
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Wilfred Burton and Anne Patton

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