



THE GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE COMMUNICATOR

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR STAFF AND STUDENTS



"Students Are The Future"



The GDI Communicator is an internal newsletter intended to increase communication between management and staff of the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research

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CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY HELD IN GDI GALLERY by Desirae Barker, GDI Senior Program Coordinator

On September 14, 2023, the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and the Institute for Canadian Citizenship (ICC) hosted a citizenship ceremony in the Gabriel Dumont Institute Gallery in Saskatoon for 20 Citizenship applicants. The citizenship ceremony is the final step to becoming a citizen. It is a much-anticipated milestone for those who have immigrated to Canada.

Senator Nora Cummings, Métis Elder and Senator of the Métis Nation—Saskatchewan Senate, and the Honourable Judge Gerald Morin, Saskatchewan's First Indigenous Judge, opened the ceremony by acknowledging the significant history and culture of Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Amy Briley, Program Coordinator in GDI's Métis Culture and Heritage

Department, welcomed the new citizens on behalf of the Institute and her Métis family, who have lived in Saskatoon city for generations. "Indigenous People have been welcoming new comers to this territory for hundreds of years. When we welcome people, we often share stories about our families and our connection to this place because that's how we relate and connect to one another. As a Métis person, I welcome you. I welcome you as Canada's newest citizens, I welcome you to Saskatoon, and I welcome you here to the Gabriel Dumont Institute".

To close the ceremony, Senator Nora gathered everyone in a circle to visit, share their personal stories, and reflections for the day...

Story continued on Page 5.





NEW ZEALAND STUDY TRIP AFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE TO CULTURE RECLAMATION

Carson McCaffrey is a Métis student completing his Bachelor of Education degree at the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP), Saskatoon. **Karon Shmon** is currently the Director of Métis Culture and Heritage at the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research in Saskatoon.



Carson McCaffrey, Maungawhau, New Zealand



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

MICHIF

WORDS OF THE MONTH

AYAMISHCHIKEW

Study

ENN SITROOY

Pumpkin

MITOONI TAAPWAY

Truthfully

AEN PCHI TAANFAAN

Child

Karon: Carson, you've recently travelled abroad as part of your studies. What was the nature of your trip?

Carson: The two-week trip to New Zealand is part of an Indigenous Studies course at the University of Saskatchewan made possible through the Oyateki Partnership between the Gabriel Dumont Institute, the Mastercard Foundation, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology, and the University of Saskatchewan. We were on an educational journey where we had the privilege to observe and learn from the Maori of New Zealand, an Indigenous people colonized by the British. They have done a lot of work to unite, to confront the government about the effects of colonization, and to bring their people out of the resulting hardships. It was very beautiful to see. I think many of these initiatives should be implemented in Canada. Our group included a diversity of students, one from biology, two from business, and three from education, including my SUNTEP classmate, Kaitryn LaPrise-Fisher. Each of us experienced something to bring back to our field of study. For example, we stayed at the Maori full immersion schools. As a prospective teacher, this really stood out to me because it placed the importance language plays in grounding an Indigenous person in their culture. I thought it was very cool to see the young students speaking Teo Reo Maori, the language of the Maori, and the way it grounds and solidifies their cultural identity.

K: So, with the purpose of the trip being to broaden the knowledge and experience of other Indigenous peoples, did you make any correlations between the colonization that the Maori experienced and the experiences of Indigenous peoples here in Canada?

C: Yes, for sure. The Maori are less diverse than the Indigenous peoples here, but there are similarities, and they follow very similar customs. Each Iwi, the term for the tribes there, all have the same ancestral language. In Canada, many different nations make up the Indigenous peoples which creates some distance between us because we don't look at one another as one group. We are unique and diverse because we have different languages, customs, and histories, even though we share that we are indigenous to these lands and share the common experience of colonization.

K: Do you think the geography of New Zealand has helped the Maori survive as one nation?

C: Yes. Keep in mind New Zealand is a very small country consisting of two islands. This provided more opportunities for the Iwis to interact with one another and to maintain a common language. You can tell they are closer knit as a result.

Story continued on page 4.





UPCOMING PROGRAM DEADLINES

Sustainable Maintenance Technician

Various

Oct 15th



For a full listing of all current programs and to apply online visit WWW.GDINS.ORG/PROGRAMS

DTI Student Success Story



“My teacher has definitely helped me to be successful. She’s always ready to help and such an understanding and caring person. [...] My advice to students would be to always pay attention, communicate with your teacher, and don’t be scared to ask for help to stay on track so that you can succeed.”

Aysia Poitras - Adult Basic Education Level 4 2023

DUMONT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE’S NEW PHLEBOTOMY PROGRAM LANDS STUDENTS JOBS QUICKLY

By Ashley Goy, DTI Program Coordinator

Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) offered the Phlebotomy Applied Certificate Program in Saskatoon for the first time this past Spring/Summer. The need for the program was first recognized after meeting with the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), and the demand for Phlebotomists throughout the province was discussed.

The Phlebotomy Program provided students with both classroom instruction and hands-on experience. It was originally designed to be an online program and then was modified for this cohort to be in the classroom at the DTI Saskatoon Campus. The students enjoyed the in-class and hands-on experience they received.

The program required a certified Medical Lab Technician and instructor Erin was up for the challenge. With her expertise and knowledge base, she was able to provide students with excellent experience. Erin provided instruction in the classroom as well as the lab. The students were provided access to a lab within DTI and completed their program requirements on campus. It was also an excellent place for students to practice and fine-tune their skills. The students practiced phlebotomy on rubber arms and

attachments before they got an opportunity to practice on people.

The SHA worked with DTI by providing centrifuges and Phlebotomy chairs for our in-house lab. Once the labs were completed, the students moved on to the practicum portion of the program. During the last two weeks of the program, students participated in the practicum where they received training on location at St. Paul’s Hospital and two Lifelabs locations in Saskatoon. This provided the students with the opportunity to gain experience working with patients/clients.

The program was three and a half months in length which worked out really well for the students as they could transition into employment immediately after the program ended. Three-quarters of the students were employed within two weeks after the program ended and some were working two days after the program end date. Overall, the Phlebotomy Program was well received by students and DTI’s program partners. 🌐

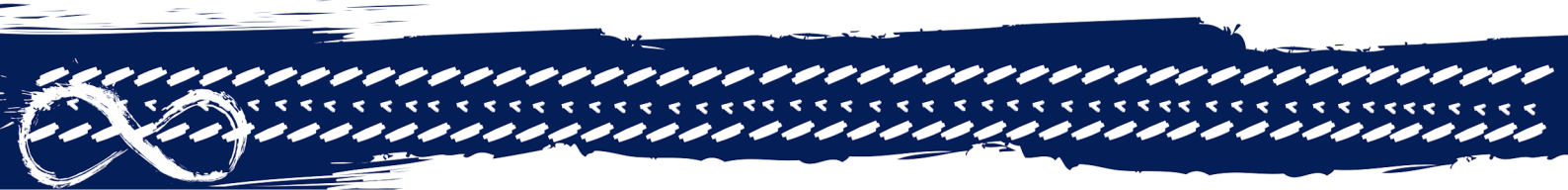
PRINCE ALBERT CAMPUS RENOVATION UPDATE

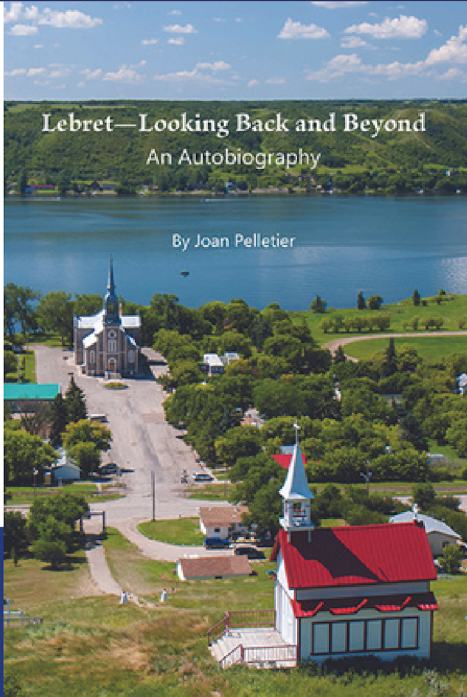
The Prince Albert GDI facility located at 48-12th Street East is scheduled for facility alterations to provide a more efficient program delivery space for the DTI Practical Nursing and the Continuing Care Assistant programs.

The work entails developing a new space to accommodate a seven-bed nursing laboratory and lecture area and converting a current storage room and computer room into one large classroom area. The project design team met in May 2023 to review plans

for how to use GDI’s existing space to accommodate the proposed alterations. Since then, the Institute has engaged an Architect and working drawings have been developed and passed along to the City of Prince Albert for the development permit.

At present, GDI has just completed the tendering process and will be entering into a contract with a local contractor. This project will be starting in the fall with a projected completion by the end of 2023. 🌐





Lebret—Looking Back and Beyond
An Autobiography

By Joan Pelletier

GDI Press celebrated the book launch of Joan Pelletier's new book *Lebret—Looking Back and Beyond: An Autobiography*

First-time author Joan Pelletier takes readers back to a simpler, gentler time and place before the devastating disruption of having to leave her loving, supportive Michif family and road allowance community for the unfriendly and unfamiliar confines of the big city. *Lebret—Looking Back and Beyond* is a poignant coming-of-age memoir of growing up as a Michif child in Lebret, Saskatchewan.

To order please visit:
WWW.GDINS.ORG/SHOP-GDI



Joan Pelletier at the book launch
September 20, 2023

NEW ZEALAND STUDY TRIP AFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE TO CULTURE RECLAMATION

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K: How much time did you spend on Iwis?

C: We spent about a week with the Maori people, about three days were spent on the Marae. A Marae is like a reserve, or land set aside. One thing that I noticed that was really prominent was the idea of reinvesting back into your people. The Maoris are doing so through economic development, a change from the time when they were placed on maraes that didn't have any natural resources because they were given the worst land.

K: Sounds like Canada.

C: Yes, it's very similar. The land wasn't suitable for farming and was without natural resources. The Maoris chose to see their people as their most valuable resource, so they work to build capacity in human resources.

K: What are some of your cherished memories from the trip?

C: One of the most memorable moments was the warm welcome and greeting we experienced when we arrived at a marae and received a haka, which is an introduction and traditional dance. Historically hakas were used to face an enemy, but it has now become a welcoming to showcase traditional culture. I was also impressed with the small town of Rotorua, a cultural hub for the Maori people. You can see it in the street signs, everything is bilingual in English and Te Reo Maori. This helps visitors see just how much the city is immersed in Maori culture. It's very beautiful!

K: So, what is your takeaway from the trip?

C: My takeaway from the trip is the importance of Indigenous language and how it grounds people to their culture. I am saddened to see that Indigenous languages here have nearly been

eradicated. I look at my people's language, Michif, the language of the Métis. It's very disheartening to see so few speakers left in Canada. A similar thing happened with the Maori. Their Indigenous language was almost eradicated, but there were a few elders who retained it. The Maori worked with the government of New Zealand to create classes and workshops where they can teach the language. After a lot of work, full immersion schools followed. When students learn in their first language it grounds them in their culture and helps them feel more connected, and to have a closer bond as a community. I believe Michif can have the same impact and I would like to see it offered in Canadian schools.

K: I couldn't agree more! How will this experience shape your career as a teacher?

C: I came to understand how important it is for the Indigenous students to be grounded in their own language. I will never be the teacher who helps eradicate a student's language. I would rather support and facilitate the students' discovery of their Indigenous languages.

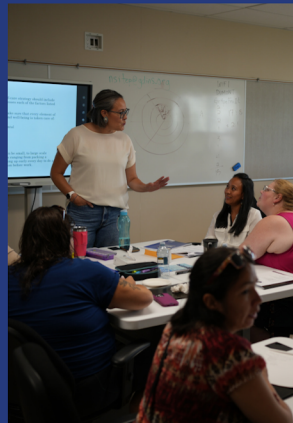
K: Is there anything else from the trip you would like to share?

C: I think Canada can learn a lot from the New Zealand. They have succeeded in showing the British colonizers that the Maori people are a vital part of the country, the original people, and that their culture and heritage must be respected.

K: That's awesome. I think that is what we're striving for here. That's what needs to happen here. It's nice to see that most of New Zealand is also on board with that. Maarsii, Carson. 🌍



SUNTEP & NSITEP WELCOME WEEK PHOTOS



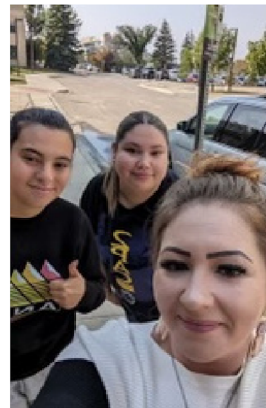
CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY HELD IN GDI GALLERY

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As Senator Nora passed around a Métis sash talking stick, everyone had their opportunity to take part in Métis traditional values and share stories while drinking tea and eating bannock. Once everyone had visited, Wilfred Burton taught the group to jig to Joseph Desjarlais' fiddle tunes. Having everyone share in Métis traditions and culture was a profound and powerful way to welcome new citizens to Canada.

Overall, the ceremony seemed to have a positive impact on each of the new

citizens immigrating from various parts of the world, each with diverse backgrounds and cultures. Métis contributions to Canada's history and identity are a testament to the importance of preserving and celebrating these diverse cultures and traditions. Hearing their personal stories and their pride in coming to Canada is something I will never forget. The significance of this ceremony not only meant a new beginning for each person, but also for their generations to come. 🌍



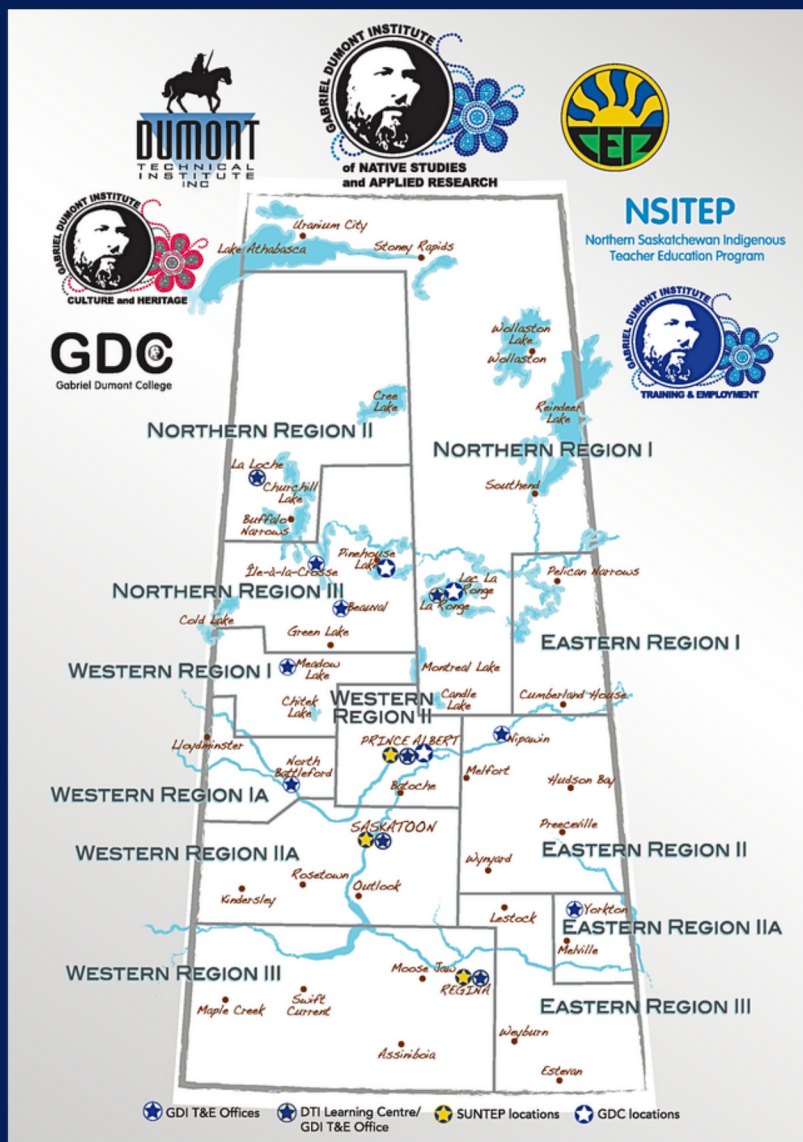
OCTOBER 2023 FINANCE & PAYROLL CUTOFF CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Stat Holiday	Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Student Oct 6 Direct Deposits		A/P Cheque/EFT Run Cutoff @ 4:30 for Timesheets & Payroll Revisions for Oct 13 Payday	Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Thanksgiving Day Stat Holiday			Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Staff Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Student Oct 20 Direct Deposits		Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Cutoff @ 4:30 for Timesheet & Payroll Revisions for Oct 31 Payday		Accounts Payable Cheque/EFT Run	Cutoff @ 4:30 for Accounts Payable Invoices	
29	30	31				
		Staff Payday Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on Student Nov 3 Direct Deposits				

EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS DUE AT PAYROLL UPON JOB ACCEPTANCE. PAYROLL MUST RECEIVE CONTRACTS PRIOR TO PAYROLL CUTOFF DATE. IF RECEIVED AFTER THE CUTOFF DATE, THE EMPLOYEE WILL BE PAID ON THE FOLLOWING PAY PERIOD MRTS DUE BY THE 15TH OF EVERY MONTH



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