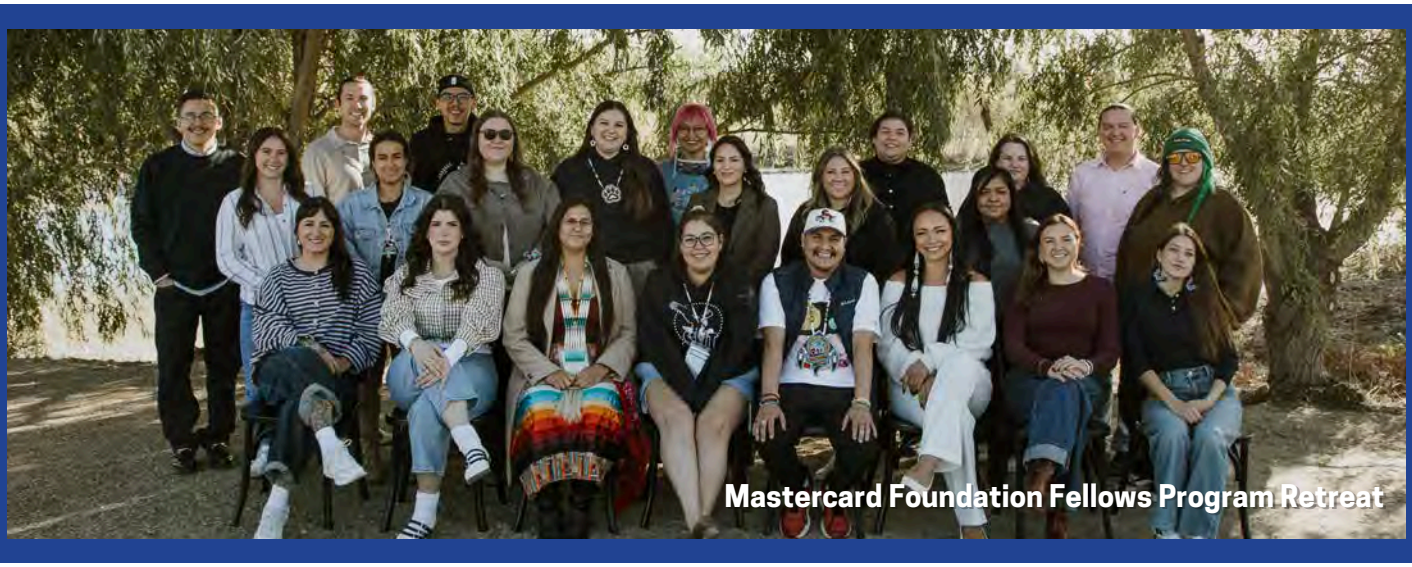
THE GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
COMMUNICATOR


Mastercard Foundation Fellows Program Retreat

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

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LEGEND

DTI—Dumont Technical Institute
GDC—Gabriel Dumont College
GDI—Gabriel Dumont Institute
GDITE—Gabriel Dumont Institute Training and Employment
GDSF—Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation
NSITEP—Northern Saskatchewan Indigenous Teacher Education Program
SUNTEP—Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program

REFLECTIONS FROM THE INAUGURAL MASTERCARD FOUNDATION FELLOWS RETREAT

By Mattia Gregory, DTI Program Coordinator

I feel honoured and grateful to have been selected as a Fellow in the inaugural Mastercard Foundation Fellows Program cohort. Spending five days together at our first retreat gave us the opportunity to connect, share our stories, and learn from one another.

Making my own drum and attending my first sweat lodge ceremony were especially meaningful experiences. They encouraged me to reflect on my cultural connections, the importance of traditions and the value of learning about who we are and where we come from.

I was also grateful to learn from inspiring Indigenous leaders, including Sara and Stephanie Sinclair, Brandon Meawasige, Wilton Littlechild, and Christine Marie.

Their stories and perspectives offered valuable insights into Indigenous leadership, entrepreneurship, and creating meaningful change.

Hearing from Fellows across Canada was another highlight. Each person shared unique experiences and aspirations for giving back to their cultures and building a better future for the next generation. Their stories reminded me that there is no single path to leadership and that everyone has something valuable to contribute.

I left the retreat feeling inspired and grateful for the connections I made. The experience encouraged me to continue learning about myself, deepen my cultural connections and grow as a leader. I look forward to what the next two years will bring and feel fortunate to be on this journey with such an inspiring group of people.

MICHIF WORDS OF THE MONTH

OKTOBR	October
LI KOFFII	Coffee
FAAMII	Family
LI PAEN	Bread
ENN SITROOY	Pumpkin
ENN SWISS	Squirrel


South Saskatchewan by Aleksi Ann

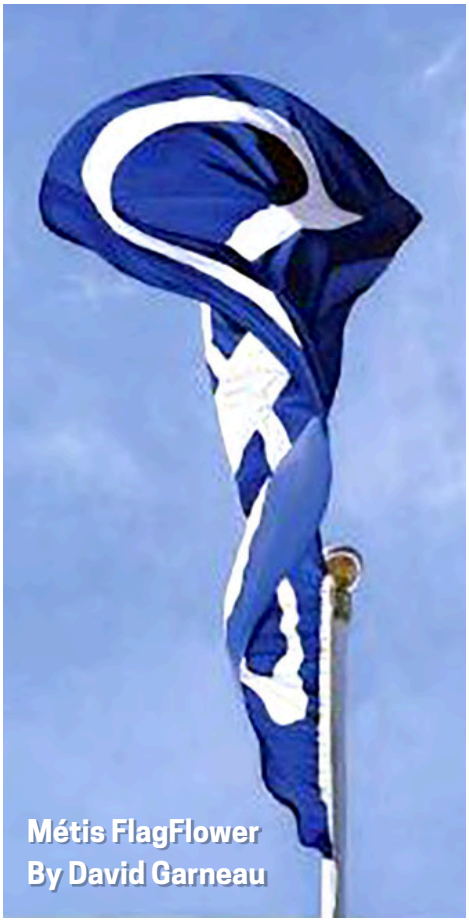
GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE ART COLLECTION

By David Morin, Director of Culture & Heritage

Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) prides itself on its collection of Métis art. GDI owns the largest private collection of Christi Belcourt's work, including the entirety of her portrait work. GDI has hundreds of original art pieces created for our children's books, including over 70 pieces of art by Leah Dorion. Art from Leah's nine GDI Press children's books is on display now in the GDI Gallery!

The Institute's art collection includes works by Jane Ash Poitras, Dennis Weber, Sherry Farrell Racette, Denis Bruce, Armand Paquette, and so many more. We are always adding to our collection. Some more recent additions include Viridescent Elder by Janaya McCallum and South Saskatchewan by Aleksi Ann.


Viridescent Elder by Janaya McCallum


Métis FlagFlower By David Garneau

We also received a very generous gift from newly inducted Order of Gabriel Dumont recipient David Garneau. The McKenzie Art Gallery created a perfect reproduction of one of David's pieces in their collection titled Métis FlagFlower, which was hung outside. When the exhibit was completed, the reproduction was given to David, and he felt that GDI would be the perfect home for this painting.

With the updates to our art collection, you will see the art on the shared walls in Institute buildings refreshed from time to time. Our focus for now will be on updating the Saskatoon buildings, but we will be looking at sharing our collection in other locations in the future.

We hope you're able to spend some time enjoying and appreciating the art in our collection!

DTI PROGRAMS STILL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS...



Career Cooking Progam
Saskatoon

Ongoing



Practical Nursing

Various

Ongoing



Heavy Equipment and Truck and Transport Technician
Prince Albert

Ongoing



Adult Basic Education

Various

Ongoing



Primary Care Paramedic

Prince Albert

Ongoing

For a full listing of all current programs and to apply online visit

WWW.GDINS.ORG/PROGRAMS

ADDICTION, COMMUNITY AND MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (MEADOW LAKE)

By Nicole Genereaux, Instructor

Second-year Addictions, Community and Mental Health Professionals students in Meadow Lake are off to a great start. With new courses, community involvement, and hands-on learning opportunities, their final year is already proving to be busy and rewarding.

We were excited to welcome two transfer students, Karnella and Naomi, who have been wonderful additions to our classroom community.

Students have been actively involved in community events, volunteering at the Michif Language Learning Day in the Park, and participating in activities recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We also took part in our first seasonal sweat ceremony of the year, providing an opportunity for cultural connection, reflection, and healing. In the classroom, we enjoyed a community potluck filled with food, laughter, and good company.

Experiential learning remains an important part of the program. Students recently participated in Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) and Manaciso Healing with Horses. Through guided activities with horses, they explored connections between emotions, the body, and healing, including approaches to processing trauma and grief. These experiences offered valuable perspectives students can carry into their future careers in mental health.

Despite a heavier course load and new challenges, students continue to demonstrate dedication and enthusiasm. We look forward to their third field placements, where they will put their learning into practice.
As students reflect on their final year, they share what the experience has meant to them and what they look forward to most.

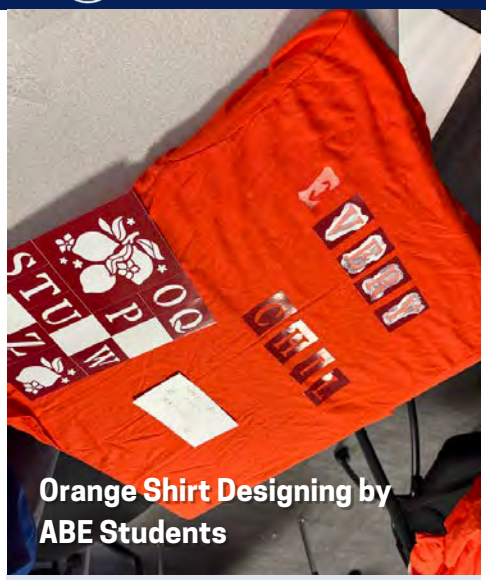
Tiana shares:
"This program has been exactly what I didn't know I needed. It brought me friends, laughs, and healing when I needed it most. The good outweighs the stress by a landslide. I'm looking forward to everything we're learning this year, but most importantly, receiving my diploma alongside my classmates and entering the workforce with new knowledge."

Lynn shares:
"I'm grateful and honoured to be part of this program. The learning has reminded me that when you want something, you make it happen, even when it comes with sacrifices. I'm looking forward to graduating and beginning a career I can take pride in. Knowing I can make a difference in someone's journey toward a healthier self is why I chose this path."

We are proud of the growth, commitment, and compassion these students continue to demonstrate and look forward to all that this final year will bring.



Equine Assisted Learning



Orange Shirt Designing by ABE Students

HONOURING EVERY LEARNER - ORANGE SHIRT DAY

By Jennifer Mahlberg, DTI Faculty

For many adult learners, returning to school means much more than pursuing an education. It can mean recognizing their place in the larger Métis community and honouring the children who never had the opportunity to complete their schooling. Every step taken in the classroom pays tribute to those who came before them.

The GDI Culture and Heritage department gifted us blank orange T-shirts for students to create their own designs. While many students created individual designs, one incorporated a tree of life, with each leaf represented by the thumbprint of someone who participated that day.

The design included both students and staff, with black and white thumbprints symbolizing adults returning to the classroom and honouring the little ones lost so many years ago. Little did we know how deeply this design would connect the past, present, and future.

The design became even more meaningful following the recent loss of a cherished student. In a small but heartfelt gesture, we transformed the orange T-shirt into a gift for her eight-year-old son, offering him a tangible reminder of his mother's place in the Métis community, and the love and care that surround him.

Our hope is to continue honouring the little ones who came before us, remembering those whose lives were cut short, and celebrating the courage of every learner who finds their way back to the classroom. Education has no age limit. Every learner matters. Every life leaves a mark. Every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

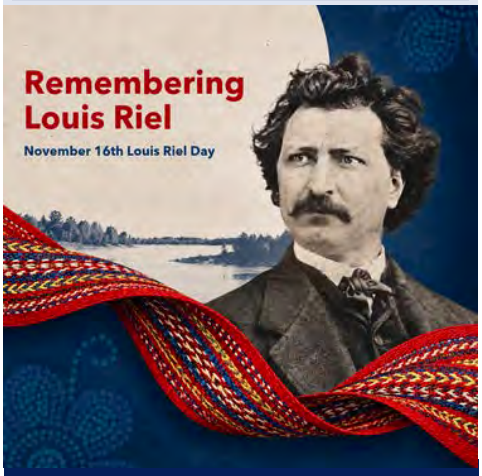
All children matter. All learners belong. No one is ever too old to begin again.

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

ALL GDI OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

December 24th - January 1st

Last day of work - December 23
Offices reopen - January 4th



LETS GET SOCIAL

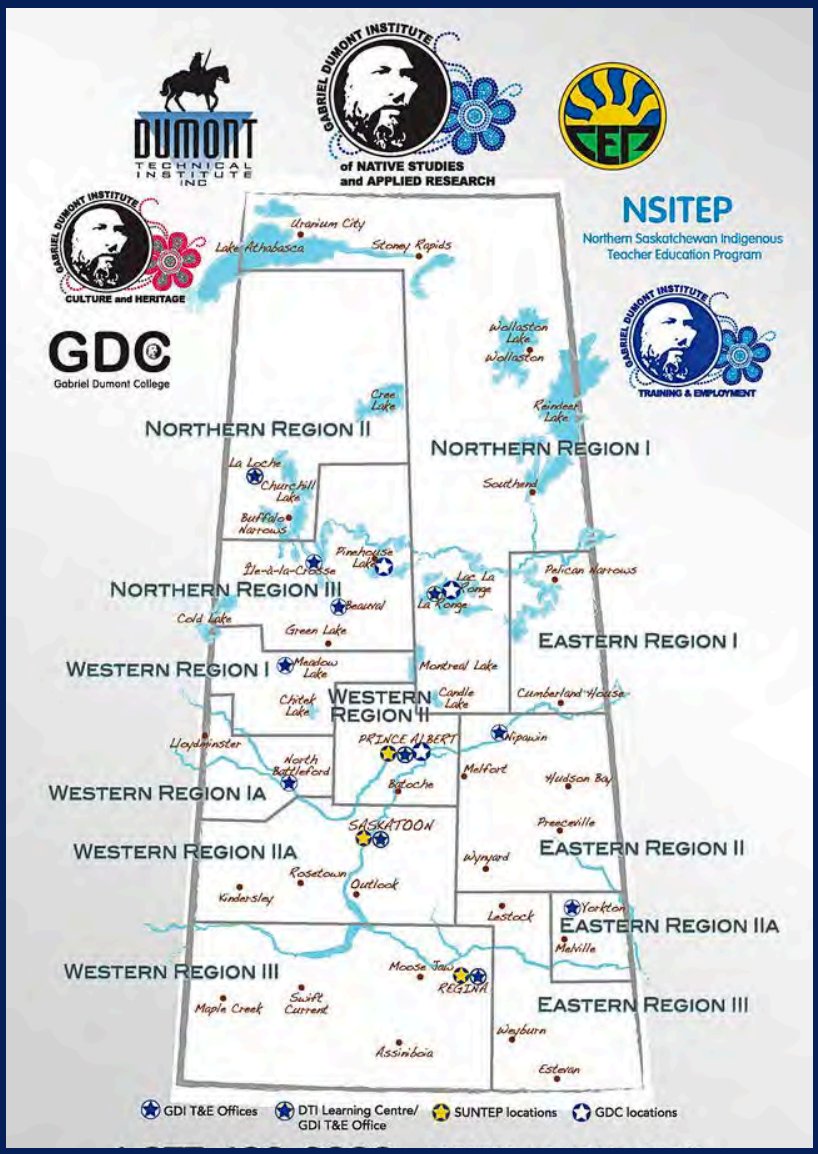
Stay in touch on our socials:
Gabriel Dumont Institute
@GDINS_ORG
WWW.GDINS.ORG

NOVEMBER 2026 FINANCE & PAYROLL CUTOFF CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on MNU Student Nov 6 Direct Deposits	Accounts Payable Payment Run - Noon for Friday Pmts	Cutoff @ 4:30 for Timesheets & Payroll Revisions for Nov 13 Payday	MNU Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Nov 13 Accounts Payable	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		A/P Payment Run - Noon for Friday Pmts Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on ISETS Student Nov 13 Direct Deposits	**Remembrance Day Stat Holiday**		ISETS Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Nov 20 Accounts Payable **Staff Payday**	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Louis Riel Day Stat Holiday	Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on MNU Student Nov 20 Direct Deposits	Accounts Payable Payment Run - Noon for Friday Pmts		MNU Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Nov 27 Accounts Payable	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Cutoff @ 4:30 for Timesheets & Payroll Revisions for Nov 30 Payday	Cutoff @ 3 pm for Stop Payments on ISETS Student Nov 27 Direct Deposits	Accounts Payable Payment Run - Noon for Friday Pmts		ISETS Student Payday Cutoff @ 4:30 for Dec 4 Accounts Payable	
29	30					
	Staff Payday					

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

CONTACT US



WWW.GDINS.ORG

1-877-488-6888

info@gdins.org

Previous issues of the *Communicator* can be found online at www.metismuseum.ca

If you would like to submit an article for the *Communicator* please submit to communications@gdins.org by the 20th of the month.