



# UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN





# WELCOME



**taanishi**  
MICHIF

**tawā**  
SAULTEAUX

**dayá wacímnaga**  
NAKOTA

**nuhha ho?ą**  
DENE

**ṭan̄yan̄ yahiṭi**  
DAKOTA AND LAKOTA

**tawāw**  
PLAINS, WOODLAND  
AND SWAMPY CREE

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) sits along the kisiskaciwani-sipiy (South Saskatchewan River) in Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. This is a place that is part of a millennia-old tradition of people gathering on the banks of this river to learn, to teach and to form community. We welcome all students, including our Indigenous students, to join us in building truth, knowledge and relationships in all their forms.<sup>1</sup>

USask is a place that promotes and supports the learning of Indigenous Knowledges and ways of living. Our campus community encourages Indigenous students to explore the world through education, to invest in meaningful

relationships that can support future ambitions, and to be successful in all learning pursuits.

Through collaboration, innovation, respect and humility, the university fosters a welcoming environment that provides opportunities for our community, including students, to gather and to constructively and respectfully dialogue and plan for the university environment we want and need.

Through our university plan—and through the spirit embodied in **nikānitān manācihitowinihk | ni manachihitoonaan** (“Let us lead with respect”)—USask will be **the university the world needs.**

Cover, left to right: Dustin Gamble (BEd’19), Brittanni-Anne Roberts (BSN’19), Sturgeon Lake First Nation, Katherine Burns (BSN’19) and Hilary Peterson (LLM’19), Saskatoon, at the 2019 Graduation Powwow. Notes: 1. From *Our Learning Charter*, revised in 2018.

# EVENTS

## Indigenous Graduation Celebration

With its origins dating back to the 1980s, the university's annual Indigenous Graduation Celebration (formerly the Graduation Powwow) is held to celebrate the academic success of Métis, First Nations and Inuit graduates from USask and local secondary schools. It is also a time to celebrate the Indigenous communities and cultures at USask and around the province. This is the largest annual Indigenous event held by the university and attracts over 3,000 participants each year.

## Indigenous Achievement Week

Indigenous Achievement Week (IAW) is an annual event that celebrates the successes and contributions of Métis, First Nations and Inuit students, staff, faculty and alumni. Each year, Indigenous students from across USask choose a theme. In 2021, the theme was *nīkānihk itohtētān*, walking together into the future.

One of the highlights of IAW is the Indigenous Student Achievement Awards Ceremony, where Indigenous students are honoured for their academic excellence, leadership, unique or important research, personal resiliency and community engagement.

## māmowī āsohtētān Internal Truth and Reconciliation Forum

The fourth annual māmowī āsohtētān Internal Truth and Reconciliation Forum, was hosted virtually by USask in March 2021. This event is a response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action and provides an opportunity for students, staff and faculty to gather and to constructively and respectfully dialogue and plan for the university environment we need and want. In 2021, the interactive and dialogue-focused event focused on Theories, Principles, and Practices of Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression, with a special keynote presentation from Dr. Verna St. Denis, USask's special advisor to the president on anti-racism and anti-oppression.



2019 Graduation Powwow



2020 Indigenous Achievement Week



2020 māmowī āsohtētān Internal Truth and Reconciliation Forum



MURAL BY  
ARTISTS CHRISTI  
BELCOURT  
AND ISAAC  
MURDOCK



CREELAND  
DANCERS

PERFORMING AT THE 2019  
GRADUATION POWWOW

# COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT



## SOUP AND BANNOCK



## ROLAND DUQUETTE AND LOUISE HALFE

ROLAND AND LOUISE ARE  
ELDERS AND ADVISORS ON  
INDIGENOUS TRADITIONS  
AT THE GORDON OAKES RED  
BEAR STUDENT CENTRE

### Aboriginal Students' Centre

The Aboriginal Students' Centre (ASC), located in the Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre, is part of a wide community of support at USask dedicated to Indigenous students' academic and personal success.

The ASC team offers personal, social, cultural and academic support, and works in close collaboration with partners across the university and with community organizations to connect you with services and opportunities to help you achieve your goals.

Along with the many events organized in support of students throughout the year, the ASC is responsible for organizing the annual Métis Dinner and Dance, Indigenous Achievement Week and the Indigenous Graduation Celebration to celebrate the successes and contributions of Métis, First Nations and Inuit students, staff and faculty.

#### ■ New student support

- Orientation
- Monthly check-ins

#### ■ Academic programming

- Student Success workshops
- Tutoring

#### ■ Cultural supports

- Elders and Knowledge Keepers
- Pipe and sweat lodge ceremonies
- Weekly grounding circles
- CreativiTea

#### ■ Wellness programing

- Fitness4U
- ASC intramural sports teams

#### ■ Social programming

- Parent Circle
- Weekly soup and bannock lunches

#### ■ Intercultural programming

- Building Bridges activities with international students

### Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre

As an intercultural gathering place, the Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre brings together the teachings, traditions and cultures of the peoples of Saskatchewan. Grounded in the teachings of collaboration, cooperation, humility, reciprocity and sharing, the centre aims to enhance Métis, First Nations and Inuit student success.

The centre's purpose is to facilitate the coordination

of effective student services for Métis, First Nations and Inuit students and build relationships within and outside the university with Indigenous Peoples. The centre provides a home for Indigenous undergraduate and graduate student leadership and allows for mutual learning opportunities for students and faculty. The centre also functions as the university's hub for on-campus Indigenous engagement and initiatives.

# LEARN WHERE YOU LIVE

USask is a welcoming place where you will find programs, services and people dedicated to your personal and academic growth. The university aims to meet and respond to the changing needs of our students, as well as our local and global communities.

Whether you live in Saskatoon, are planning a move, or are looking for education opportunities around Saskatchewan, USask offers many accessible education opportunities. We've partnered with communities, First Nations and Saskatchewan education institutions for over 40 years to provide students with opportunities to study and learn close to home.

## USask Saskatoon main campus

USask's main campus in Saskatoon is the academic home of our wide range of excellent programs and an array of world-class centres and facilities, allowing students, faculty and researchers to cross traditional discipline boundaries and work together to bring a unique perspective to key global challenges. Our Saskatoon campus offers an exciting atmosphere with many opportunities to get involved, connect with other students and be part of a community working to be what the world needs.

## USask Prince Albert Campus

The USask Prince Albert Campus brings together USask's educational programming which was previously taking place at sites across the city, increasing opportunities for students in different programs to connect with each other and to access services.

## Program in Cumberland House works to address teacher shortage

In 2019, the College of Education, in partnership with the Northern Lights School Division, the Northern Village of Cumberland House, Cumberland House Cree Nation and Métis Nation–Saskatchewan, began offering the Bachelor of Education to students in the northern community. Students in the program are currently entering their third year, with teaching areas focused on Indigenous Studies and Cree.

"For me, it's great to be able to stay in my community, my home, and continue to raise my son here," said Iris McKenzie, one of the students admitted to the program. "It's financially a lot easier — a home run really — to train to be a teacher here in Cumberland House."

## College of Nursing

Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Regina, Yorkton, Île-à-la-Crosse, La Ronge

## Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP)

Saskatoon (main campus), Kahkewistahaw First Nation (community-based program)

## Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP)

Offered in Saskatoon and Prince Albert through a partnership between Gabriel Dumont Institute and the USask College of Education

## Gabriel Dumont College

Affiliated with USask and offers Arts and Science courses in Saskatoon and Prince Albert

## Affiliates and regional college partners

- **St. Peter's College (USask affiliate)**  
Muenster
- **Cumberland College**  
Melfort, Nipawin, Tisdale
- **Great Plains College**  
Swift Current
- **North West College**  
Meadow Lake, North Battleford
- **Northlands College**  
Buffalo Narrows, Creighton, Île-à-la-Crosse, La Ronge
- **Parkland College**  
Canora, Fort Qu'Appelle, Melville, Yorkton



## COLLEGE OF NURSING REGINA CAMPUS



## USASK PRINCE ALBERT CAMPUS

# ARTS AND SCIENCE



ISAP students and artist-in-residence Lyndon Tootosis contribute to *anohc kipasikônew / we rise / niipawi*, a community art project initiated during Indigenous Achievement Week 2020.

**Welcome! There's a place for you in the College of Arts and Science.** With over 60 areas of study to choose from, as well as a wide range of study abroad and work placement programs, our college is a great launch pad to any path you choose!

## Degrees and certificates with an Indigenous focus:

- Bachelor of Arts – Indigenous Studies
- Bachelor of Arts – Sociology – Indigenous Justice and Criminology (IJC)
- Certificate in Indigenous Governance and Politics
- Certificate in the Study of Indigenous Storytelling
- wicêhtowin Theatre Certificate in Drama

## The Trish Monture Centre

The Trish Monture Centre (TMC) is a central space in the College of Arts and Science dedicated to student achievement. Visitors to our space at the 'Top of the Ramp' (Arts 250) will find a bright and welcoming place to gather, visit and study with access to WiFi, a microwave and coffee pot. Since opening in 2014, the TMC has rarely been empty!

Students visit the TMC to connect with knowledgeable staff and make appointments to meet advisors for both Indigenous Student Achievement Pathways and the University Transition Program. Both programs work in partnership with the Undergraduate Student Advising Office (down the hall in Arts 265) to offer a holistic approach to academic advising that greets students' mental,

physical, emotional and spiritual selves with expertise specific to their student experience.

## Indigenous Student Achievement Pathways

Arts and Science Indigenous Student Achievement Pathways (ISAP) welcomes First Nations, Inuit and Métis students to the college through academically grounded programming that builds confidence, knowledge and skills, while connecting students to one another and to our campus community.

ISAP First-year Learning Communities bring students with common academic goals together in popular 100-level courses that bring an Indigenous lens to the fine and performing arts, social sciences and humanities, and to the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Weekly gatherings with Indigenous peer-mentors provide connection points with peers, Elders, Indigenous faculty and alumni role models.

## To join ISAP's community for learning:

- 1) Apply for admission to the College of Arts and Science.
- 2) After you are admitted, fill out the online ISAP registration form (available in March on [artsandscience.usask.ca](https://artsandscience.usask.ca)).
- 3) Receive confirmation of registration through phone and/or email communications.
- 4) Kick-start your fall term by joining ISAP's 3-day Summer Start, held in late August each year.



## RUTH CUTHAND

(BFA'83, MFA'92)

2020 GOVERNOR  
GENERAL'S AWARD IN  
VISUAL AND MEDIA ARTS  
RECIPIENT



## STEM Pathways

ISAP offers access, entrance and enrichment opportunities to Indigenous students interested in pursuing STEM degrees in the College of Arts and Science or in USask's undergraduate and professional colleges.

## ISAP STEM Accelerator courses and preparatory certificate

ISAP's non-degree credit STEM Prep courses (Biology 90, Chemistry 90, Physics 90, and Math Lab) can be taken individually, or toward a STEM Accelerator Certificate. These classes are designed for students who want to pursue a degree in science or a related professional degree (e.g. health science, science education and engineering) who need these high school prerequisite courses or who have been away from school for more than three years and would like to refresh their knowledge of these subjects.

## ISAP First-year Medicine Wheel Learning Community

ISAP's Medicine Wheel Learning Community offers 100-level science courses in Term 1 and Term 2 designed to provide a strong start to STEM-degree pathways in the natural sciences, health sciences, computational sciences and engineering.

## ISAP Common Courses and Indigenous Student Scholar's Experience (ISSE) workshops

In second year and beyond, undergraduate students in Arts and Science can access unique interdisciplinary courses that integrate Indigenous perspectives and support success in diverse degree programs. ISSE workshops are facilitated by Indigenous graduate students and Arts and Science staff with the goal of building a community of Indigenous scholars committed to critical inquiry, hands-on and community-based learning, and exploring opportunities beyond graduation.

## KATE BOYER

ST. LAURENT DE GRANDIN, SK  
BACHELOR OF ARTS STUDENT

*"If you are considering coming to the USask, just do it! There are so many supports for Indigenous students that make building a supportive community easier. I especially love all the opportunities available to keep involved in sports and extracurricular activities. It really helps ease the stress of university to be able to be involved in things you love."*

I'm a third-year Arts and Science student and I'm loving every minute of it (ok, except for finals). I grew up on a traditional Métis Riverlot on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River near Batoche. I spent my childhood running through grassy fields and climbing trees. My parents homeschooled me in our small Métis community and I attribute my curiosity and wonder of the world to this invaluable unschooled education. Later on, I attended Rosthern Junior College where I was welcomed into a community that valued peace and making the world a better place. There I learned that by being myself and spreading love, I would find success and



fulfilment. I also learned how to write a mean essay! As for the present, I live in Rosthern, Saskatchewan where I love to laugh and make art. I have a passion for learning and in the future I hope to design community spaces in a way that will improve the quality of life for everyone, no matter their social or economic status.



## JEREMY SMITH

MÉTIS  
COMPUTER SCIENCE  
STUDENT

2020 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE  
OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

# EDUCATION



Indigenous education in the College of Education is a priority to our institution. Indigenous knowledge and worldview is a vital component to education in Canada, and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education has mandated the inclusion of First Nation, Inuit and Métis content in all subject areas from K-12.

In the College of Education, we are committed to providing the resources, opportunities, scholarly research and materials needed to provide teacher candidates with the tools necessary to fulfill this mandate, and we are proud to have one of the largest numbers of Indigenous education alumni in the world.

## Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP)

ITEP has been serving First Nations education since 1972 and is the largest First Nations-specific teacher education program in the country. Through this four-year program to earn your Bachelor of Education degree, you will learn to respond to the cultural and educational needs of First Nations students, communities and stakeholders.

ITEP offers a holistic, family-oriented approach to post-secondary education, centred around the expertise of our instructors, Elders, Wisdom Carriers and counsellors.

ITEP also offers programming outside of Saskatoon and has served over 16 First Nation communities/partners since 1974.



### AMANDA JOBB

PETER BALLENTYNE CREE NATION

2020 INDIGENOUS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, ITEP, AWARD FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### KARON SHMON

DIRECTOR, MÉTIS CULTURE AND HERITAGE AT THE GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE

Many paths have converged to lead Karon Shmon to her current position as Director, Métis Culture and Heritage at the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), a Saskatchewan-based Métis organization with culture and education as its focus. Her roots in the one-room cabin at Chitek Lake where her mother was raised and the family's annual visits to Batoche helped her to understand her heritage and to be proud of being Métis. Since receiving her Bachelor of Education from USask in 1980, Karon's career has focused on making education equitable and she is driven by her personal mantra to "affirm ourselves, and inform others." This makes her work at GDI her true calling. She considers it a privilege to have the opportunity to work with Métis Elders, authors, artists, poets, performers, knowledge keepers and community members and to preserve their voice, and legacy, through the publications and resources created at the Institute. In 2019, Karon was recognized for her significant contributions to Indigenous initiatives with a College of Education Wall of Honour award.



*"Being a teacher means making a commitment to guiding learners as they develop important skills, explore a wide range of interests, and pursue their goals and aspirations. Watching students grow and succeed is both a privilege and a reward which will make you proud to say, 'I am a teacher.'"*



## Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP)

Founded in 1980, SUNTEP is a four-year teacher education program designed for Métis students that culminates in a Bachelor of Education degree. The program is offered in Saskatoon and Prince Albert through a partnership between the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) and the USask College of Education.

This program has a strong emphasis on Métis history, Michif language, social justice and anti-racist/anti-oppressive education. The program combines academic education with classroom experience and a thorough knowledge of current educational issues.

The primary goals of the program are to ensure people of Métis ancestry are equitably represented in the teaching profession and to ensure graduates from the program are responsive to the needs of all students.

## Certificate in Indigenous Languages

The College of Education offers a number of longstanding and new certificate programs to assist current educators to deepen their knowledge in a chosen area, including the Certificate in Indigenous Languages. This certificate is designed for educators who wish to learn Cree while exploring Indigenous teaching methodologies.

## ELDER NORMAN FLEURY

ST. LAZARE, MB, VIRDEN, MB AND SASKATOON, SK  
SPECIAL LECTURER, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
MICHIF/MÉTIS ELDER FOR USASK AND MÉTIS NATION - SK

Norman Fleury is a proud Michif/Métis Elder from St. Lazare, MB. Norman was raised on a small farm with his eight siblings by his mother, Flora Leclerc, a strong, well-respected Michif woman and widow. She lived to 108 years of age, giving her a long time to share her love of her language and cultural traditions with Norman.

Since 1989, Norman has maintained a farm near Virden, MB with his wife, Ruth Ann, and their children, Chantelle and Marc. He also calls Saskatoon home, where he actively champions the preservation of Michif language and culture and is known for using his rich and warm personality to offer Michif language classes, stories and worldview teachings. He has created and co-created extensive Michif learning resources, both print and digital, and is often found at Westmount School, Gabriel Dumont Local 11 and CUMFI supporting many Métis language development and preservation initiatives.



As a Michif/Métis Elder at USask, Norman has helped in the signing of an MOU between the university and Métis Nation–Saskatchewan while supporting SUNTEP, Indigenous Voices and other Indigenous programs. He sits on numerous committees and works with many units including the Aboriginal Students' Centre and Indigenous Engagement Office to ensure Métis people have a place and space on campus.



## DAULTON SINOSKI

MÉTIS NATION  
2019 INDIGENOUS STUDENT  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
WINNER, COLLEGE OF  
EDUCATION, SUNTEP,  
AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP  
HUSKIE VOLLEYBALL  
PLAYER  
USPORTS ALL-ACADEMIC  
TEAM AND 2ND TEAM  
CANADA-WEST ALL STAR

# EDWARDS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



Inuit art collection on display in the Edwards atrium

The Edwards School of Business strives to be a leader in providing dedicated support and services unique to Indigenous business students amongst business schools across Canada.

## Aboriginal Business Administration Certificate (ABAC)

This certificate program offers self-declared Métis, First Nations and Inuit students a gradual step towards a successful career in business with an option to transfer into the Bachelor of Commerce degree program upon completion. In this program, you will receive an introduction to business, including courses in accounting, marketing, finance and human resource management. ABAC also incorporates significant student success activities to prepare you for your future in business.

## Indigenous Business Students' Society (IBSS)

The IBSS strives to create a community for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students in commerce. The group focuses on planning events where tradition is evident, Indigenous students feel motivated to achieve and a community of support is present.

## Rawlinson Centre for Indigenous Business Students

The Rawlinson Centre is one of the only dedicated spaces for Indigenous business students in the country. At the centre, you can find a place to study, attend cultural events, access tutoring services and learn about opportunities for Indigenous business students at USask, including the Math Bridging Program and scholarships.

## Math Bridging Program

If you are interested in a program at USask that requires Foundations of Mathematics 30 and/or Pre-Calculus 30, the Rawlinson Centre can help you upgrade while taking courses in the ABAC program.

## Scholarships

In addition to general USask scholarships, bursaries and awards, Edwards has a number of dedicated awards for self-declared Métis, First Nations and Inuit students. For example, the Rawlco ABAC Awards (valued at \$2,000) are provided to all graduates of the ABAC program.



### BRAYDON CARON

FROM ST. LOUIS, SK, AND A MEMBER OF THE PETER BALLANTYNE CREE NATION STUDYING IN EDWARDS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, MARKETING

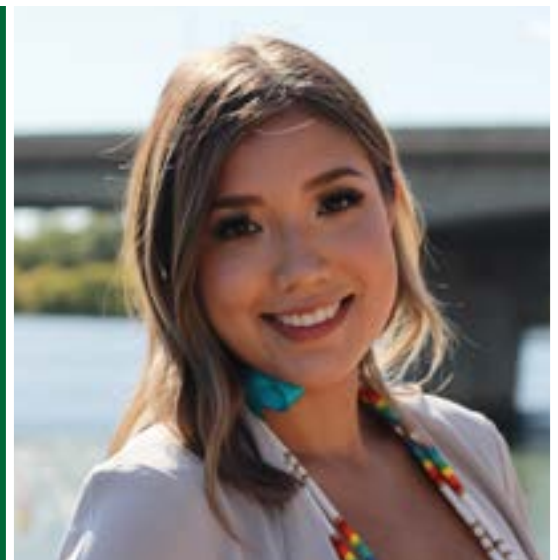
2021 INDIGENOUS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

### JESSICA MIRASTY

FLYING DUST FIRST NATION  
PURSUING A BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN MANAGEMENT  
INDIGENOUS BUSINESS STUDENTS' SOCIETY CO-FOUNDER

*"Attending Edwards School of Business has opened up so many opportunities for me as a young Indigenous student. I have made lasting connections and consider some of my classmates to be some of my best friends. It may be scary to be on your own in university and especially to move away from the reserve like I did — but there are resources there in Edwards and support groups like IBSS to help you succeed and complete your degree."*

Jessica is majoring in management and is currently on an eight-month co-op internship with RBC. She hopes to gain valuable financial knowledge to bring back to Indigenous communities or organizations.





**Hunter McLean, former headperson for the Indigenous Business Students' Society**

## AUBREY-ANNE

### LALIBERTE-PEWAPISCONIAS

CANOE LAKE CREE FIRST NATION, TREATY 10 TERRITORY  
AND LITTLE PINE FIRST NATION, TREATY 6 TERRITORY  
PURSUING A BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN FINANCE  
INDIGENOUS BUSINESS STUDENTS' SOCIETY CO-FOUNDER  
WE MATTER AMBASSADOR OF HOPE  
CANDO NATIONAL STUDENT DIRECTOR

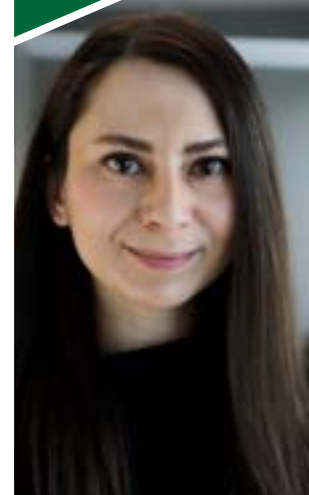
*"The University of Saskatchewan has a large Indigenous student population, one of the largest in Canada, which makes our Indigenous student community so strong. There are like-minded people around me and so many student groups that are here to build community and make campus a place where Indigenous students have a unified voice. I believe that as we insert ourselves into these institutions, we create meaningful change and add to the strength and power of Indigenous peoples. Getting involved, empowering Indigenous students, learning within and outside of our classes, and building a path for the youth to come after us is crucial to building up our people even more."*

Aubrey-Anne Laliberte-Pewapisconias is a proud nehiyaw iskwew from Canoe Lake Cree First Nation on Treaty 10 Territory with paternal roots to Little Pine First Nation on Treaty 6 Territory. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Commerce with a major in Finance and her Global Business Stream Certificate. Within the campus community, Aubrey has been involved as both an executive and general council member on the Indigenous Business Students' Society, the Edwards Business Students' Society, Edwards JDC West, and the Finance Students' Society. Outside of school, Aubrey has held different work and volunteer positions with organizations such as Saskatchewan Indian Gaming



Authority, Cando, We Matter, Indigenous Clean Energy, and the Aboriginal Students' Centre.

In October 2018, Aubrey created the Indigenous Business Students' Society with Jessica Mirasty in the hopes of amplifying Indigenous student voices and to start something to work towards reconciliation and decolonization within the college. The group has won multiple awards since starting and allows for students to have a unified voice, learn from others, be part of the possibilities ahead, develop personal and professional skills, have awareness of resources around them, be advocates, support others, and overall, create a strong community of like-minded Indigenous students throughout USask. The IBSS has made significant changes within the community for Indigenous students and paves a path for the Indigenous youth that come after us.



## ERIN SADER

MÉTIS NATION —  
SASKATCHEWAN

(BComm '20)

2020 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER,  
EDWARDS SCHOOL OF  
BUSINESS

# ENGINEERING

## tawāw! Welcome!

We celebrate and share Indigenous ways of knowing as an integral part of our teaching, learning and research at USask Engineering.

If you are curious, creative, observant or analytical there's a place for you in engineering

## Applying to the College of Engineering

To apply to USask Engineering you need these high school classes: Chemistry 30, Physics 30 and Pre-Calculus 30, with a minimum grade of 70 percent in each. If you don't have those classes or need to improve your marks, there are programs to help.

### ■ Indigenous Student Achievement Pathway (ISAP) STEM Accelerator Certificate

This program is based in USask's College of Arts and Science. It's for students who want to enrol in colleges such as Engineering, but who need high school science courses or who have been away from school more than three years and want to refresh their knowledge.

### ■ Northlands Pre-Engineering and Science

This is a one-year program based in Northern Saskatchewan with courses including math, chemistry and biology. After completing the program, students transition to studying on campus in Saskatoon to complete their degree.

## Student experience

Meet up with our USask Engineering Indigenous Student Ambassadors! They provide academic and peer support and help coordinate student events in the college.

At our events, connect with students in Engineering and other colleges. We will gather to share meals, and learn about scholarships, conferences, co-op opportunities – and have fun!

You can also become part of the USask Chapter of AISES (American Indian Science and Engineering Society) and shape how Indigenous students in STEM can make a difference in the community and encourage Indigenous people to consider STEM careers.

## Get a head start on your career

Build confidence by doing a work term with one of our industry partners who are striving to make their workforces more diverse. Co-operative education is a full-time, paid work placement opportunity and companies are hiring to fill positions with Indigenous students! To participate, connect with Alana Bitsuie, your USask Engineering Indigenous Initiatives Coordinator.



**ALANA BITSUIE**  
RED EARTH FIRST NATION  
(BA'15, MNGD'18)  
INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES  
COORDINATOR AT THE  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

## ADAM MCINNES

SHAUNAVON, SK, WITH MÉTIS ANCESTRY FROM  
THE RED RIVER REGION OF MANITOBA  
PhD STUDENT IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Adam McInnes grew up on a small farm in rural southwestern Saskatchewan and wanted to be a scientist as long as he could remember. His interest in making a difference in people's lives led him to pursue a Doctor of Medicine and now, as a PhD student in biomedical engineering, to conduct research in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. Outside of his research, Adam has numerous interests, but his passions are in promoting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), global health, entrepreneurship and interprofessional education. He performs a lot of volunteer work in these areas, including founding Med Hack Enterprises Inc., serving as the president of the Saskatoon Métis Local 126, as director of the Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce, and mentoring Indigenous students. Due to his work, Adam has received numerous Indspire Scholarships, the University of Saskatchewan MSc Devolved



Graduate Scholarship and the Indigenous Graduate Leadership Award. In 2019, Adam was awarded a prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship of \$150,000 over three years to develop a new gel to promote tissue growth for 3D printing of artificial organs that may one day be used for transplants.

# AGRICULTURE AND BIORESOURCES



**Students in the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy program**

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources works closely with Indigenous Peoples to develop courses that benefit and are supported by Indigenous communities. As a student in any of our programs, you will benefit from hands-on experience in the field and in state-of-the-art facilities. The college is committed to responsibly caring for the environment while finding solutions to meet the demands of a hungry and growing world.

## **Kanawayihetaytan Askiy (Let us take care of the land)**

The Kanawayihetaytan Askiy (KA) program covers a broad range of topic areas specific to the management of lands and resources. The program examines basic environmental, legal and economic aspects of land and resource management in Indigenous communities.

## **Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Certificate**

This program focuses on providing a broad range of topic areas specific to the management of lands and resources. The program examines basic environmental, legal and economic aspects of land and resource management in Indigenous communities. Students will have an opportunity to learn more about Indigenous rights, strategic planning, land use planning, traditional knowledge, resource management, intellectual property law and project management.

Students who complete the certificate program can continue on to the diploma options:

- Indigenous Lands Governance
- Indigenous Resource Management

## **DR. MELISSA ARCAND (PhD)**

MUSKEG LAKE CREE NATION  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND RESEARCHER IN THE  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND BIORESOURCES

Melissa Arcand grew up on a farm on the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation in central Saskatchewan and has had a long-standing interest in soil and its importance as a resource for food production and ecosystem services. She remembers, as a farm kid, following behind her mom or her kokum while they tilled the soil in preparation for spring planting and rolling somersaults with her sister in the soft earth. That relationship with soil and farming eventually led Melissa to become a soil biogeochemist. She received her PhD in soil science from USask and conducted her post-doctoral research with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Her research interests focused on nutrient cycling, carbon sequestration and soil health in agroecosystems. In addition to her research, Melissa teaches and is the academic



advisor for students in the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy program, designed to train students to work in resource management and land governance in Indigenous communities across Canada.



## **KATIE HARRIS**

MÉTIS NATION —  
SASKATCHEWAN  
(BSA'19)

2019 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE  
OF AGRICULTURE  
AND BIORESOURCES,  
AWARD FOR ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE

ENROLLED IN THE MASTER  
OF SCIENCE IN ANIMAL  
SCIENCE PROGRAM

# KINESIOLOGY

Our college is committed to welcoming Indigenous students and providing meaningful engagement opportunities through to graduation and beyond as kinesiology alumni. You will be given many opportunities for hands-on learning, including undergraduate research opportunities and practicum experiences in coaching, administration, adult fitness management and cardiac rehabilitation.

## Indigenous Wellness

Meaningful research opportunities with Indigenous communities are abundant in the college, facilitated by professors that engage students in collaborative projects.

Our faculty have worked closely with Indigenous peoples to develop one of Canada's first undergraduate kinesiology courses in Indigenous wellness:

### KIN 306.3: Introduction to Indigenous Wellness

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to Indigenous wellness. Emphasizing a holistic approach, the course will engage students in the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional aspects of Indigenous health, physical activity and well-being. Examination of the effects of colonialism on Indigenous peoples in Canada provides a background to understanding contemporary wellness.

## DR. HEATHER FOULDS (PhD)

LHEDLI T'ENNEH TRADITIONAL TERRITORY  
IN PRINCE GEORGE, BC  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, COLLEGE OF KINESIOLOGY

*"Enjoy this time of exploration, education and self-determination. You have amazing potential and a community of people and resources to support you. Each step along your journey is empowered by your strength and caring. Though the path may seem endless at times, each small step brings you closer to the next phase of your journey."*

Taanishi, Hello,

I am a Métis woman born and raised in Lhedli T'enneh traditional territory in Prince George, BC. When my Métis family migrated out of the Red River region in the 1880s, they settled in the Bresaylor and Langmeade in the Turtleford and Turtle River regions of Saskatchewan. Since undertaking a faculty position at USask in the College of Kinesiology, I have had the opportunity to return and reconnect with my Métis homelands and more of my family.

In 2007, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of Northern British Columbia. I then moved to Musqueam traditional territory and completed a Master of Science (MSc) in Human Kinetics in 2010 and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Experimental Medicine in 2014 from the University of British Columbia. In 2014, I began a position at the University of Saskatchewan.

I am an assistant professor in the College of Kinesiology at USask, as well as the Heart and Stroke Canada and Canadian Institutes of Health Research Indigenous Early Career Women's Heart and Brain Health Chair. My role includes a combination



of teaching and research. Within the College of Kinesiology, I teach KIN 223: Contemporary Health Issues, which includes perspectives on underlying causes of contemporary health disparities among Indigenous Peoples in Canada, and KIN 250: Projectiles and Implements, which includes Indigenous games and skills. My research focuses on health determinants specific to Indigenous Peoples, focusing on community-based initiatives. In partnership with Saskatoon Métis Local 126, we are evaluating the importance of cultural connections and social support as determinants of cardiovascular disease for Métis people. I am also working with Métis dancing communities in the Saskatoon area to evaluate the exercise intensity and health benefits of Red River Jigging.

I look forward to mentoring, teaching and working with Indigenous students to achieve their goals and successes in academia.

Maarsii.



## DR. LEAH FERGUSON (PhD)

(BA'07, MSc'09, PhD'14)  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
IN THE COLLEGE OF  
KINESIOLOGY

RESEARCH AREAS:  
INDIGENOUS HEALTH,  
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY,  
WOMEN'S HEALTH

# ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE



**Gotta Story! âchimo! (tell a story) event at STM during Indigenous Achievement Week 2020**

St. Thomas More College (STM) is a small and welcoming Catholic liberal arts college on the USask campus in Saskatoon. Registration in STM classes is available to any USask student. STM course credit is counted toward the requirements of Arts and Science degrees and, in many cases, satisfies the elective requirements in other USask degree programs. Arts and Science students can choose to additionally self-declare as STM students to gain access to additional financial and student supports.

Indigenous students will find a great deal of transition support and opportunities for community building at STM, including small class sizes, a welcoming, diverse environment, supportive faculty, student clubs, social events, and additional opportunities for Indigenous student scholarships and bursaries.

In consultation with an Advisory Circle including Elders and other Indigenous leaders, STM has established Canada's first Chair in Indigenous Spirituality and Reconciliation. The Chair sponsors various projects such as guest lectures, conferences, ceremonies focused on Indigenous spirituality and reconciliation through the study of history, culture, traditions, language and understandings of formal or informal religious and/or spiritual practices. STM also has on staff an Indigenous Graduate Student Fellow to engage students and faculty.

In January 2020, STM launched 'Dene Language and Culture: An Introduction,' a distinct course offering on campus, developed by Elder Allan Adam through the Department of Anthropology.

## BAILEE BREWSTER

PRINCE ALBERT, SK  
LAW STUDENT

*"For me, recognizing that you must take time for yourself allows me to stay motivated and excel in my studies. Whether it be spending time with family and friends, or simply taking a break, a balance between academics and my social life is vital to ensure I am able to do my best."*

Bailee Brewster, a Métis woman and 2020 recipient of an Indigenous Achievement Award from St. Thomas More College, is entering her second year of law at the University of Saskatchewan. Her legal interests include Aboriginal law, family law, and criminal law. Upon completing her degree, she plans to return home to provide equitable legal representation for members of her community.



## HARRY LAFOND

MUSKEG LAKE CREE  
NATION

(MED '86)

STM SCHOLAR IN  
INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

# LAW

Established in 1912, the College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan is the oldest law school in Western Canada, exemplifying a tradition of excellence in teaching, research and innovation.

With a strong history in Indigenous legal education, developing strength in dispute resolution and access to justice, and leading emerging scholars in the fields of constitutional law, health law, criminal law and commercial law, the college also offers a highly regarded moot program, joint degree programs and global exchange opportunities.

## Indigenous Law Centre

The Indigenous Law Centre (formerly the Native Law Centre) is an international leader in legal education for Indigenous people and led the way for the development of the discipline of Aboriginal law. Our Summer Program, a pre-law course, was a major entry point into law for many Indigenous students. We are in the process of developing new certificate programs which will expand our course offerings, replacing the Summer Program which was last delivered in 2019. Until those programs are in place, the College of Law will continue to provide programming to Indigenous law students. We will also continue to be a place that supports and publishes research on Indigenous and Aboriginal laws.

## MARILYN POITRAS

INDIAN HEAD, SK

*"Learning happens everywhere. Pay attention. Be kind to yourself first. It will spill out onto others."*

Marilyn was raised in southern Saskatchewan in her Michif (French Cree) father's family and her Irish Scottish mother's family. It was at the age of eight that she decided she wanted to be a lawyer and at 19, with a year of university behind her, she first worked in the field of law as a Native court worker. She decided to apply to study law while working as a paralegal for legal aid, and earned her LL.B. at the University of Saskatchewan ('94), as well as a master's degree at Harvard Law School ('95).

Since graduating, Marilyn went on to be a constitutional lawyer for the Government of

Saskatchewan, litigated, taught as a professor, negotiated self-government and Treaty implementation and advised on ancestral domain issues in Central Mindanao, Philippines. She has worked for provincial and national commissions, lectured internationally, created education programs for law and land management, always including traditional knowledge. She is keenly interested in mental and emotional health, in spirituality and in transformation. Marilyn is a student of Indigenous laws, practices and philosophies, and works with Knowledge Keepers nationally and internationally.



## ELDER MARIA CAMPBELL

CULTURAL ADVISOR AND SESSIONAL LECTURER, COLLEGE OF LAW  
OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA

Maria Campbell is an oral historian, writer, playwright, filmmaker and activist, and has worked as a volunteer with women and children in crisis for over 45 years. She is a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and speaks Cree, Saulteaux and Michif.

Maria has published seven books, including *Halfbreed*, originally published in 1973 and rereleased in 2019, and *Keetsahnak, Our Missing and Murdered Indigenous Sisters*, co-edited with Kim Anderson and Christi Belcourt, published in 2019. She is an Officer of the Order of Canada, and has received numerous awards and honours, among them seven honorary

doctorates with her most recent Honorary Doctor of Letters awarded by the University of Saskatchewan in 2021, a National Aboriginal Achievement Award, a Trudeau Fellowship and a Stanley Knowles Scholarship.

Maria was the National Advising Elder for the Walking With Our Sisters commemorative art project. At present she is the Elder in Virtual Residence at the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research at Athabasca University, and the Cultural Advisor for the College of Law and Indigenous Law Centre at the University of Saskatchewan.



## ANDRE BEAR

CANOE LAKE FIRST NATION  
(BEd'19: ITEP)

COMBINED LAW AND  
MASTERS OF BUSINESS  
ADMIN STUDENT

2019 INDIGENOUS STUDENT  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
WINNER, COLLEGE OF  
EDUCATION, AWARD FOR  
LEADERSHIP

# MEDICINE

The College of Medicine is committed to increasing the number of Indigenous physicians in Saskatchewan and Canada and has developed programs and initiatives to encourage and support students interested in this field.

## Pathways to Medicine

Each year, seats in the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree program are reserved for applicants of Indigenous ancestry. Consideration is open to candidates who meet the minimum standards of admission who reside in Canada, with preference given to residents of Saskatchewan, the Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

## Indigenous Student Mentorship Program

If you are interested in medicine and would like some exposure before deciding whether or not medicine is right for you, the college offers Indigenous students the opportunity for mentorship. Meet medical students, doctors and other health care workers and experience their work first-hand. Upon request, we connect current medical students with Indigenous high school students in a mentorship capacity.



**Dr. Amiée Prefontaine (MD'21)**

## College of Medicine Pathway Support for Indigenous Students

The College of Medicine offers annual scholarships to continuing students of Indigenous ancestry in premedical studies. Candidates for Pathway Support for Indigenous Students must be registered in a minimum of 24 credit units (September-April) and working towards a four-year baccalaureate degree program at an accredited Saskatchewan post-secondary institution.

## JACQUELINE NOKUSIS

PEEPEEKISIS CREE NATION, TREATY 4 TERRITORY  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY GRADUATE  
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE STUDENT, CLASS OF 2023

When everything becomes overwhelming and school begins to feel meaningless, remind yourself why you're there. When I'm struggling, I remind myself that my work has the potential to impact others in a good way and if I can empower or uplift other Indigenous people, my efforts mean something.

My children and spouse have sacrificed a lot over the years, and their ongoing support gives me strength. I'm a Cree woman and my values are based on the Indigenous worldviews taught to me by my relatives and community members. The compassion I have for others, and the respect I have for our traditional ways, continues to guide and motivate me through difficult times. As a young adult, I made the important decision to pursue my life-long ambition of post-secondary education. In 2017, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Immunology from USask. Following the footsteps of my mother Carla Nokusis, a USask College of Law graduate (Class of '02), I aspired to pursue a career that would benefit the lives of Indigenous people.



After witnessing the impacts of racism and discrimination in the health care system, I focused my efforts on obtaining a Doctor of Medicine to better challenge the systemic barriers that prevent Indigenous people from accessing equitable care. I'm passionate and committed to giving back to Indigenous communities through my future efforts in medicine.



## DR. KATE ELLIOT, MD

MÉTIS NATION OF GREATER VICTORIA  
(MD '19)

2018 INDIGENOUS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP

# PHARMACY AND NUTRITION



The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition's mission is to develop skilled and caring pharmacy and nutrition professionals and scientists, and to create knowledge through excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, outreach and engagement for the health of individuals and communities. Pharmacy and nutrition are dynamic, challenging disciplines, committed to the promotion of health and the treatment of disease. Our programs provide students with the essential knowledge and skills

to be leaders, discoverers and contributors in their professions.

To develop effective practitioners, the college provides students a series of opportunities in various communities throughout Saskatchewan and beyond to gain hands-on experience and develop skills in cultural competency. The college also offers an education equity program to maintain and increase the number of Indigenous students in its programs.



## CHELSEA LUSSIER

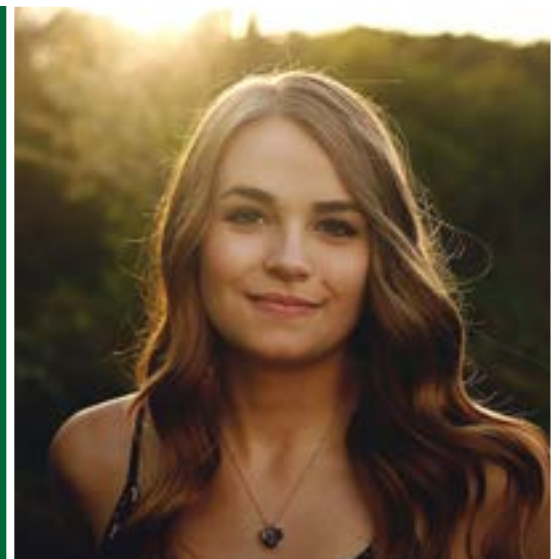
MÉTIS NATION —  
SASKATCHEWAN

2020 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE  
OF PHARMACY AND  
NUTRITION, AWARD FOR  
LEADERSHIP

## LAUREN THOMPSON

NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK  
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND NUTRITION

My name is Lauren Thompson, and I am from North Battleford, Saskatchewan. I am a 2000's baby and come from a family of four. Some of my hobbies include baking, cooking, scrapbooking, and singing. I also love to travel, go to the gym, and get together with friends and family. This fall I am going into my third year of nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan. I chose the field of dietetics because I have always wanted to work in the health care field and be able to help people. Additionally, I have a love for science, food and nutrition that has developed over many years. I love learning about nutrition, and I also love telling others about everything I learn. Overall, I am very excited about my future profession as a Registered Dietitian and am extremely passionate about the science of nutrition. I would tell any prospective students that my experience thus far in university has been amazing and I love getting



to study something I am passionate about. I would definitely recommend pursuing a post-secondary education to anyone who has been considering it!

# DENTISTRY

The College of Dentistry offers a fully accredited program with early hands-on dental training and clinical experience, and small class sizes, ensuring individual attention from our team of faculty members.

The college embraces diversity in all forms and is dedicated to providing an environment where students, faculty and staff are fully supported so that they are able to realize their full potential during their time at the college.

The college is committed to recruiting applicants that reflect the cultural diversity of Saskatchewan's population and is dedicated to

increasing the success of Indigenous applicants who wish to obtain a dental education. To support this, the college has allocated 17 per cent of available seats in the admission of Indigenous students.

Woven into the fabric of the college is its commitment to community outreach and engagement to provide dental care to neighbourhoods and equity seeking groups of Saskatoon. The college is the only school at the university that offers direct patient care through student dental clinics in Saskatoon, and, as of 2020, in Prince Albert.



## ASHLYN SCHWAB

MÉTIS NATION —  
SASKATCHEWAN  
(BSc'17)

2020 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE  
OF DENTISTRY, AWARD  
FOR LEADERSHIP

# VETERINARY MEDICINE



The Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN) serves as the premier centre of veterinary education, research and clinical expertise for all of Western Canada. This program prepares you to meet the needs of animal health care in Western Canada and beyond. Our curriculum allows you to pursue personal interest areas including small, large or exotic animal care, surgery, medical imaging, anesthesiology, pathology, wildlife medicine or animal-human health-related issues — just to name a few.

The college continues to explore new ways of

growing community engagement, such as offering short-term intensive service learning rotations in northern Saskatchewan communities to provide basic veterinary care. During these rotations, veterinary students also learn more about Indigenous cultures from community elders and take part in outreach education programs at northern schools.

Seats in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program are available for Indigenous students from British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the territories through the Education Equity Program.



## CORAL WILLIAMS

INTERLAKE BAND  
IN MANITOBA

2020 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER,  
WESTERN COLLEGE OF  
VETERINARY MEDICINE,  
AWARD FOR ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE

# GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES

Consider furthering your education after completing an undergraduate degree by pursuing graduate studies. Students pursue graduate studies for many reasons: for the love of education, to create new knowledge, to change your career path, and to help others. Join us in seeking solutions to the world's greatest challenges by pursuing graduate studies at USask.

As one of Canada's 15 leading research-intensive universities, USask offers some of the best facilities and analytical tools in the country, internationally acclaimed faculty and a unique, highly collaborative research environment where connections are encouraged across traditional disciplinary boundaries.

USask is committed to new and enhanced graduate programs, stemming from areas of research excellence and supporting growth in areas of local and global importance. USask is ranked #1 in Canada in the study of water resources, and top 5 in Canada in agricultural science, chemical engineering, energy science and engineering, environmental science and engineering, materials science and engineering,



public administration and veterinary science. (2021 ARWU Global Ranking of Academic Subjects). Other areas of special importance USask is known for include synchrotron sciences, One Health and the engagement and scholarship of Indigenous Peoples.



**JOHN BIRD**  
PEGUIS FIRST NATION  
PURSUING A PhD  
IN HISTORY  
2020 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE  
OF GRADUATE AND  
POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES

## ANDREW HARTMAN

ELROSE, SK  
PURSUING A PhD IN APPLIED SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

*"After seeing my initial university average, no one would guess that I could be successful in pursuing a PhD. Be persistent and don't worry about taking longer to achieve your dreams. Give space for your dreams to transform and grow; by the end they might look slightly different than how you originally imagined."*

Andrew Hartman (They/Them) is a proud queer, non-binary, Métis individual born and raised here on Treaty Six Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. They are the first in their family to complete a university degree, obtaining both a Bachelor of Psychology (2014) and Master of Leadership in Post-secondary Education (2019) here at USask. Their national award-winning master's thesis focused on understanding the role of shame in student persistence and help-seeking in undergraduate students. Professionally, Andrew has always loved interacting with other humans; over the years they have worked as an educator, facilitator, motivational speaker, academic advisor, project leader, and a health and wellness coach. Now, pursuing a PhD in Applied Social Psychology, Andrew is researching the process of healing in 2SLGBTQ survivors of gender-based violence. Proud of their



contributions, throughout their studies, Andrew has been the leader on local and national applied research projects, the Hub Project Team Leader for the Universities Grad HUB, and Lead Program Evaluator for the Social Innovation Lab at USask, a community-based gender lab on the prairies. This past year, Andrew also founded a social enterprise, *Psystem*, an evaluation, health and wellness firm. *Psystem* is the product of an idea that brought together the collective wisdom from their education, research, experience, institution, and personal inner growth.

# NURSING

Welcome to the College of Nursing! The college has deep roots in Saskatchewan and is a leader in nursing education and research in the country and beyond. Our commitment to rural and remote community engagement and our strong relationships with Indigenous communities impact our approaches to nursing education curriculum and student experiences. We are proud to have the largest number of self-declared Indigenous nursing students in any nursing program in the country.

## University of Saskatchewan Community of Aboriginal Nursing (UCAN)

More Indigenous people are needed in healing careers, working towards balanced healthy communities. With that goal in mind, through the UCAN program, Aboriginal nursing advisors in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert work with students at all sites to build community, provide advisement and support. Wherever you are on your pathway to a nursing career, you can contact a UCAN advisor to help you on your way.



## Learn Where You Live

The college's Learn Where You Live educational model provides accessible and quality programming to prepare nursing students for the evolving needs and changes of our health care system at our six locations throughout the province:

- Saskatoon
- Regina
- Prince Albert
- Yorkton
- Île-à-la-Crosse
- La Ronge

## SHANIA PETIT

**BUFFALO NARROWS AND LA RONGE  
(BSN'18)  
REGISTERED NURSE**

My name is Shania Petit. I am a proud First Nation woman, born and raised in Northern Saskatchewan. I am originally from Buffalo Narrows, however, I moved to La Ronge at a young age so my mom could obtain her Education degree. I consider both places home and am thankful for my upbringing. Growing up, I had many strong female Indigenous role models who emphasized the importance of education.

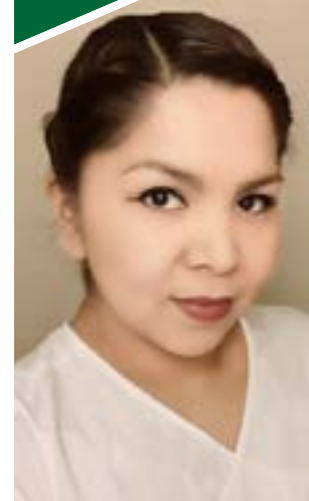
My educational journey was non-traditional. Throughout high school, I seemed to focus on everything but studying and my grades reflected that in the end. Upon graduation, most of my classmates went on to post-secondary while I upgraded my high school classes. I did so through the Adult Education Program at Northlands College (NLC) for almost a year. I quickly gained confidence in my educational abilities, which led me to pursue a career in nursing. I obtained my BSN Degree at home via NLC's Distance Education Program through the University of Saskatchewan. Living in my home community enabled me to remain with my biggest support system, my family and friends.

University challenged me to step out of my comfort zone, which led to some pretty exciting opportunities



that I never would have dreamed of. I earned travel nursing scholarships to both Tromsø, Norway and Uganda, Africa that were absolutely life-changing. I am now a Registered Nurse with a newfound passion for global health nursing and travel.

I highly encourage anyone interested in attending USask or any post-secondary institution to apply. The possibilities are endless, and everyone is rooting for you to succeed. My advice to prospective students would be to use fear to your advantage and motivation to achieve your goals. Don't be too hard on yourself, and dream big!



## LISA TOURANGEAU

**COTE FIRST NATION  
2021 INDIGENOUS  
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNER, COLLEGE  
OF NURSING, AWARD FOR  
LEADERSHIP**

# STUDENT GROUPS



**USask Chapter of AISES co-founders, Micheala Merasty, who is Woodland Cree from Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation and Pelican Narrows, and Julia Doucette-Garr, from English River First Nation on Treaty 10 Territory**

There are more than 130 campus clubs, college student associations and student organizations you can be a part of or receive services from when you are a USask student.

## **University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU)**

The USSU represents all full-time, part-time, and off-campus undergraduates. The USSU is a non-profit corporation governed by an elected four-member Student Executive and University Students' Council. The USSU represents undergraduate students' academic and non-academic interests and strives to enhance the student experience. The USSU operates a number of centres, including the Women's, Pride, Help, and Food Centre. The USSU centres are open to all students and provide resources, support, and services in a warm, positive atmosphere.

Several USSU committees review issues throughout the year and provide recommendations for action,

including the Indigenous Student Advisory Committee, which seeks to advise the USSU on initiatives and opportunities to strengthen the relationships between Indigenous students and the university community through communications, campaigns and relationships.

Visit [ussu.ca](http://ussu.ca) to learn more about what services the USSU offers.

## **Indigenous Students' Union (ISU)**

The ISU operates at the University of Saskatchewan through partnerships with local businesses and organizations. Those partnerships strengthen the ISU activities, which are driven and empowered by the people they serve on campus. The ISU is an open-minded council and encourages anyone to join us as they set out to empower and engage the Indigenous students at USask!



**MEDALLION  
GIFTED TO  
REGAN  
RATT-MISPONAS  
BY AIDEN  
PEWAPISCONIAS,  
ITEP STUDENT**

## **REGAN RATT-MISPONAS**

**PINEHOUSE LAKE, SK (LAC LA RONGE INDIAN BAND)  
2019-2020 UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
STUDENTS' UNION (USSU) PRESIDENT**

*"You are needed now more than ever. We are resilient people, so practise your resiliency wherever your path takes you."*

Regan started attending the University of Saskatchewan in 2015. He's in the ITEP Program in the College of Education and is a member of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band. Regan spent two years as ISC President and is honoured to have served as the President of the USSU, being the fifth Indigenous person in this role since the organization's beginnings over 110 years ago. It is said Regan comes from Pinehouse, SK. He will remind you of this every time he sees you.



# OUR STORIES



**Autumn LaRose-Smith and Peter Stoicheff hold up MOU between USSU and USask**

## **USask, USSU collaborate to tackle oppression and racism**

The USask Office of the President and the USSU committed to formalize, expand and enhance their relationship, and work together in a co-ordinated way to dismantle institutional structures, policies and processes that contribute to inequalities faced by marginalized groups. The memorandum of understanding (MOU), which was signed by outgoing USSU President Autumn LaRose-Smith, the first Indigenous woman to be elected to the position, and USask president Peter Stoicheff, was announced at USask's 4th Annual māmowī āsohētētān Internal Truth and Reconciliation Forum on March 26, 2021. Along with the recent appointment of Dr. Verna St. Denis (PhD) as special advisor to the president on anti-racism and anti-oppression, the agreement is one aspect of the recent work USask outlined to fight racism and oppression at the university.

## **USask partnership launches Indigenous Research Award (INDRA) program**

Indigenous undergraduate students are invited to apply to the Mitacs Indigenous Research Award (INDRA) program coordinated through the Office of the Vice-Dean Indigenous, College of Arts and Science and the Office of the Vice-President Research. Mitacs INDRA students are paired with faculty mentors to conduct fully funded, student-led research projects that connect their academic interests to big questions, community priorities, and Indigenous perspectives, while building skills for success in continuing studies, graduate school and research-focused careers.

## **New USask program aims to build cultural competency**

The Office of the Vice-Provost Indigenous Engagement is humbled to be designing a new program in service of Indigenous youth in Saskatoon high schools called Building Intercultural Resilience Mentorship (BIRM). This program aims to connect USask students from all colleges and backgrounds with Indigenous youth for regular programming which will build the cultural competency, sense of identity, and academic skills of both mentors and mentees.

## **USask group unites Indigenous students in science, technology, engineering and math**

A group co-founded by two USask undergraduates aims to unite and empower Indigenous students studying in the sciences.

Started in January 2019, the USask Chapter of AISES Canada is the first student chapter of the Canadian Indigenous Science and Engineering Society (.caISES) in Saskatchewan.

In 2021, the chapter will be gathering Indigenous student members from diverse USask colleges to chart a vision for activities that connect students, Indigenous STEM professionals, allies, Elders and Knowledge Keepers around projects that foster authentic Indigenous student engagement in STEM careers, research, and cultures of creativity and ingenuity.

Julia Ducette-Garr is the incoming student president for the chapter, with staff mentors Dr. Sandy Bonny and Alana Bitsuie, in the Colleges of Arts and Science and Engineering, respectively.



## **BEADED USASK CHAPTER OF AISES MEDALLION**

CREATED BY  
TASHEENA PANIPEKEESICK  
FROM ZAGIMÈ  
ANISHINABEK FIRST  
NATION IN TREATY 4  
TERRITORY

**ADMISSIONS.USASK.CA**

**RECRUITMENT AND ADMISSIONS**

**105 Administration Place  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A2  
admissions@usask.ca**

