

# **August News and Events**

First Nations University of Canada Prince Albert • Saskatoon • Regina

Summer 2013

#### Dr. Bourassa Appointed to Royal College



The First Nations University of Canada would like to recognize Dr. Carrie Bourassa for receiving one of the Public Appointment seats on the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. As a public member Dr. Bourassa will be taking part in the development of policy and procedure on research and the formation of health and development standards for Canada's medical community. This appointment will allow Dr. Bourassa to influence and direct the medical community in Canada by forming the

underlying principles of research, education and policy.

This appointment is an extension of duties Dr. Bourassa already holds as a member of the Royal College's Aboriginal Health Advisory Committee, a spot she will continue to hold alongside her responsibilities as an Appointed Public Member of the Royal College.

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### Dr. Bob Kayseas receives SSHRC Grant

What do the Canadian natural resource sector, First Nations University of Canada, First Nations reserves, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) have in common? Dr. Bob Kayseas. As the latest recipient of an SSHRC Partnership Development Grant, Dr. Kayseas, in partnership with Dr. Pete Moroz from the U of R, will be looking at the development of new tools and theories to help create Strategic Alliances (SA) between natural resource development companies and First Nations reserves that will further the social and economic goals of both parties. This research, and the development of the practical tools and policies, will be centered at FNUniv's School of Business

and Public Administration and should lead to new possibilities for resource development and for FNUniv Students. Not only will Dr. Kayseas's project work towards sustainable and socially acceptable development of natural resources, but will work down from the major ideas and theories to the practical application of a mentoring project for students. This will result in a group of students who will be well versed in continuing the goals of the research project beyond the grant. The goal is to create a sustained economic and social development for First Nations reserves. The run time for the project is 2 years but should result in a long term development of programming here at FNUniv that can be shared between reserves, as those that initially participate are positioned to help educate those that come later.



#### **Summer Road Show for Northern Recruitment**

This summer, Steven Swan hit the road for FNUniv Northern recruitment. Steven is a recent graduate of FNUniv with a B.Ed. He has been getting the ball rolling for a full time recruiting presence for the northern parts of the Prairie Province. "Being able to speak Cree and having grown up in the north means I can connect with these potential students because of the shared experience. I know where they are coming from and what obstacles they face." Steven is focusing on establishing the basic connections needed



to arrange recruitment visits, "Just finding out who you need to talk to is sometimes tough, and then when you do find out sometimes communication becomes an issue.

Basic tools we take for granted, phone, internet, roads, are not dependable."

Steven receiving his B.Ed from Dr. Kayseas

One of the benefits is the people he gets to meet, "I really enjoy making those connections, telling people about the community we have at the university. A lot of them don't even know that we have a northern campus that they can go to, that they don't have to travel all the way to Regina to get their education." Steven also sees the development of more community based programs as a future way recruitment can be expanded, especially for the communities where flying in is the only option.

"Staying near their families is a big priority for a lot of these kids, and that makes my job worthwhile and important. I'm able to bring the university's message to the folks that can benefit the most from it."

## Walking With Our Sisters Exhibit Coming to FNUniv, December 4-20, 2013

Walking With Our Sisters (WWOS) is a new travelling art instillation with an important message: The hundreds of missing Aboriginal women in Canada are not forgotten. Over 1600 vamps were submitted from all around the world, to serve as a memorial for the multitudes of Aboriginal women that go missing each year without apparent care or concern from authorities. FNUniv Gallery and Collections Manager, and local organizer for the WWOS tour, Katherine Boyer feels this instillation "is an opportunity for many of us to come together to heal but also to continue a dialogue about this epidemic in our Nation."

The first part of WWOS project was the submissions of moccasin vamps. Katherine organized a number of sessions at FNUniv Regina Campus for those interested in submitting to the project to help them create their vamps. This was only the first part of Katherine's involvement as she will be organizing other community events to help raise awareness and to continue the dialogue beyond the art.



Mocassin Vamp Submission from FNUNiv Community
As a contributing artist Katherine shared: "The work
that I have created should be seen side by side with
all of the other vamps. To be one amongst the many,
and to tell a personal story, is where the honesty and
power comes from in this body of work."
Learn more about WWOS:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/331569696926132/



# First Nations University of Canada Celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Click the image for the events page

On Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013, FNUniv will be celebrating ten years in the Regina Campus building. The day will start with a Pipe Ceremony at 8AM and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary recognition and announcement ceremonies will start at 10:30AM. A free barbeque lunch will be provided after the festivities.

10 years ago, on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003, the Saskatchewan Indian Federate College officially opened the doors on the Regina Campus building and announced the new name for the federated college as First Nations University of Canada. The building is a visual testament to the value and importance that First Nations place on education and stands as a symbol of tradition, higher learning, and future prosperity.



#### **Traditional Student Welcome Back Pow wow**



FNUniv will be welcoming back its students on September 12<sup>th</sup> with a Traditional Pow wow at its Regina Campus. All attendees of the Pow wow will be welcome at the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events, including the lunch. The first 100 registered dancers and first 6 drums registered will receive a monetary gift.

Grand Entry starts at 12:30PM and Retiring of Colours is at 4:30PM. All are welcome.

This event is organized by Roland Kaye, the Elder's Helper at the Regina Campus, and he can be contacted at (306) 790-5950 ext. 3129 or via email at <a href="mailto:rkay@fnuniv.ca">rkay@fnuniv.ca</a>



Click the image for the events page



### Contemporary Elder Hazel Dixon Visits the FNUniv Health and Science Camp



Contemporary Elder Hazel Dixon joined the campers to share her wealth of knowledge. An experiential expert on buffalo, she also spoke to the kids about the lessons of the tipi and on traditional medicines.

Elder Hazel's first words on the buffalo were to caution against thinking of them as pets, "They should always be treated as a wild animal, with the respect that deserves." Her talk started with describing the size of the



original herds, pre-contact, that would have been over 70kms long and 35kms wide as they roamed the Great Plains. Elder Hazel's years as a ranch owner allowed her to bring a

number of hands-on displays, including a buffalo skull painted with traditional Sioux 'Buffalo Tracks,' fur from various parts of the buffalo, and several different horns. The children were kept entertained as she spoke of calf births, when buffalo are killed for their meat, how they were killed (from pre-contact to modern time), the traditional uses and spirituality associated with the buffalo, and ended speaking about White Buffalo Calf Woman, and the white buffalo 'Miracle.'

### **International Indigenous Mentoring in Health Research**

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the New Zealand Health Research Council (HRC), and the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) recently held the Indigenous Mentorship Workshop. It was "designed to solicit and provide advice to the three research organizations on increasing research capacity through the development of a mentorship program aimed at attracting, retaining, and better supporting emerging Indigenous health researchers with the ultimate goal of producing a cadre of Indigenous researchers poised to address health problems affecting Indigenous peoples in their host countries." Dr. Bourassa said she was "very honoured to be a part of the Canadian delegation, it was amazing to work with researchers who I have previously referenced and built my own work with."

The conference focused heavily on the idea of building a series of policies and procedures that would create solid and long lasting opportunities for Aboriginal people to enter into the health and sciences field and be able to bring



their unique perspectives and backgrounds to address the growing health concerns in their populations. "We've run out of time. Canadian Aboriginal people experience higher chronic infectious disease than the rest of Canada," and Dr. Bourassa feels that it is highly beneficial to combine and share our research and education resources across the three countries. She found it both remarkable and encouraging that "there were no disagreements; everyone at the conference was on the same page in recognizing the severe issues facing the Aboriginal populations of the world."

Left to Right: Drs. Malcolm King (IAPH Science Director), Alain Beaudet (CIHR President), Carrie Bourassa and Lynn Wells, Jan 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013.



#### **HR Corner**



Paul Cormier - Indigenous Studies

**Paul Cormier** is a member of Lake Helen First Nations - Red Rock Indian Band from Northern Ontario and is a member of the Wolf Clan. He grew up off reserve in Nipigon and has worked with a number of Aboriginal groups across Canada including the far north. Paul began his work life as a teacher and educator before beginning a fifteen year career in the federal government with the Parks Canada Agency. He holds a Social Sciences diploma from Dawson College, a B. Ed. from McGill University, and a Masters in Conflict Analysis and Management from Royal Roads University specializing in organizational conflict. Paul is a PhD Candidate in Peace and Conflict Studies at the Mauro Centre for Peace and Justice, U of M and is the winner of a SSHRC fellowship. His research interests are in traditional Indigenous peace building, land disputes related to Indigenous Peoples & land rights, process for peace building in Indigenous contexts. His thesis is titled *Kinoo'amaadawaad Megwaa Doodamawaad – They Are Learning With Each Other While They Are Doing: The Indigenous Living Peace Methodology*.



Dr. Tara Turner – Social Work

**Dr. Tara Turner** hails from the Kootenay region of BC, receiving her undergraduate degree in Psychology in Southern Alberta, and her PhD in Psychology at the UofS. Her dissertation was titled *Re-searching Métis Identity: My Métis Family Story* going all the way back to her 5<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, Philip Turnor, who was the first surveyor hired for the Hudson's Bay Company and for whom Turnor Lake is named. Her research is focused on identity, health, motherhood, parenting, family and child welfare, and in applying Indigenous thinking to those areas. Dr. Turner will be joining our Social Work Department in the fall.



Dr. Andrew Miller- Indigenous Studies

**Dr. Andrew Miller** is originally from Old Saybrook, CT, USA but has lived all over the USA and some time in Spain. He has a BA in Geography from the UofT at Austin, a MS in Forestry from Northern Arizona U and a PhD from the UofM in Natural Resource and Environmental Management. His research has ranged from ethnoecological, documenting Rarámuri knowledge of forest birds and changing environments of the Sierra Madre Occidental, to community and Indigenous Knowledges, such as working with the Elders of Pikangikum First Nation in Ontario, exploring Anishinaabe knowledge and values related to forest fire and how those teachings could be applied to community based forestry. His teaching experience is between the UofM and Menno Simons College where he taught Indigenous based classes on a number of subjects. Dr. Miller will be joining our Indigenous Studies department.



# **Upcoming Events**

# Northern Campus

#### Student Orientation - Tuesday September 3, 2013

Helping new students get started on their academic journey in a good way.

For more info contact Grace McLeod at (306) 790-5950 EXT 7200 or Email: gmcleod@fnuniv.ca

## Saskatoon Campus

#### Student Orientation - Tuesday September 3, 2013

Helping new students get started on their academic journey in a good way.

For more info contact Grace McLeod at (306) 790-5950 EXT 7200 or Email: gmcleod@fnuniv.ca

## Regina Campus

#### Student Orientation - Tuesday August 21-22, 2013

Helping new students get started on their academic journey in a good way.

For more info contact Grace McLeod at (306) 790-5950 EXT 7200 or Email: gmcleod@fnuniv.ca

### Traditional Pow wow to welcome back students - Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Starting at 8 AM

Pipe Ceremony at 8AM, Grand Entry at 12:30PM.

Pow wow participants are welcome to take part in the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities.

For More Info Contact: Roland Kaye at (306) 790-5950 EXT 3129 Email: rkaye@fnuniv.ca

## FNUniv 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 starting at 8AM

Join us in celebrating 10 years as First Nations University of Canada, 10 years of the new Regina campus building, and 37 years as an Indigenous post secondary education institution.

The day begins at 8:00AM with a Pipe Ceremony, a barbecue lunch at noon, and the Grand Entry for the Welcome Back Pow wow at 12:30PM. The event is free and open to the public.

Details available at: www.fnuniv.ca/events

Northern Campus

For More Info Contact: Racelle Kooy at (306) 790-5950 EXT 2600 Email: rkooy@fnuniv.ca

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Saskatoon Campus



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