



# First Nations University of Canada

*tradition innovation leadership*

## Media Release

### **FNUniv's Annual Wiseman Contest Comes Full Circle**

June 16, 2015 - The Wiseman Mathematics Contest, North America's first math competition for Indigenous students, has journeyed full circle to the Kahkewistahaw First Nation where it was originally launched by First Nations University of Canada (FNUniv) in 2008.

FNUniv is thrilled to present the Grade 5 class at Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School with one of four Elder Ken Goodwill Memorial Awards, given to the schools whose students have achieved the highest scores; they share this special distinction with three other classes in two Ontario schools. The school is also celebrating six individual students who earned the top three scores for each of the three grades.

"It's very exciting to celebrate this accomplishment with the Kahkewistahaw First Nation community since it's where the contest got its start," said Dr. Bob Kayseas, FNUniv Associate Vice-President, Academic. "It's certainly rewarding for all of us at FNUniv, and especially for Dr. Arzu Sardarli, who developed the contest and continues to oversee and champion this initiative."

"Math and English Language Arts are the two most important education subjects a child can learn," according to Evan Taypotat, Principal of Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School. "At our school, we take pride in ensuring that our students are taught these to the best of our ability. It is an honour winning these awards and it gives our school something to build off of for the coming years."

"Our inherent and Treaty right to education is our priority as educators, parents and leaders," said Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Vice-Chief Bobby Cameron. "Today signifies that our next generation will ensure that Treaty education will continue to flourish."

The annual competition was designed to encourage students in First Nations schools to study and learn math in a competitive environment in order to sharpen their math skills. The contest doesn't have any registration fees, thereby removing one of the biggest hurdles First Nations schools often find standing in their way of participating. Since its inception, the contest has grown steadily in profile and participants and, just last year, it expanded to include Grade 6 students for the first time.

This year, approximately 800 students from Grades 4, 5 and 6, representing 31 First Nations schools from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario registered in the contest.

The 2014 Wiseman Mathematics Contest – Elder Ken Goodwill Memorial winners are:

- **Ma-tah-ha-mao School (Ontario) - Grade 4**  
**Elder Ken Goodwill Memorial Award**
- **Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School (Saskatchewan) - Grade 5**  
**Elder Ken Goodwill Memorial Award**
- **Ma-tah-ha-mao School (Ontario) - Grade 6**  
**Elder Ken Goodwill Memorial Award**
- **Migisi Sahgaigan School (Ontario) – Grade 6**  
**Elder Ken Goodwill Memorial Award**

NOTE: *High-resolution photographs will be available after the event*

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# Wiseman Mathematics Contest Awards 2014 – 2015

## Grade 4

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Student	School	Community	Province
Jericho Mack	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Student	School	Community	Province
Kenley Chickeness	Chief Poundmaker School	Poundmaker	Saskatchewan
Logan Chookomoolin	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario
Makayla Cannepotatoe	Chief Taylor School	Onion Lake	Saskatchewan
Sage Roberts	Bells Point Elementary School	Air Ronge	Saskatchewan
Trinity Alexson	Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School	Kahkewistahaw	Saskatchewan

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Student	School	Community	Province
Amira Louison	Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School	Kahkewistahaw	Saskatchewan
Bailey Gardner	Migisi Sahgaigan School	Migisi Sahgaigan	Ontario
Kalan Mckay	Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School	Kahkewistahaw	Saskatchewan
Maddy Hughie	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario

## Grade 5

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Student	School	Community	Province
Armani Alexson	Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School	Kahkewistahaw	Saskatchewan
Jo Louison	Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School	Kahkewistahaw	Saskatchewan

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Province</b>
Christine Green	Migisi Sahgaigan School	Migisi Sahgaigan	Ontario
Noah Hunter	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario
Trinity P. Alexson	Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School	Kahkewistahaw	Saskatchewan

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Province</b>
Casey Chocan	Chief Taylor School	Onion Lake	Saskatchewan
Rylin Wapass	Chief Taylor School	Onion Lake	Saskatchewan

**Grade 6****1<sup>st</sup> Place**

<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Province</b>
Samuel Pitchense	Migisi Sahgaigan School	Migisi Sahgaigan	Ontario

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Province</b>
Marie Potts	Kitaskinaw School	Enoch	Alberta

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Province</b>
Aurora Gull	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario
Daylene Whitehead	Clarence Jaycox School	Red Earth	Alberta
Michelle Hunter	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario
Shaylee Whiteford	Amisk Community School	Lac La Biche	Alberta
Sundance Mack Matthews	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario

## Elder Ken Goodwill Memorial Certificate

<b>Grade</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Province</b>
Grade 4	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario
Grade 5	Chief Kahkewistahaw Community School	Kahkewistahaw	Saskatchewan
Grade 6	Ma-tah-ha-mao School	Peawanuck	Ontario
Grade 6	Migisi Sahgaigan School	Migisi Sahgaigan	Ontario