



First Nations University of Canada

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First Nations University of Canada Regina Campus Begins Renovation to Offer Greater Range of Indigenous Educational Experiences

August 4, 2015 – The First Nations University of Canada (FNUUniv) will be starting renovations at its Regina Campus this week to expand into all four floors of its landmark Regina Campus.

“This is an exciting time for the First Nations University as we continue to place the educational needs and success of our students first by increasing the number, nature and options for teaching spaces within the University. In this way, in keeping with our collective vision to provide a superior educational experience to our students, we hope to use this opportunity to transform our spaces into a uniquely designed, inspired and world class First Nations University of Canada,” stated Dr. Lynn Wells, Vice-President, Academic. “On behalf of the Executive, I would like to acknowledge all those who stepped forward to provide their input in the consultation process regarding the renovations and space reallocation, from our Elders, faculty, staff and major stakeholders. Each brought fresh ideas and unique perspectives.”

Every element of the renovation and space reallocations plans have been designed from the perspective of making positive impacts on the learning experiences of FNUUniv students. This emphasis on placing students first is in keeping with the priorities of the 2013-18 Strategic Plan, *Lighting the Path*. In addition, the plan will further enhance FNUUniv as a unique, fully Indigenous academic institution.

Highlights about the Renovations and Reallocation of Space

The central focus of the first floor will continue to be the Veterans Memorial Tipi, Ceremonial Tipi and Elders offices. The major change will be the creation of a multifunctional teaching space (100+ capacity). The Art Gallery will be incorporated into the current library space. The intent is to incorporate three elements of First Nation learning together--books, art and oral teaching--to illustrate how we, as an Indigenous institution, incorporate learning from these three different modalities: the written, visual and oral traditions. The intent is to transform the big, beautiful space of the library into a showpiece of Indigenous knowledge and art and thus become a multifunctional learning space for students, scholars, community members and visitors. Additional consultations will occur with Elders to determine how this space could be better utilized as an additional venue for traditional teachings, story-telling and other forms of oral tradition teaching and learning.

The current Indian Fine Arts (IFA) faculty offices are being transformed into additional fine arts teaching spaces. This will expand our capacity to teach traditional and contemporary First Nations arts to a growing number of students. The IFA faculty will be relocated to existing space on the first floor.



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On the second floor, over the past few years, FNUiv has added two new large capacity classrooms to the second floor. As this proved to be very successful, with students appreciating both the convenience of having classrooms conveniently located on the second floor and excellent, modern teaching spaces, more teachings spaces will be added.

The space allocation for the third floor entails a new student lounge and Student Success Services that will be located adjacent to the newly designed student lounge, making academic and support services readily and easily accessible to students. In addition, the University of Regina Daycare requires a short term lease (September 2015- March 2016) while their current space is being renovated, and they will be using the west wing of the third floor. Not only will this accommodate our federated partner's temporary needs, but it will also generate revenue for FNUiv.

On the fourth floor, a new boardroom to be created, which will be multifunctional in design and usage. In addition, a new space, intended as both a multifunctional meeting and teaching space, will be created. The President and Vice Presidents' Offices, including support personnel, being relocated to existing office spaces.

About FNUiv:

The First Nations University of Canada is a unique Canadian institution that specializes in Indigenous knowledge, providing post-secondary education for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students alike within a culturally supportive environment. It provides a unique opportunity to study in an environment that supports First Nations cultures, languages, and values.

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Media **First Nations University of Canada**

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