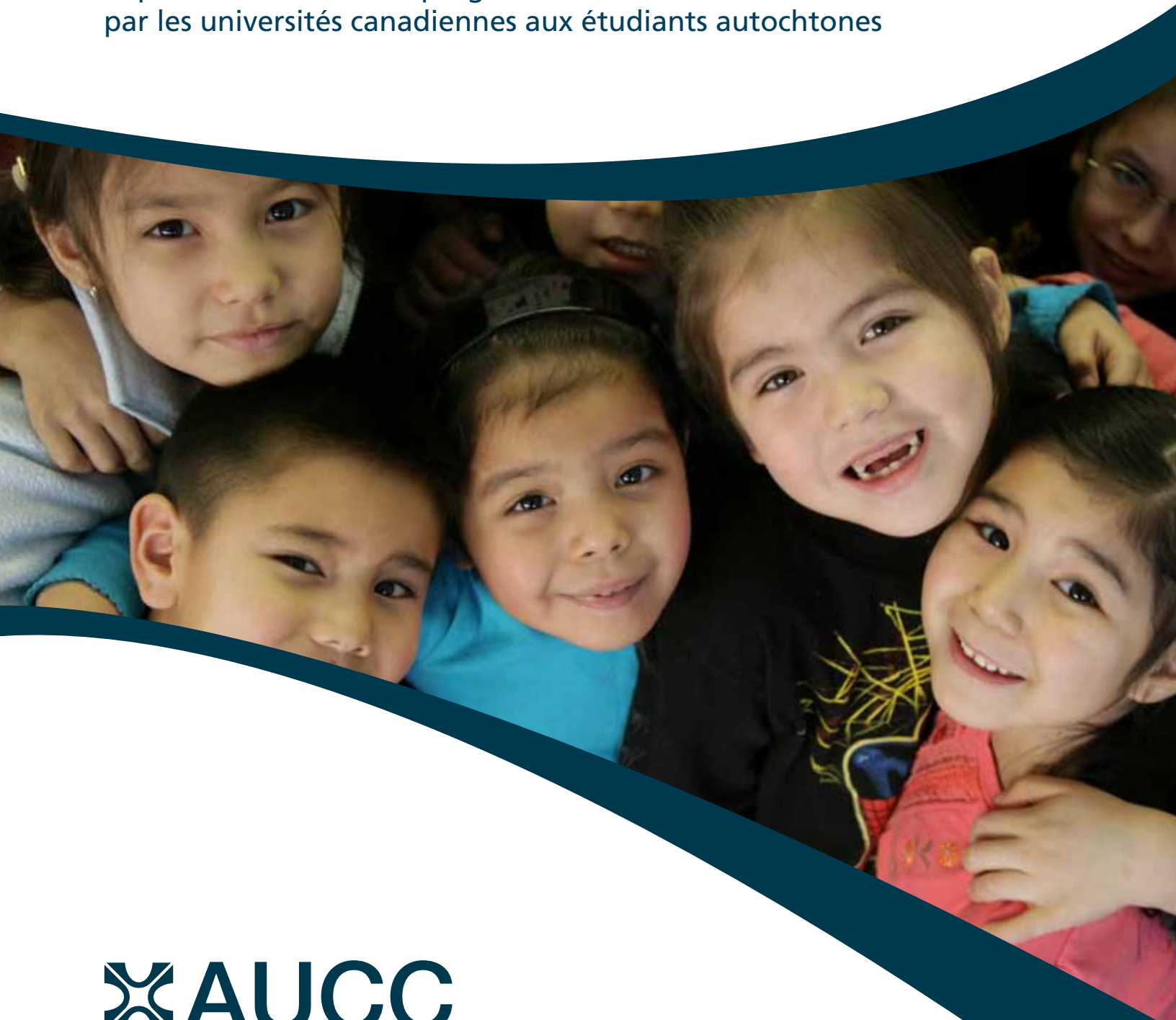


Answering the call:

The 2010 directory of Canadian university programs and services for Aboriginal students

Répondre à l'appel:

Répertoire de 2010 des programmes et services offerts par les universités canadiennes aux étudiants autochtones



Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada
Association des universités et collèges du Canada

Answering the call: The 2010 directory of Canadian university programs and services for Aboriginal students is a compendium of initiatives on campuses across the country. It is a living document that AUCC expands and updates with the help of our member institutions. We invite universities from across Canada to provide entries or make adjustments at any time.

This directory provides individual synopses of the programs and services provided at AUCC member institutions. These synopses were created from responses to the three questionnaires developed and distributed by the AUCC in February 2010 and material publicly available on institutional websites. AUCC summarized the information we received from each institution and put it into a common format. Synopses were not created for AUCC members that were unable to respond to the February 2010 survey.

We would like to recognize the financial contribution of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada towards the publication of this inventory and its accompanying analysis.

Le document *Répondre à l'appel : Répertoire de 2010 des programmes et services offerts par les universités canadiennes aux étudiants autochtones* est un recueil d'initiatives offertes sur les campus partout au Canada. Il s'agit d'un document évolutif que l'AUCC étoffe et met à jour avec la collaboration de ses établissements membres. Nous invitons les universités canadiennes à nous soumettre des données ou à modifier leurs données en tout temps.

Le présent répertoire contient des résumés des programmes et services offerts aux étudiants autochtones par les établissements membres de l'AUCC. Les résumés ont été rédigés à partir des réponses aux trois questionnaires élaborés par l'AUCC et envoyés aux établissements en février 2010, ainsi que de documents publiquement accessibles sur les sites Web des établissements. L'AUCC a recueilli l'information des membres et l'a incorporée à un document uniformisé. Aucun résumé n'a été créé pour les membres de l'AUCC qui n'ont pas répondu aux questionnaires.

Nous aimerions souligner la contribution financière d'Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada pour la publication de cet inventaire et de l'analyse qui l'accompagne.

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ACADIA UNIVERSITY

Academic programs available off campus

Acadia University offers web-based distance learning courses.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Acadia University is working on a partnership to introduce an Aboriginal counsellor.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Acadia University's faculty association's Equity Scholar Bursary is awarded to full-time entering or returning students. This bursary is not Aboriginal specific.

Administrative and policy framework

The responsibility for Aboriginal students is shared between Acadia University's administrative staff and faculty.

Aboriginal population on campus

Fewer than two percent of students self-identify as Aboriginal. There are no Aboriginal staff members at Acadia University.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Aboriginal Recruitment Officer liaises with interested Aboriginal schools and organizations, visits local and remote Aboriginal communities, and promotes the university at career and recruitment fairs. The Aboriginal Handbook provides an overview of Aboriginal services, student profiles and contact information.

Aboriginal Student Discovery Day introduces prospective Aboriginal students to programs and services available to them. Students have the opportunity to hear from a panel of University of Alberta Aboriginal students about their student life experiences.

Several faculties have their own well established recruitment programs.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The University of Alberta has an Aboriginal high school orientation program to assist Aboriginal students who are interested in pursuing a university education. The program is structured around a variety of activities and learning opportunities for high school students to become actively engaged in a postsecondary environment.

Through a donation from Canative Housing Corporation, a non-profit Native housing corporation, and some additional funding, the University of Alberta provides a junior and high school tutoring program for and by Aboriginal students.

Native studies programs

The School of Native Studies offers a BA in Native studies and a minor program for students in other disciplines. There are also two combined degrees: a BA in Native studies / bachelor of education and a BA in Native studies/BSc in environmental conservation sciences. The school values the contribution of Elders, ties to Native communities and Indigenous languages.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The University of Alberta organizes the annual Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute. It provides a unique opportunity to earn university credit while learning about selected Canadian Indigenous languages and cultures.

The Indigenous Law Program within the faculty of law offers a supportive program for Aboriginal law students, including personal and academic counselling, academic support, assistance with summer employment and first-year orientation.

The Aboriginal Health Care Careers Program helps Aboriginal students gain admission and graduate from the faculty of medicine and dentistry, and the other professional health sciences faculties at the University of Alberta. As of 2006 the faculty has graduated 41 Aboriginal physicians, 11 dentists, 12

dental hygienists and four students with a BSc in medical laboratory science.

The Alberta ACADRE Network is a multidisciplinary training program funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to build capacity in Aboriginal health research. The network includes investigators from the faculties of medicine and dentistry, nursing, agriculture, forestry and home economics, education, arts, extension, and investigators from the University of Calgary and McGill University. ACADRE provides financial support and mentorship to undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, and to Aboriginal communities wishing to become involved in health research.

The university also hosts the Canadian and Native Studies International Summer School for domestic and international students.

Academic programs available off campus

Continuing Studies offers lifelong learning opportunities both on campus and at a distance. The Aboriginal Teacher Education Program is an off-campus elementary teacher education program designed to improve the educational success of Aboriginal children by increasing the number of Aboriginal teachers in communities in northern Alberta. Programs are offered entirely or in part at Native colleges or in Aboriginal communities. The program minor is Cree.

Transition programs on campus

The Transition Year Program is a one-year program offered through the Aboriginal Student Services Centre. The objective of the program is to prepare Aboriginal students for admission to one of nine university faculties through the provision of support and services. The transition program can be completed at one of several public colleges partnered with the university.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Aboriginal Student Services Centre works towards being a bridge between Aboriginal students and their communities in their academic journey. Services offered include pre-admission counselling, retention services and strategies, Aboriginal cultural activities, Aboriginal community liaison, computer lab facilities, a transition year program coordinator, Elder visits and cultural events.

The Centre hosts the Aboriginal Education Advisors Conference to help the University of Alberta to provide an environment that encourages full access, participation and success for Aboriginal students.

There are a number of student-run organizations on campus:

- Aboriginal Student's Council (ASC)
- n'totemtik Peer Support and Outreach
- Aboriginal Law Students' Association
- Student Ambassadors Guiding Education (SAGE)
- Lone Wolf Society
- Native Studies Student Association
- Aboriginal Students in Graduate Studies
- American Indian Science and Engineering Society

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are a number of scholarships and bursaries available for Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

The Aboriginal Advisory Council represents the interests of the Aboriginal community at the University of Alberta. The UAAAC invites representatives from all Aboriginal programs on campus to discuss recruitment and retention of Aboriginal students and staff, and provision of services for members of the university Aboriginal community.

Aboriginal population on campus

In fall 2004 there were 744 student who self-identified as Aboriginal (69 percent were female). Of this, 61 students were registered in graduate studies. The largest group of Aboriginal students self-identified as Métis. They represent just over two percent of the student population.

ALGOMA UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Algoma University recruits Aboriginal students using a variety of tactics including radio advertising.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Algoma University offers a certificate in Interdisciplinary Aboriginal Learning (one year of a degree program), which may be taken alone or within an existing degree program.

The Bachelor of Arts in Anishinaabemowin is a unique degree program offering basic to advanced level instruction in the Ojibwe language. Students in the program gain a functional level of fluency in the language. It is of interest to students who want to teach the language, apply to graduate school in the areas of linguistics or Native human services, and for members of First Nations communities. The degree in Anishinaabemowin contributes to an increase in overall awareness and deepening of the public's capacity to analyze Canadian-First Nations policy and government relationships.

Outreach programs

Algoma University offers Community Economic and Social Development program courses in First Nations communities across Canada. The CESD program is recognized by the CANDO organization for professional accreditation.

There are various non-credit activities offered through links with First Nations education counsellors and the Shingwauk Education Trust.

Support services for Aboriginal students

There is an Aboriginal Student Centre on campus which offers a meeting space and hosts social and cultural activities. The centre frequently hosts community Elders and serves as a link to local communities.

There is an academic and Indigenous services advisor and an Aboriginal Student Association.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Algoma University has some targeted scholarships and bursaries.

Administrative and policy framework

An Indigenous Learning Committee reviews and implements programs and reviews all Indigenous course content.

There are at least four Aboriginal representatives on the Board of Governors.

Aboriginal population on campus

Approximately 18 percent of the close to 1,200 students is Aboriginal (based on self-identification and band sponsorship counts). Two and a half percent of the academic and 11 percent of the non-academic staff are Aboriginal.

Algoma University measures retention, progression and retention rates for its Aboriginal students.

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Athabasca University's Indigenous education administrative arm actively recruits Indigenous students through visits to Indigenous nations, communities and organizations throughout Canada.

Native studies programs

Athabasca University does not offer a Native studies program. However, its bachelor of Canadian studies includes a significant component of Canadian Native and ethnic studies.

Athabasca offers a number of courses in Indigenous studies. All Indigenous studies courses have been written with an Indigenous academic or non-Indigenous academic team member, an Indigenous editor and peer reviewed. Many of the courses are introductory, law and justice, or leadership and government courses.

The university is home to the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research, which aims, among many other goals, to meet the academic needs of Indigenous scholars, nations, communities, institutions and organisations, and improve the development and delivery of Indigenous education at Athabasca University.

The Academic Centre is an academic and research centre, whose staff and faculty are all Indigenous.

Academic programs available off campus

As a distance learning organization, Athabasca University's business is outreach and flexible learning. Through the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research, Athabasca University offers or has offered courses at Blue Quills First Nations College, Yellowhead Tribal College, Northern Lakes College, Aurora College and other locations with a large number of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

The university offers courses in Indigenous studies used by other institutions as part of their professional teacher education programs, and offers a specialization in Indigenous governance and management as part of the BCom and BMgmt programs.

There is a Four Seasons speaker series that identifies and presents topical issues by Indigenous speakers. Past and future speakers include Dr. Harold Cardinal, Maria Campbell, Dr. Winona Wheeler, Jane Ash Poitras, Gil Cardinal, Drew Hayden Taylor, Dr. Betty Bastien, Tracey Lindberg and others.

Transition programs

As a partner of Campus Alberta, Athabasca University offers its courses and educational services to

students registered in Alberta postsecondary institutions. Working with these and out-of-province institutions, Athabasca University also provides degree completion opportunities for university transfer students and diploma graduates.

Through Indigenous collaborations, Athabasca University enables Indigenous institutions and students to pursue educational goals in their home communities.

Student support

Advising Services assist students in areas ranging from clarifying their profile to helping choose the next course(s) for their program of studies; from providing information about university regulations and procedures to guiding them through a Loan Study Plan. Indigenous Education houses an Indigenous Education assistant who helps students become oriented with the university environment.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are a number of scholarships including a few bursaries, scholarships and prizes aimed specifically at Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

According to its mission statement, “Athabasca University is dedicated to the removal of barriers that traditionally restrict access to and success in university-level studies and to increasing equality of educational opportunity for all adult Canadians regardless of their geographical location and prior academic credentials.”

Indigenous Education is Athabasca University’s administrative arm responsible for recruitment, retention and success of Indigenous students, Indigenous cultural sensitivity training for staff and faculty, identifying developments in distance education and providing Indigenous student support.

The 2006-2011 Strategic Plan commits to increase the number and success of traditionally under-represented groups and to formulating an Indigenous Education Plan.

Members of the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research, including the Elder, provide advice to the President and Vice President, Academic. Their work is supported by the centre’s Nehiyiwak Caucus, Internal Advisory Committee, External Advisory Committee and an Elder’s Committee.

Aboriginal population on campus

As an open-admissions distance learning institution, Athabasca estimates serving a large number of Aboriginal students pursuing self-directed studies from a remote location.

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Bishop's University's Minor in Indigenous Studies analyses Indigenous populations worldwide.

Courses in education include elements of Aboriginal studies and nearly half of faculty have experience in Aboriginal education.

Some courses from the Sociology and History departments have a significant component of Aboriginal studies.

Administrative and policy framework

Bishop's University is planning to hold a session on campus on the issue of Aboriginal education to consider what the university might do to provide opportunities for Aboriginal communities.

There is no administrative body or policy dealing with Aboriginal students, but the administration is open to and supportive of engagement with Aboriginal populations.

BRANDON UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Brandon University offers campus tours for individuals and groups, student-for-a-day programs, virtual tours and program information online. Since 2000, Brandon has taken out recruitment advertising in Aboriginal publications.

Native studies programs

Brandon University offers a BA in Native Studies. It features archaeology as a regular part of its program, providing a unique approach to the early history of Aboriginal Peoples. Brandon also offers an extensive program on Aboriginal literature and creative writing in Canada.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Brandon University offers a bachelor of First Nations and Aboriginal counselling, which was proposed by the Manitoba Aboriginal Educational Counselling Association. It was formulated using First Nations and Aboriginal holistic approaches to counselling, healing and community.

The university also provides a BA in Rural and Community Studies, which includes a section on Native studies.

Brandon University offers a bachelor of fine arts in Aboriginal arts.

Outreach programs

Brandon University is a member of Campus Manitoba, which supports students by providing services to remove barriers to achieving educational goals.

A number of Brandon courses with Aboriginal content are offered through Campus Manitoba including courses on Native art and music.

The Brandon University Northern Teacher Education community-based program offers an opportunity for Manitobans to pursue a teaching career through a university that is acknowledged as a leader in community-based teacher training. Courses are offered in seven northern Manitoba communities using a combination of visiting staff, local staff and Web-based course delivery.

Program for the Education of Native Teachers is a community-based teacher education program of the Faculty of Education of Brandon University. Students combine work in their community schools and Web-based coursework.

Transition programs

Brandon University provides a First Year Survival Guide and academic advising, counselling, tutoring, and mathematics and writing skills workshops.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Indigenous Peoples' Centre, an on-campus resource centre, is available for First Nations and Métis students and for their tribal council counsellors. Academic and personal counselling and social programs are available, as well as a full-time coordinator of First Nations services.

The university's Elders Program aims to ensure that the educational experience will be a successful and pleasant one for First Nations and Métis students and their families. It also aims to build a climate at the university which recognizes and respects the culture and heritage of First Nations and Métis students so that they may experience increased self-esteem and a strong, healthy identity. The program provides, to the whole educational community, numerous services, including spiritual and traditional counselling, performance of relevant ceremonies, mediation, and assistance with student orientation.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are a small number of scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students.

Brandon University provides a First Nations Teacher Education Scholarship for up to 10 Aboriginal students. The value of the scholarship is approximately \$3,000 per year for up to two years.

Administrative and policy framework

One of Brandon University's stated objectives is to enhance programs for rural, northern, Aboriginal and Hutterian students.

There is an Aboriginal Advisory Committee reporting to the university administration through the Dean of Health Studies.

Aboriginal population on campus

It is estimated that over 10 percent of the student population is Aboriginal.

BROCK UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The university's Aboriginal Student Services specifically targets the closest reservation. Visits are made and recruitment materials are provided to the local Aboriginal school. The university's Tecumseh Centre does recruiting in Northwestern Ontario for the Northern Nishnawbe Education program. There is an Aboriginal section of Brock University's website.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The university offers an Aboriginal Youth Summer camp on campus and partners with local school boards to develop programs and services specifically for Aboriginal youth. Aboriginal Student Services connects annually with one or two local Aboriginal schools to bring students to Brock for an orientation visit.

Native studies programs

The Tecumseh Centre for Aboriginal Research and Education is a multidisciplinary research centre that develops educational programming around the expressed needs and requirements of Aboriginal communities. The Centre's activities include creating research training and support for Aboriginal students such as speaker series, colloquia, conferences, collaborative research proposals. It also promotes internal communications relevant to Aboriginal issues, values, knowledge, experience and the contributions of Aboriginal Peoples globally.

Undergraduate courses in Aboriginal Studies are offered each year on the main campus. The courses teach Mohawk language, Aboriginal culture and history. Students can pursue a certificate in Aboriginal language.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Tecumseh Centre for Aboriginal Research and Education offers a part-time Native Teacher Education Program for students interested in teaching at the primary/junior level. This program incorporates Aboriginal learning preferences and cultural diversity. This community-based curriculum model relies on qualified local Aboriginal educators and Brock University faculty. The program leads to the Ontario Certificate of Qualification for elementary teaching.

Academic programs available off campus

At the request of the Mohawks of Tyendinaga, the Tecumseh Centre offers an undergraduate Mohawk immersion program on their territory. Students in this program earn a certificate in Aboriginal language (Mohawk).

Brock University offers a BEd in Aboriginal Adult Education and a Certificate in Aboriginal Adult

Education at Six Nations, Wadesk Aboriginal Education Centre in Fort Erie, Georgian College, and Sault College.

The Tecumseh Centre for Aboriginal Research and Education offers a concurrent program combining a bachelor of education in Aboriginal adult education and a bachelor of education for students interested in teaching at the primary/junior level. As well, the centre offers two certificate programs to prepare Native elementary school teachers.

The concurrent bachelor of education in Aboriginal adult education and bachelor of education program incorporate Aboriginal learning preferences and cultural diversity. This community-based curriculum model relies on qualified local Aboriginal educators to facilitate the learner's educational journey. Courses are offered in a facilitated learning cohort model, face-to-face at locations across the province.

Transition programs

The Native University Program with Six Nations Polytechnic and five regional universities, including Brock University, grants admission to one-year certificate program students to the second year of a BA program at one of the five university consortium members.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Aboriginal Student Services works on students' behalf by acting as liaison between the student and the faculty or administration, and by encouraging peer support. An Aboriginal student advisor is available to talk with students about their concerns and can refer students to other services available on campus and in the community. They offer academic support programs such as Writing Circles, one-to-one consultations and graduate studies research support groups.

Aboriginal Student Services in partnership with Learning Skills Services offers a number of support programs and services specifically for Aboriginal graduate students. Focus groups are planned for Aboriginal graduate students to help Aboriginal Student Services identify gaps and make recommendations.

Aboriginal Student Services also offers computer workstation space for Aboriginal students and offer an Aboriginal gathering area.

A variety of social/cultural events are held throughout the year, such as Elder visits, Aboriginal alumni reunion, drum making, wood burning, dream catcher workshops, an Aboriginal Women's Day and an Aboriginal speaker series.

The Aboriginal Student Organization represents all Aboriginal students.

The Aboriginal Student Achievement Award honours Aboriginal students with a high level of achievement in their academic studies and who demonstrate leadership in their communities.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are several bursaries available at Brock University for entering and returning Aboriginal students. Aboriginal Student Services works with Student Awards and Financial Aid to provide information about Aboriginal-specific scholarships and bursaries. Brock Aboriginal Student Services also maintains information on U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs programs.

Administrative and policy framework

The Brock University Aboriginal Education Council is made up of students, faculty, staff, and external Aboriginal representatives. It is an advisory council to the President. The council is committed to understanding and developing course work, programs, services and educational research that meet the cultural needs of members of the Aboriginal community who are students at Brock University. The council actively pursues the development of programs designed to increase the number of Aboriginal students at the university.

Aboriginal population on campus

Fewer than two percent of the student population at Brock University self-identify as Aboriginal. The Aboriginal student population has nearly doubled in the past five years rising from 120 in 2005-06 to 220 in 2008-09.

CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

There is a director of recruitment, a recruitment marketing coordinator and two recruitment officers, one of whom is Aboriginal. Cape Breton University advertises in Aboriginal media and has a section on its website for Mi'kmaq students. Programs for elementary and high school students, developed by the Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Integrative Science are delivered via Aboriginal university students and Aboriginal youth outreach workers under the direction of university faculty and staff.

Native studies programs

The BA with a Major in Mi'kmaq Studies familiarizes Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students with Mi'kmaq history, language, culture, traditions and socio-economic development of the Mi'kmaq First Nation. Mi'kmaq Studies delivers courses related to government structure and issues: from federal to provincial including band government and band administration.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Integrative Science program at Cape Breton University contains science courses that bring together science knowledge as conventionally understood, combined and enriched with understandings from the holistic world views of Aboriginal Peoples, especially the Mi'kmaq First Nations in Atlantic Canada.

The Integrative Science program is a concentration within the Bachelor of Science in Community Studies four-year program. There is a formal partnership with the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources based in the First Nations Community of Eskasoni, N.S. The program is guided by a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Integrative Science.

The Bachelor of Arts in Community Studies is delivered partly by e-learning.

The certificate in Mi'kmaq Cultural Heritage Preservation program is delivered by the School of Arts and Community Studies in collaboration with the on-campus Mi'kmaq Resource Centre, the Beaton Institute and local museums and cultural centres across Cape Breton Island.

The university is developing Aboriginal program sub-streams in both Education and Nursing. Mi'kmaq College Institute will deliver programs in such areas as teacher training, court worker certification, business, Mi'kmaq language, health careers, and natural resources.

Academic programs available off campus

Cape Breton University offers the Mi'kmaq Business Development Program to teach business education in a manner that is customized and applicable to all Mi'kmaq communities. The courses are delivered on site in the Aboriginal communities.

In partnership with the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources in Eskasoni, Cape Breton University offers BScCS Integrative Science work placements; Bachelor of Business Administration for First Nations and a modularized Bachelor of Arts program.

The Certificate in Natural Resources provides training in: water sampling and testing, operating computer-based management systems and geomatic information systems, waste management, forest management, and water resource management. These skills are needed by the Native Guardian Program for the Mi'kma'ki Aboriginal Fisheries Services of Nova Scotia. Guardians patrol waterways and assist Aboriginal Peoples with the safety aspects of the fishery and inform fishers and Aboriginal children about conservation and enhancement of the fish species.

The Court Workers Certificate provides an effective foundation for Mi'kmaq court workers for responding to legal questions and issues relevant to those making court appearances. It provides Mi'kmaq communities with an opportunity to have more qualified people working in the legal system, to get appropriate legal representation, to prepare for court appearances, and to respond to decisions rendered by the courts.

Many Cape Breton University programs can be completed through distance education. Over 50 courses are offered every year. Courses are offered by correspondence, audio-graphics and online to students from a variety of backgrounds.

Transition programs

The Cape Breton University Access Program for First Nations Students, or Elmitok, is a one-year postsecondary program designed for Mi'kmaq students who wish to further their education by attending university. Operated in collaboration with the local band councils, it makes the transition into the university environment easier for Aboriginal students through initiatives such as: offering classes in First Nations communities; offering e-learning courses; giving workshops to prepare students for their classes and assignments; and assigning a coordinator to maintain contact and provide support to students.

The Mi'kmaq Science Advantage Program helps students make linkages between secondary school science courses and preparation for pursuit of a science degree or diploma. The goal of MSAP is to provide Mi'kmaq students with the ability to succeed in a science or technology program by providing academic support in a culture and science curriculum with small classes and community involvement and delivery.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Within the Mi'kmaq College Institute on campus, there is a Director, MCI and a Program Director, Aboriginal Programs who liaise between the university and Aboriginal communities. There is also a Director, Mi'kmaq Student Services reporting to the Director of the Institute. The Mi'kmaq Student Services staff member is a contact for students, faculty and staff, educational counsellors, Mi'kmaq organizations, government departments and employers. The student advisor may also arrange for

Mi'kmaq tutors who can explain instructions, help with papers and recommend additional sources for research material. The position is funded by the five First Nations communities on Cape Breton Island.

The Mi'kmaq College Institute provides a special meeting place, common area, telephone and computers, giving students a place to congregate and make local calls. The centre is a convenient room for group study and for seminars and workshops.

The Mi'kmaq Resource Centre has the largest collection of material written about or by the Mi'kmaq in Mi'kmaki. Master degree and doctoral theses are included in the centre's collection.

A Mi'kmaq Student Association organizes projects suggested by members, including an annual graduation banquet, cultural festivals and special speakers.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are a limited number of scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students. There is one graduate award scholarship, two non-renewable entrance scholarships and four in-program awards.

Administrative and policy framework

The Associate Dean (Mi'kmaq College Institute) provides overall leadership for Aboriginal programming at Cape Breton University. The Associate Dean reports to the President, and interacts regularly with the Vice-President, Academic and Research, and School Deans.

The Mi'kmaq College Institute has an Advisory Board of community Elders and others.

Leaders of the Mi'kmaq community are consistently represented on Cape Breton University's Board of Governors.

Aboriginal population on campus

Aboriginal students make up approximately eight percent of the student population at Cape Breton University. This percentage has held steady over the past five years. Two members of Academic staff self-identify as Aboriginal.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Concordia University's Centre for Native Education regularly visits Aboriginal communities and career and education fairs targeting Aboriginal youth to promote the benefits of a postsecondary education and the university's programs and services.

Aboriginal youth engagement

In addition to its regular visits to Aboriginal communities and schools, the Centre for Native Education publishes *Choosing the University that is Best for You*. It invites Aboriginal youth to reflect on their career goals and recommends questions to ask before choosing a program and university.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Concordia University's School of Community and Public Affairs offers a Graduate Diploma in Community Economic Development that has a strong Aboriginal component.

Concordia University regularly offers courses with exclusive Aboriginal content throughout its academic departments. In addition to these courses, Concordia University offers numerous courses where Aboriginal topics are discussed.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Centre for Native Education services include academic advising and referral, tutoring, a documentation centre, computers and other facilities. Staff and faculty are available to address individual needs and provide support and encouragement for all Native students. The centre offers an orientation session for new students in September, and hosts cultural and social events.

Concordia University provides counselling services for academic and general problems, and invites an Elder to provide spiritual and personal counselling to Aboriginal students. The university also provides Aboriginal students with linkages to local Aboriginal communities, organizations and events.

There is a Native Student Association, which is involved in student led social activities.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Concordia University currently offers five bursaries and has very recently received an endowment for one scholarship.

Administrative and policy framework

The coordinator of the Centre for Native Education, reporting to the Director, Advocacy and Support Services, manages the centre, provides advice and leadership on Native student issues, analyzes policies and student cases in order to recommend solutions and coordinates activities that increase an awareness of Aboriginal peoples in both the academic and non-academic sectors.

The Native Student Association acts in an advisory capacity to the Coordinator of the Centre for Native Education.

Aboriginal population on campus

Fewer than two percent of students self-identify as Aboriginal.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ALBERTA

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Concordia University College staff travel to Aboriginal communities throughout the province attending career fairs and making presentations.

Aboriginal youth engagement

Through presentations at career fairs, Concordia University College staff provide students with information on the type of careers available after completing one of the institution's programs. Concordia University College encourages students to seek scholarship opportunities and complete secondary school to prepare for successful careers in the community.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

There are no Aboriginal-focused programs, however Concordia's academic upgrading program has Aboriginal Studies as part of the content in both the English and Social Studies curriculum.

Transition programs on campus

Concordia students receive credit through the academic upgrading program courses, which include writing and research skills. The university provides a University and College Entrance Program (UCEP) for Aboriginal adults.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Aboriginal support is available through the University and College Entrance Program and the Aboriginal case management and counselling program.

There is Aboriginal counselling for general, academic and career matters as well as peer-to-peer mentoring.

The university provides areas for social and cultural events and facilitates linkages to local Aboriginal communities for student and faculty support.

Every year for the past 22 years, Concordia University College welcomes the community to an annual Aboriginal Cultural Day in March.

Administrative and policy framework

Aboriginal affairs are handled by staff in the Dean of Student Affairs office and by the Director of University Special Sessions and Academic Upgrading.

The Dean of Student Affairs supports initiatives and provides guidance to student associations and clubs including the Concordia Aboriginal Students' Association.

The Director of University Special Sessions and Academic Upgrading oversees the activities of the Aboriginal students' association, directs the delivery of Aboriginal student services including recruitment, advising and counselling services, Sharing Circles and smudging ceremonies.

The Aboriginal students' association has a role in the student government.

Aboriginal population on campus

Concordia estimates that two to five percent of students are Aboriginal.

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Dalhousie University recruits for its transition programs by visiting Aboriginal communities, making presentations at Aboriginal conferences and distributing published materials.

Starting in 2009-10, the Aboriginal Health Sciences Advisory Committee employs two members from the Aboriginal community to promote programs in the Health Sciences and provide advice to potential students.

Many programs have affirmative action policies with specific actions relating to recruiting Aboriginal students. The Faculty of Law actively recruits through its Indigenous Blacks and Mi'kmaq Initiative. The School of Social Work continues to actively recruit in the communities.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The institution supports student volunteer organizations that reach out to Aboriginal communities and operate summer camps in Band facilities. The most active of these are Let's Talk Science and Super Nova.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Indigenous Blacks and Mi'kmaq Initiative in the Law School ensures Mi'kmaq and African Nova Scotian students, and other Aboriginal and Black students, are represented at the Law School. The initiative involves community outreach and recruiting; providing student financial and other support; developing scholarship in the areas of Aboriginal law and African Canadian legal perspectives; and promoting the hiring and retention of graduates. Since its inception, over 90 Black and Aboriginal graduates have secured employment with private law firms, Aboriginal organizations, and government legal departments and/or assumed leadership roles in Nova Scotia and beyond.

Those Native applicants who are not eligible for the Indigenous Black and Mi'kmaq Program and whose previous academic background does not meet the admissions standards, are eligible to apply for admission to the Faculty of Law through successful completion of the Program of Legal Studies for Native People at the University of Saskatchewan, College of Law.

The School of Occupational Therapy has field placements with a First Nations Band in Nova Scotia.

The School for Resource and Environmental Studies, through its two graduate programs, includes an Aboriginal focus in both teaching and research.

The Schools of Information Management, Health Services Administration, Occupational Therapy, Dentistry, Medicine, Law and Social Work all include in-depth exposure to Aboriginal content and issues in their curriculum.

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences has mainstreamed Aboriginal content in: Canadian literature (French and English), History, International Development Studies, Sociology and Social Anthropology.

Academic programs available off campus

The School of Nursing offers a program in partnership with Arctic College geared for Inuit learners.

The Bachelor of Social Work program for Mi'kmaq and Maliseet is delivered through off-campus lectures and distance education and is completely geared towards Aboriginal issues. There are currently 21 students in the program.

There are a number of university degree programs, diploma programs, and non-credit offerings delivered by distance education that are not specifically aimed at Aboriginal students.

Transition programs

The Transition Year Program is a one-year program for First Nations and African Canadian students who do not meet standard entrance requirements. Dalhousie University, in consultation with the Mi'kmaq and African Canadian communities, established the TYP to redress educational inequities faced by these two communities. The program introduces students to the university environment through a number of activities including an orientation week, mandatory courses in Black and Native studies, special lectures, campus tours, workshops, and field trips. TYP's faculty and staff include members of the African Canadian and First Nations communities.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Native Postsecondary Counselling Unit is the Aboriginal student centre. It provides meeting space, Elder visits, social and cultural events and linkages to the local Aboriginal community. Funding is provided by the Confederation of Mainland Mi'kmaq who funds the services of the Native Postsecondary Education Counsellor. General and academic counselling services and a peer support and mentoring program are offered.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

African Canadian, non-status Aboriginal and Métis Peoples may be eligible, based on a financial means test, for Transition Year Program bursaries during their transition year (including tuition, books, small living allowance). Students who complete TYP successfully are eligible for a continuing tuition waiver at Dalhousie University for their first degree.

Ten renewable entrance scholarships valued at \$3,000 each are available to First Nations and Indigenous Black residents of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or Prince Edward Island, and entering Dalhousie University for the first time. Scholarships are available to students who are applying directly from high school and those who have attended another postsecondary institution.

There is a graduate scholarship designated for either an African Canadian or Aboriginal student.

Administrative and policy framework

All activities relating to the enhancement of situation for Aboriginal students or employees are the responsibility of the Academic Vice-President and Provost.

The Aboriginal Health Sciences Advisory Committee actively works to increase Aboriginal enrolment in the Health Professions. It has representation from senior administration at Dalhousie, Cape Breton University and the Aboriginal communities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Aboriginal population on campus

Dalhousie University estimates that fewer than two percent of students self-identify as Aboriginal. Nine faculty and staff members self-identify as Aboriginal.

EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY OF ART + DESIGN

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Emily Carr University of Art + Design hires Aboriginal alumni for school visits and Aboriginal education fairs. ECUAD publishes Aboriginal recruitment materials.

Aboriginal youth engagement

ECUAD offers an Aboriginal Summer Institute for Teens and hosts school tours. The Aboriginal Coordinator and ECUAD's Aboriginal faculty participate in local and rural events.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Through the Aboriginal Coordinator, ECUAD developed a series of Aboriginal studio and academic courses as electives for undergraduate degree programs.

Academic programs available off campus

ECUAD offers over 20 online degree courses – eight of which are primarily Aboriginal curriculum.

Undergraduate degrees can be delivered by distance learning or by staff travelling to remote locations.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Reporting to the Registrar, the First Nations Coordinator provides academic, personal, and career counselling. There is a peer support program and access to traditional materials and resources.

ECUAD provides dedicated space for meetings, a lounge, cultural and social events, and a studio space for students.

ECUAD provides on-campus social and cultural events, Elder visits, linkages to local Aboriginal communities and hosts an Aboriginal Awareness Day and an Aboriginal Art Exhibition.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are a number of scholarships and bursaries available for Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

The Emily Carr Foundation Board struck an Aboriginal sub-committee to specifically target funds and fundraising activities in support of First Nations students.

There is Aboriginal representation on the board of governors.

The Aboriginal student association plays a role in student government, the University Senate/General Faculty Council, and the Board of Governors.

Aboriginal population on campus

Two to five percent of students self-identify as Aboriginal and eight faculty members self-identify as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The university attends career fairs at band offices and schools and Aboriginal organizations. The Aboriginal Access Coordinator attends community gatherings, youth meetings and Aboriginal awards ceremonies.

The Aboriginal Access Coordinator also hosts campus tours for schools, treatment programs, employment programs and community members. The coordinator contributes to the University of the Fraser Valley high school update to ensure Aboriginal support workers, counsellors and teachers have pertinent information for Aboriginal students considering postsecondary education.

Aboriginal Access Services circulates a newsletter to band offices, education coordinators and sponsoring agencies. The university is included in Aboriginal recruitment materials developed and circulated by the First Nations Education Steering Committee. This group also hosts an annual powwow inviting community members to attend.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The university hosts a Spring Break Science camp targeting Aboriginal learners in grades seven to nine.

The Aboriginal Access Coordinator works with Aboriginal Support workers in band schools and visits with students, attends ceremonies and activities to introduce the university to students.

Aboriginal Access Services hosts weekly craft activities to welcome families to the university and introduce them to the Aboriginal Centre on campus.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Aboriginal Culture and Language diploma provides the knowledge, skills and perspectives required for employment as an Aboriginal support worker. It gives students a unique understanding of and sensitivity to the values, beliefs and needs of Aboriginal communities and the education system.

The Social Services Diploma: First Nations Option program prepares Aboriginal students, or those with strong ties to Aboriginal communities, to work with First Nations people to enhance self-reliance on and off reserves. Working from a Stó:lō perspective, graduates of the First Nations option help tackle issues of concern to Aboriginal communities, including child and sexual abuse, substance abuse, family violence, wellness issues and economic development.

The Certificate in Extended Studies in Social Services: First Nations Option honours the Stó:lō people and an Aboriginal world view. This extended studies certificate is aimed at people who already have a recognized diploma or degree in a relevant field.

The Native Indian Teacher Education Program is offered by the University of British Columbia in

cooperation with several centres in B.C. Students begin their studies at a smaller centre and then transfer to UBC for completion. One of the NITEP centres is located at the University of the Fraser Valley's Chilliwack campus.

The University of the Fraser Valley has Halq'emeylem language courses and offers proficiency certificate in this language.

Academic programs offered off campus

The University of the Fraser Valley offers an Early Childhood Education Diploma on a customized basis at Seabird Island First Nation and a Substance Abuse Diploma at the Chehalis First Nation.

Transition programs

The Transition Year Program provides academic, social, cultural and emotional support that empowers Aboriginal students. The program is available to students regardless of their intended program of study and participants can attend academic support workshops and social and cultural activities in their first two semesters at the university.

The University of the Fraser Valley's Upgrading and University Preparation program helps Aboriginal learners acquire the English, computing and math skills necessary to meet the entrance requirements. Program staff and instructors have participated in an indigenizing initiative and are knowledgeable in the needs of Aboriginal learners.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Aboriginal Access Services at the university has S'olh Shxwlèlì, an Aboriginal Centre on each of the Abbotsford and Chilliwack campuses. The centres are named in Halq'emeylem to honour and generate awareness of the local language. The centres provide a place for skills development social connections, support services and events on themes of cultural relevance.

Some of the social and cultural events offered include sweat lodge and pipe ceremonies, talking circles, drumming circles, craft nights, craft lessons, mini powwows, and storytelling.

The university has an Elders in Residence program. Elders attend ceremonies on campus as well as readings and convocation ceremonies.

A First Nations access coordinator and educational advisor are available to help students of First Nations ancestry.

Student Services supports First Nations students through educational and career planning programs, academic assessments and financial counselling.

First Nations Access offers one-on-one appointments on three campuses (Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Mission).

Aboriginal students can access academic support without a fee.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The University of the Fraser Valley offers some scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

The Aboriginal Community Council, which includes local Aboriginal representatives, works with the leadership of local bands and Métis leaders and advises the President.

Reporting to the Vice-President Academic and Provost, the Senior Advisor on Indigenous Affairs works closely with Aboriginal communities and with the Aboriginal Community Council and its various sub-committees. The advisor works with senior management and faculty on the development of Indigenous programs, on the recruitment and retention of Aboriginal faculty and staff, on the recruitment and retention of Aboriginal students, and on the development of strong linkages and relationships with Aboriginal communities.

The First Nations Access Coordinator reports to the Associate Vice-President of Teaching and Development and coordinates the delivery of the Aboriginal Access Services program. The coordinator liaises with external agencies (band offices); prepares and maintains budgets, expenditures and reports; facilitates various workshops; and provides ongoing academic support to students across the disciplines as needed.

Aboriginal population on campus

The number of self-identified Aboriginal students has doubled in the last five years, from 175 to 378. Seven permanent full-time academic staff self-identify as Aboriginal. Fourteen sections were taught by sessional instructors who self-identify as Aboriginal in the last year data was available.

THE KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The bachelor of education program at The King's University College includes training in Aboriginal studies.

In 2009, a two-day, all-campus conference focused on the legacy of residential schools. The conference program was organized and facilitated by the Aboriginal community. It led to increased student interaction between The King's University College and an Aboriginal college.

Aboriginal population on campus

The King's University College estimates that between two to five percent of the student body is Aboriginal.

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Office of Aboriginal Initiatives' liaison officer provides tours to Aboriginal high school students. The office has increased its advertising in Aboriginal media (regional and national print publications, radio, TV, promotional video) and participates in school visits and career fairs.

The Office of Aboriginal Initiatives has developed a working relationship with Wawatay News and engaged their services in developing a promotional plan. Part of the strategy is to engage faculties in tailoring information to Aboriginal communities' interests as a means of introducing and promoting alternate and non-traditional career options for Aboriginal students.

The Aboriginal Education Department participates in career fairs, visits remote communities and offers on-campus tours.

The Continuing Education and Distributed Learning Department promotes information sessions for groups and individuals on distance learning and community-based options.

The Native Nurses Entry Program sends representatives to career fairs, high schools, remote communities, conferences, and gatherings.

Aboriginal youth engagement

Lakehead University engages local Aboriginal youth in a number of ways including visiting Aboriginal communities.

The Superior Science outreach initiative involves coordinators and instructors travelling to remote First Nations in Northwestern Ontario to engage elementary and high school youth in science activities.

Native studies programs

The Department of Indigenous Learning offers minors, major concentrations, a bachelor degree, and an honours BA in Indigenous Learning. There is also an undergraduate Indigenous Learning Certificate Program.

Lakehead University offers a selection of Native language courses. There is a Native Language Teacher's Certificate Program in the Faculty of Education.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Faculty of Education has a Department of Aboriginal Education that offers a number of academic options. Students can pursue full- or part-time studies on campus, in the community or via distance learning. Students who successfully complete the program are recommended for the Certificate of Qualification from the Ontario College of Teachers. The program offers Bachelor's of Arts, Bachelor's of Science and Bachelor's of Education degrees.

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine is a joint initiative of Lakehead University and Laurentian University of Sudbury. Aboriginal communities of northern Ontario were engaged in the development of the school as part of its mandate to be accountable to the cultural diversity of northern Ontario. The Aboriginal Affairs Unit recruits and supports Aboriginal students, partners with Aboriginal communities and incorporates Aboriginal health priorities into the curriculum.

Academic programs available off campus

An extensive range of distance learning options are offered at Lakehead University.

The Honours Bachelor of Education services remote communities with the delivery of programming through video conferencing, web stream and WebCT.

Transition programs

The Native Access Program is a nine-month entry program that prepares Aboriginal students who have been out of school for two or more years for a regular degree program.

The Native Nurses Entry Program is a nine-month preparation program of the School of Nursing. It helps Aboriginal learners gain skills and prepare for successful completion of their studies. The student may choose field experiences in their own community or other Aboriginal health-care settings.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Aboriginal Cultural and Support Services offers a student lounge, academic advising, tutoring, personal counselling and referrals. This group, in cooperation with the Aboriginal Awareness Centre and the Lakehead University Native Student Association, delivers social and cultural programs such as powwows and Elders-in-residence.

In consultation with Aboriginal Student Liaison/Advisor, the Office of Student Financial Aid and Awards provides budget sessions for Aboriginal students.

The Elders' program helps with Aboriginal cultural awareness and education at Lakehead University. Elders are actively engaged in the Aboriginal Cultural and Support Services programming, with a council that meets quarterly to provide guidance and support on a number of topics and cultural programming. The Elders' program provides specific activities including cultural and spiritual counselling, cultural teachings, individual consultations, presentations during orientation and classes, monthly Sweat Lodges, and an annual cultural celebration and powwow.

The Lakehead University Student Union's Aboriginal Awareness Centre organizes annually a series of Aboriginal speakers, panel presentations, cultural activities, art displays and demonstrations of music and dance to promote greater understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal history, heritage and contributions of Aboriginal Peoples.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Lakehead University offers a number of scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students. One of the institutions largest awards is the Aboriginal Post-secondary Education and Training Bursary, which provides bursary funds annually to part-time or full-time Aboriginal students registered in any undergraduate program.

The Ontario First Generation Bursary provides bursary funds to full-time students with financial need whose parents did not pursue postsecondary studies.

The university offers emergency loans, which are available to all full-time students at the university.

Administrative and policy framework

The Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives, is the senior administrative officer responsible for Aboriginal academic programming, Aboriginal student support services, and Aboriginal community relations. The Vice-Provost works with the Deans' Council and Lakehead University Senate and others to uphold Lakehead University's commitment to working with Aboriginal peoples in furthering their educational aspirations.

The Vice-Provost heads the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives – a centralized cooperative approach to Aboriginal programming, external community liaison and services to students offered on and off campus. The office provides leadership in Aboriginal development and advances an understanding of Aboriginal culture, heritage and language.

Lakehead University has an established process for engagement with Aboriginal communities and organizations through its Aboriginal Management Council. AMC membership consists of organizations from the surrounding Aboriginal community and an Advisors' Committee of each Aboriginal-specific program, department or position, Aboriginal faculty, the Dean or designate of each university faculty and key administrative positions who counsel the President's Office and the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives.

AMC membership includes representation from a broad array of groups including the Métis Nation of Ontario, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Grand Council Treaty #3, Anishinabek Nation, Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Unallied First Nations, Ontario Native Women's Association, Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre, Ogemawahj Tribal Council and the Orillia Campus Advisory Committee.

Aboriginal population on campus

It is estimated that more than 10 percent of Lakehead University's student population is Aboriginal. In the 2009-2010 academic year, there were an estimated 1,150 Aboriginal students enrolled with 735 self-identifying as Aboriginal. There are 32 full-time Aboriginal staff members.

LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY OF SUDBURY / UNIVERSITÉ LAURENTIENNE DE SUDBURY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

As part of Laurentian University's Native recruitment strategy, the recruitment coordinator educates guidance counsellors, Native education counsellors and future students on Laurentian University's programs and admission requirements, Native academic programming, Native Student Affairs, and other services provided to students. This is accomplished through school visits, information booths at conferences and career fairs and "Moccasin Trail Workshops" – a step-by-step guide for students wishing to apply.

Native studies program

The Department of Native Studies develops Bachelor of Arts programs that address First Nations community needs under the guidance of the Laurentian University Native Education Council. Native Studies courses offer Aboriginal perspectives on the historical experiences of the First Nations of Canada and promote dialogue among students on contemporary Native issues. In addition to the on-campus offerings, most of the Native studies courses are also available through distance education.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The School of Native Human Services delivers an Honours Bachelor of Social Work: Native Human Services. The program embraces Native-based and conventional social work approaches to develop professional competence in culturally appropriate practice. The goal of the Native Human Services Program is to provide an accredited social work degree that offers knowledge, skills and experience to work effectively with Native and non-Native communities.

The Northern Ontario School of Medicine is a joint program of Laurentian University and Lakehead University. The school's mission is to educate skilled physicians and undertake health research suited to community needs. In fulfilling this mission NOSM will become a cornerstone of community health care in northern Ontario. The school's guiding principles include seeking qualified students who have a passion for serving northern and rural communities and pursuing a culture of inclusiveness and responsiveness within the medical communities, the northern communities, the rural communities, and the Aboriginal and Francophone communities.

Laurentian University offers a Bachelor of Education with a focus on Native Education.

Language instruction is offered in Ojibway and Cree.

Outreach programs

Laurentian University offers a wide range of distance education courses including Native Studies and Native Human Services. Several certificate programs are offered through distance education including the Ontario Primary Health Care Nurse-Practitioner Program.

Transition programs

A Dual Credit pilot initiative is currently underway. This is a collaborative effort with the Rainbow District School board and the Sudbury Catholic Board.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Native Student Affairs is an administrative department that serves the needs of Aboriginal students. They offer personal and academic counselling and financial aid advice. The Native Education Manager is a full-time staff position reporting to the Associate Vice-President, Indigenous programs. There is an Aboriginal student lounge and various social and cultural activities, including a visiting Elders program. The Laurentian student radio station has a Native program.

The Ancestral Paths Mentoring Program is designed to help Aboriginal students succeed through cultivating relationships with alumni, faculty and staff.

The Native Student Counsellor offers academic, personal and career counselling to ensure the success and retention of Aboriginal students.

Through the Elders On Campus program, students receive support and guidance from a traditional perspective. They provide traditional teachings and perform ceremonies and are a vital part of the Native community at Laurentian University.

Native students are represented by the Indigenous Student Circle.

The School of Native Human Services has an Academic Council in place that allows students to have a voice in the Native Human Services program.

The Learning Strategist oversees the writing center, which helps students with their academic writing, links students with other support systems on campus.

Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement is a peer-based cross-university education initiative to build community networks, provide ongoing support and increase the number of Indigenous scholars with PhDs and master's degrees.

Through the Gkendassawin Trail Speaker Series, Aboriginal speakers educate on past, current and future Aboriginal issues in all sectors of society.

The Gwiiijaabwitaadmi Newsletter is a bi-annual publication promoting awareness of the success and achievements of Native education initiatives at Laurentian University

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are a number of scholarships and bursaries directed at Aboriginal students and a repayable loan program.

Administrative and policy framework

The Laurentian University Native Education Council is an advisory committee of representatives from regional First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal organizations. LUNEC provides advice to the President on matters related to Native education at the university.

Aboriginal population on campus

Laurentian University started a voluntary self-identification process in 2009. Currently the estimated Aboriginal student population is 936.

UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The University of Lethbridge offers campus tours (real and virtual) and a program that links prospective students with current students to “shadow” them for a day. There is Aboriginal-specific information on the website and the university has actively recruited Aboriginal students since 1977. Grades 10 and 11 students are targeted in all schools, including Aboriginal schools.

There are a variety of transfer programs between the university and other Alberta educational institutions.

First Nations languages are considered for admission requirements (when taken at the grade 12 level). They are considered for second language requirements for other programs.

Native studies programs

The university offers a bachelor and master’s of arts in Native American Studies. All classes in the Native American studies programs are taught from the Native perspective. Many are taught by Native American and First Nations instructors who are professionals in their fields with real-world experience, many of whom are known nationally and internationally.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Bachelor of Management in First Nations Governance offers an interdisciplinary education in a challenging, respectful and academic environment.

The university offers a combined BA/BEEd with a major or minor in Native Education.

The University of Lethbridge maintains a digital library and operates a SSHRC-sponsored research program to help preserve and promote the history and cultural heritage of the Blackfoot Confederacy.

Most faculties have staff dedicated to First Nations, Métis and Inuit programming and issues. As a result, awareness of Aboriginal issues has been raised significantly across the institution.

Some language instruction is available in Blackfoot and Cree.

Academic programs available off campus

The School of Health Sciences works towards increasing access to health-care professional opportunities for First Nations Peoples by facilitating student learning, teaching, research collaborations and ongoing partnerships. In the last year, the school delivered health sciences courses to students in Brocket, Alberta, on the Piikani (Peigan) Nation.

The University of Lethbridge has some distance learning offerings in the humanities.

Support services for Aboriginal students

There is a Native student advisor in the Registrar's office and student advisory services available.

The Native Students Association offers social interaction, peer support, a Native student lounge, employment services and a social network.

There is an annual Native Awareness Week on campus.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There is a scholarship program targeted at Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

The individual responsible for Aboriginal issues is the Vice-President Academic. There is a Native Student Advisor, who reports to the Associate Vice-President (Student Services) and Registrar.

A First Nations Support Group, consisting of First Nations and non-First Nations staff, collaborates on services and policy development relating to First Nations students.

The university has ongoing contact between the Dean of Education and the Blood Tribe. The university president is a member (one of approx 50) of the Kanaii Chieftanship. The Dean of Arts and Science and Associate Deans meet regularly with the senior administration of Red Crow Community College.

First Nations, Métis and Inuit students have a representative on the Students' Union Executive.

Aboriginal population on campus

At the University of Lethbridge, about 400 students, or five percent, self-identify as Aboriginal (information collected on admissions applications). This is an increase of 0.5 percent from 2006. Nearly 1.5 percent of the university's employees self-identify as Aboriginal. Retention and graduation rates are tracked.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

University of Manitoba has two Aboriginal recruitment officers. It provides an extensive array of information on its Web site and publishes a guide to Aboriginal Programs and Services.

Most rural schools are visited between October and December as part of the Manitoba Public-Postsecondary Consortium. Campus visits are arranged for Aboriginal students and there is a program of Aboriginal student ambassadors. Remote communities are visited. The Aboriginal Centre offers pre-admissions advising on application, registration and course selection.

Aboriginal youth engagement

Career Trek is a not-for-profit organization that provides innovative educational programming for young people with perceived barriers to entering postsecondary education. Operating at the University of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg and Red River College, the program is designed to educate Winnipeg students about the importance of postsecondary education and career options.

The Career Trek program runs for 20 Saturdays, October to April. Each group starts at one of the three participating institutions: the University of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg and Red River College where it remains for five Saturdays (one “term”). At the conclusion of five weeks, each group rotates to a new set of departments/faculties. In total, the participants receive 80 hours of direct programming. At each institution, participants spend four hours a day in hands-on programming. Participating departments, programs and faculties are chosen on the basis of their enthusiasm for the program and its client group, as well as their ability to provide an excellent curriculum. Activities are designed and modified to meet the needs of the individual age groups and lecturing is kept to a minimum. Classes are engaging, hands-on and innovative and are designed to increase participants’ awareness about a particular field and its associated careers. All activities are structured to maximize those skills generally accepted to be vital to the changing workforce. Career Trek is a “homework-free” zone.

There is a summer program (mini-university) for youth in July and August. Many Aboriginal children participate.

Native studies programs

The Department of Native Studies, in the Faculty of Arts, offers major and minor three- and four-year undergraduate programs as well as master and PhD programs. It is possible to study Native languages with course offerings in Cree and Ojibway within the Native studies department.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Health Careers Access Program is exclusive to Aboriginal students and provides support to students as they prepare to enter any degree program in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, occupational

therapy, physical therapy, dental hygiene, respiratory therapy and nursing at the University of Manitoba. Students may be required to study arts and science courses full-time up to a maximum of four years before applying to a professional health faculty.

The Professional Health Program is exclusively for Aboriginal students and provides support to students once they have been admitted to a professional health faculty such as medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy, dental hygiene and respiratory therapy. This program is part of the Centre for Aboriginal Health Education at the Bannatyne campus.

The Nursing Cohort Program is a partnership with the Access program and the Faculty of Nursing. The Faculty of Nursing provides course instruction in a cohort format at the pre-nursing level and Access program provides other supports.

The Engineering Access Program is an Access program in the Faculty of Engineering. It is designed specifically for Aboriginal students enrolled in the undergraduate program in engineering; it offers custom supports for Aboriginal students.

The Aboriginal Business Education Program addresses the unique needs of Aboriginal students in the BComm (Hons) program, providing holistic support to Aboriginal pre-management and management students

Additionally, the faculties of nursing and social work have a Native Studies course requirement. The faculties of human ecology and architecture have each developed an Aboriginal program within their faculties. In other courses in various departments, students are exposed to specific content on Aboriginal subjects. Some courses in sociology, anthropology, political studies, economics, English, education, social work, nursing, and other disciplines include course materials that focus on Aboriginal peoples and experiences, or ways of knowing relative to the non-Aboriginal society.

Academic programs available off campus

- The University of Manitoba Downtown Aboriginal Education Centre is the focal point for Aboriginal outreach programs in Winnipeg.
- Centre for Indigenous and Environmental Research. CIER is an off-campus non-profit organization, created and directed by First Nations leaders from across Canada. A central feature of CIER's mandate is community-based capacity-building in the field of environmental protection. CIER is a First Nations initiated and controlled education program, offered in partnership with the University of Manitoba. The program's courses are presented from both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal perspective. The goal is to provide Aboriginal students with skills and knowledge that support and advocate holistic solutions and strategies to deal with environmental issues facing First Nations. The 27-month program consists of 15 months of formal study, a three-month field practicum and a nine-month on-the-job training component.
- The Bachelor of Social Work program is offered either by distance education in remote communities, or at the Thompson campus for residents of northern Manitoba. There is also an Inner-City Social Work program offered at the Winnipeg Education Centre.

- Faculty of Nursing Norway House. Northern BN degree program for Aboriginal students.
- Aboriginal Focus Programs (continuing education) offers a number of outreach programs in off-campus locations.
- Aboriginal Environmental Stewardship Diploma was established in 2009 in partnership with the Split Lake First Nation. The program is offered at Split Lake.

Transition programs on campus

The Access programs at the University of Manitoba offer supportive programming to students at the undergraduate level for residents of Manitoba who, traditionally, have not had an opportunity to attend university because of social, economic, cultural or academic reasons. Preference is given to Aboriginal people, residents of northern Manitoba and low-income earners. Students in these programs may obtain any degree offered by the university or may choose to enter any of the specialized programs listed in the Aboriginal-focused programs on campus section.

Support services for Aboriginal students

- Aboriginal Student Centre offers a range of assistance including counselling, social, cultural and emotional support for Aboriginal students and staff. It has several staff members and recently moved to its own self-standing building. The university has an Elder-in-residence and hosts an annual Elders' gathering.
- There are numerous staff members distributed across the university to support Aboriginal students in the various academic programs listed above. In particular, the faculty of law has an Aboriginal academic support program.
- The Aboriginal Students Association is affiliated with the main students' union on campus. They organize an annual National Aboriginal Day celebration on campus and also organize powwows and potlucks.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are numerous Aboriginal-specific scholarships and bursaries available at the University of Manitoba, including the PhD Studies for Aboriginal Scholars program. This program attracts Aboriginal students from all disciplines. For a complete list see: www.umanitoba.ca/student/fin_awards/Aboriginal_students/

Administrative and policy framework

- Senior management meets regularly with the leaders of Aboriginal communities and regularly visits Aboriginal communities. The university has an official priority of being the “First Choice of Aboriginal Students.”

- The Provost has had an advisory committee on Aboriginal affairs. The committee consists of Aboriginal faculty members.
- The Office of University Accessibility under the vice-president (academic) administers, coordinates and develops initiatives and programs which enhance accessibility to and participation in the university by all segments of society. The director of the Aboriginal Student Centre reports to the executive director, student services.
- Smudging Policy in place for sweet grass/sage/cedar smoke ceremonies.

Aboriginal population on campus

The number of students who are identified as Aboriginal increased from 5.8 percent to 6.9 percent of the total enrolment over the last five years. The percentage of first year students has increased to 8.3 percent as of this year. Aboriginal self-declaration data collection began in 2000. As of September 1, 2009, 44 academic staff members self-identified as Aboriginal.

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

McGill University's undergraduate admissions guide has an Aboriginal admissions statement with a self-identification option. The university employs an Aboriginal Community Outreach Coordinator who coordinates regular visits to colleges and CEGEPS and participates in career fairs.

There are faculty-specific recruitment initiatives in Education, Law, Medicine and Social Work.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The First Peoples' House hosts the Eagle Spirit High Performance Camp – an invitational camp for teenagers with activities to promote excellence in postsecondary education and career opportunities.

Native studies programs

McGill University's programs in Canadian Studies include courses in Native studies.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Faculty of Education has a Bachelor in First Nations and Inuit Education with a language specialization. It is for teachers who are certified to teach in elementary schools and who wish to earn a BEd degree.

The Faculty of Medicine developed a Participatory Research at McGill program that focuses on Aboriginal knowledge translation in family medical practice.

The Certificate Program in Aboriginal Social Work Practice prepares Aboriginals for social work practice in their own communities by providing professional training in assessment and counselling skills for a range of social problems such as addictions, family violence, child abuse and mental and physical health. Courses reflect the socio-cultural characteristics of Aboriginal society and the specific social service needs of their communities. The program is delivered through the Centre for Continuing Education on campus.

The Faculty of Law encourages Aboriginal students to apply. Aboriginal applicants can enrol in a summer pre-law program in the Program of Legal Studies for Native People offered at the college of law of the University of Saskatchewan, or the pre-law program, given by the University of Ottawa.

Academic programs available off campus

The Office of First Nations and Inuit Education provides community-based teacher education for Aboriginal teachers. The principal mandate of the Office of First Nations and Inuit Education is to coordinate the Faculty of Education's work with partners in Aboriginal communities and institutions.

The OFNIE works in collaboration with the Nunavut Teacher Education Program, the Kativik school board, the Cree school board, the Kahnawake Education Centre and various other Aboriginal communities in Quebec and Nunavut. It delivers community-based teacher education programs for initial teacher certifications.

- The Certificate in Education for First Nations and Inuit prepares individuals to become teachers who are strong in the language and culture of their communities. In a typical year, 80 courses are offered, often in Aboriginal languages. Many instructors are Aboriginal Peoples from the partnership communities. Usually, courses are given off campus and are limited to students enrolled in programs delivered through the OFNIE.
- The Certificate in Aboriginal Literacy Education prepares Aboriginal teachers who are fluent in their Aboriginal language, but educated in English or French, to be competent readers and writers in their own language. It is aimed at those who will be teaching in their first language, and is only available in communities working in partnership with the OFNIE.
- The Bachelor of Education for Certified Teachers is for teachers who are already certified to teach at the elementary level in Aboriginal communities who wish to further their studies. Applicants apply on the basis of having completed the certificate in education for First Nations and Inuit or equivalent and must have the continued support of their education authority to attend community-based courses.
- The Certificate in Aboriginal Education for Certified Teachers provides professional development for certified mainstream teachers to help them be more effective teachers in Aboriginal communities. The program is designed to address areas of particular interest and need in First Nations and Inuit schools, such as cultural socialization, second language teaching, cooperative learning, and curriculum development.
- The Certificate in First Nations and Inuit Student Personnel Services educates Aboriginal school advisors on the principles and practice of personnel services as generally applied in educational settings.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The First Peoples' House provides a sense of community and a voice to Aboriginal students. It has its own student services staff and offers social, cultural and academic supports to promote student success. The house liaises with student organizations, faculties and the university community on issues relevant to Aboriginal and Inuit students. It also provides a mentoring program for new Aboriginal students, computer facilities, a resource centre, a visiting lecturer program, a visiting Elders program and first-level counselling.

There is some housing available for first-year Aboriginal students at First Peoples' House. The house's website celebrates Aboriginal student achievements and it sponsors an annual powwow for the university community.

Administrative and policy framework

In 2006, the Provost formed the Aboriginal Affairs Workgroup, which is responsible for seeking internal and external input on programs to support academics and recruitment and retention of Aboriginal students. The workgroup is chaired by the Dean of Students and reports to the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning).

There is an Aboriginal Students Association and an Aboriginal Law Association at McGill University.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

First Peoples' House maintains a list of scholarships and awards for Aboriginal students. All students admitted to McGill University can apply for financial aid and receive a decision before deadlines for admissions.

Aboriginal population on campus

Starting in 2009-10, McGill University's undergraduate admissions form provided an opportunity for Aboriginal applicants to self-identify. In 2009, 29 new students self-identified as Aboriginal.

McMASTER UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Representatives of McMaster University visit high schools and Indian Centres, recruitment fairs, and offer campus tours to interested Aboriginal high school students.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The institution has paid several visits to younger Aboriginal students over the years in the city of Hamilton, as well as the nearby Six Nations and New Credit communities. The Aboriginal Students Health Sciences also send members of the Aboriginal Health Interest Group to Aboriginal Communities for full day interactive health careers workshops.

Native studies programs

McMaster University offers a combined BA in Indigenous Studies.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Indigenous Studies courses are available to all students at McMaster University. Some classes are specifically targeted to Aboriginal students, such as the Faculty of Health Sciences' course in Aboriginal Health.

Transition programs

McMaster University offers pre-degree transition programs such as the Preparation for Medical School and Health Sciences Program and undergraduate certificate programs such as the Ojweho'weh Language Diploma at offsite locations.

McMaster University recognizes transfer credits from Six Nations Polytechnic, under their Native University Access Program. This Program allows students to take a full year of university courses at Six Nations Polytechnic and transfer directly into Level II at McMaster University.

The Faculty of Health Sciences has a transition program with Mohawk College in Nursing. Students attend Mohawk College for their first year and then transfer to McMaster University.

Support services for Aboriginal students

A group of Aboriginal students formed the McMaster First Nations Student Association. One of the main purposes of this group was to establish peer support for Native students who were attending university. The MFNSA organizes many Aboriginal cultural events to which the broader community is invited.

An Indigenous student counsellor is available to provide support on many levels such as academic, cultural and spiritual needs. There are regular socials, powwows, speaker series and cultural programs.

McMaster University established the Collaborative Centre on Indigenous Knowledge and Ways of Living in partnership with Six Nations Polytechnic. One of its main objectives is the preservation of Aboriginal languages.

The university provides an Aboriginal student lounge and promotes a visiting Elders program.

McMaster also has the Aboriginal Students Health Sciences office located within Health Sciences specifically designed for student supports such as funding, application preparation, academic success and socio/cultural needs, in addition to providing culturally relevant and safe curriculum to current professional programs.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

McMaster University provides links to databases of relevant scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students. It also provides links and direction on various financial aid options available to students.

Administrative and policy framework

The President's Committee on Indigenous Issues advises the institution on Aboriginal matters. It reports to the University President. Members of the committee include, but are not limited to, full-time instructors from the Indigenous Studies program, a representative from the Aboriginal Students Health Sciences office, a representative of the McMaster First Nations Student Association and representatives from the local Aboriginal Communities.

The Associate Vice-President Academic is responsible for the Indigenous Studies Program and reports to the Vice-President Academic and Provost.

Aboriginal population on campus

Fewer than two percent of McMaster University's student body is Aboriginal, and four full-time staff members are Aboriginal.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Memorial University actively recruits Aboriginal students through the Native Liaison Centre and the Aboriginal Student Centre. There are visits to Aboriginal schools and communities and to colleges with significant Aboriginal populations. There are on-campus summer programs and opportunities to visit the campus. Some advertising is done in Aboriginal media.

Native studies programs

The Minor in Aboriginal Studies is a multidisciplinary program offered to BA candidates. This is an interdisciplinary program designed to promote an understanding of Native Peoples, in particular those inhabiting Newfoundland and Labrador, their traditions and history.

Academic programs available off campus

Memorial University offers a Bachelor of Education (Native and Northern) for Native students who want to teach in Native communities. Courses are offered in various communities on a rotating basis.

The Diploma in Native and Northern Education is for students residing either on the North Coast of Labrador or the Upper Lake Melville area. The Diploma can be used as a step to the university's BEd.

Mun@Home is Memorial University's distance education program. It offers more than 300 undergraduate and graduate courses from 10 faculties and schools.

Transition programs

The Academic Advising Centre at the St. John's campus operates an extensive support system to help students transition from high school to university studies. It entails an individual interview with a faculty member or academic adviser for those level III students who plan to attend university.

The Nursing Access Program permits Inuit students with high school experience to proceed through a transition program into the BN degree program. The program is supported by the Labrador Inuit Association.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Native Liaison Office is an education counselling service for Aboriginal students attending postsecondary institutions in the St. John's area. The office is affiliated with, and is a member of, the team of student affairs and services professionals at Memorial University. The primary function of the office is to provide education counselling to students pertinent to their education programs and plans.

The Native liaison officer is entrusted to counsel and advise Aboriginal students on matters relating to admission requirements to specific institutions; adapting to an academic and urban environment; and tactics that may enhance their educational progress.

The Aboriginal Student Centre provides a meeting space and offers a range of social and cultural events for Aboriginal students. The centre has links to the local Aboriginal community and Elders. It receives support from the Labrador Inuit Association.

There is a Memorial Aboriginal Student Society and an Aboriginal Resource Centre in the University Centre.

Administrative and policy framework

The Chair of Aboriginal Studies acts as the focal point for Aboriginal concerns on campus.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute has an Aboriginal recruitment officer who travels to schools and communities, hosts open-house events at the university, and works closely with university recruitment. The Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute maintains a website, produces printed recruitment material and advertises in Aboriginal media and at career fairs.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute hosts science camps for primary school aged children, youth business summits, and institute staff visit middle schools to talk with First Nations students in grades 9-12.

Native studies programs

There are a number of Aboriginal courses offered at the university including courses in Aboriginal languages, but no Native studies degree program.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Bachelor of Education for Aboriginal Students began in 1977 at the Mi'kmaq Maliseet Institute. The majority of licensed First Nations teachers in the Maritimes are graduates of this program. The program offers a separate admissions procedure and academic advice and support. Students follow the program in elementary, secondary, or adult education and may also choose a concentration in Aboriginal education. Many other areas of specialization are available, including the subject areas, special education, school counselling, and technology education. It is also possible to take a concurrent education program in conjunction with another department.

The Bachelor of Nursing has access to a director of the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative. The director focuses on the recruitment and retention of Aboriginal students into the university's bachelor of nursing program.

The First Nations Business Administration Certificate was first offered in the fall of 2002 through the Mi'kmaq Maliseet Institute. This two-year certificate is equivalent to the first two years of the bachelor of business administration degree offered by the university's faculty of administration. The First Nations Business Administration Certificate offers specialty courses on First Nations business topics, smaller classes, tutoring, individual support, and a work placement (co-op) term. Following the certificate, students may elect to continue at the university to complete the BBA degree with an additional two years of study.

Aboriginal language courses are offered in Mi'kmaq and Maliseet.

Outreach programs

University Programs on the Miramichi is designed to enable qualified individuals to take university level courses in the Miramichi area. The program is offered by the University of New Brunswick (UNB Fredericton), Mount Allison University, and St. Thomas University to provide students an opportunity to complete first year studies in arts, science, or business/commerce. After completing their first year, students transfer to one of the sponsoring universities (or another university) to complete their degree programs. University Programs on the Miramichi is an extension of on-campus programs offered by each of the universities.

The BEd for Aboriginal Students is offered in two locations near First Nations communities (Miramichi and the Upper St. John River Valley). Some on-campus attendance is required, but the bulk of the program is delivered by a mixture of online learning and local delivery. The program is offered in partnership with the Mawiw Council and Union of New Brunswick Indians.

The College of Extended Learning offers a variety of part-time study options as well as a suite of online learning courses with open registration for off-campus learners. This includes a First Nations Business Administration Certificate.

Transition programs

The Mi'kmaq Maliseet Institute offers the Bridging Year program. The one-year program is for First Nations students who want to attend university but need certain Grade 12 courses to qualify for admission. They take these along with first-year university credit courses. Students who complete the bridging year successfully are automatically admitted to their chosen degree, and their credit courses are advanced to the degree program. In 2009, 44 students enrolled in the program. The Mi'kmaq Maliseet Institute maintains 40-45 average yearly intake to the program.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute is an academic unit of the university that administers academic programs for Aboriginal students and engages in research and publication in Aboriginal studies and Aboriginal education. The institute's goal is to maintain the high quality of UNB programs for First Nations students and to broaden the Aboriginal content and perspectives in these programs. In addition, the institute develops new programs that meet the stated needs of the First Nations communities of the region and contribute to their educational and professional growth. Institute services, which are intended for Aboriginal students in all faculties, include academic counselling and tutoring, access to an Aboriginal student lounge, and opportunities to participate in social and other group events. There are five employees dedicated to supporting Aboriginal students on campus.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The university has targeted scholarships for Aboriginal students in business, nursing and for promising writers. More information can be found at:

<http://eservices.unb.ca/calendar/undergraduate/awards.cgi?id=6&tables=awardsSubLevel1>

Administrative and policy framework

The Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute Advisory Board reports to the director of the institute and the associate vice-president academic. The board consists of a University of New Brunswick senior administrator, four First Nations education directors, a First Nations student and a First Nations teacher. Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute Director reports directly to the university's vice-president's office.

Aboriginal population on campus

The University of New Brunswick does not have data on Aboriginal student enrollment. Four members of the academic staff self-identify as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The University of Northern British Columbia has actively recruited Aboriginal students since its inception in 1992. Aboriginal students may be admitted to the Northern Advancement Program (see Transition programs below). There is a full-time Aboriginal liaison advisor who visits schools and communities. A special point is made of counselling younger students. Since 2002 UNBC has run summer programs for Aboriginal school children (see SUNY below).

Aboriginal youth engagement

The Science University for Northern Youth (SUNY) is committed to encouraging northern youth's interest in science by introducing a multidisciplinary approach to science and technology. SUNY takes a hands-on, minds-on approach to developing interactive programming for youth aged 10 and above. Located at UNBC, SUNY has access to the most up to date technologies and equipment, enabling diverse and interactive programming.

Since opportunities for postsecondary education are often limited for northern youth, there is a perceived lower level of participation in the sciences, especially among Aboriginal youth and young women. SUNY strives to change the perception that science is a non-creative, linear field in an attempt to encourage youth to consider science and technology as an educational path. Special initiatives are directed towards First Nations, young women and individuals with special needs.

Native studies programs

The First Nations Studies Program at UNBC focuses on various contemporary issues such as: research methods (including oral history); First Nations languages and cultures; land and resource use and environmental philosophy; art and material culture; religion and spirituality; and state, gender and legal issues.

The university offers a BA in First Nations studies, a minor in First Nations studies or a joint BA (major) in First Nations/women's studies. There is graduate MA program in First Nations studies.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Diploma in Aboriginal Health Sciences is a concentrated multidisciplinary program on Aboriginal health for individuals working with Aboriginal communities in a health related field or pursuing a degree in the health sciences with a concentration on Aboriginal health.

The Certificate in Aboriginal Health Sciences is a concentrated program of courses on Aboriginal health and health science subjects.

The Diploma in First Nations Language is directed towards individuals who may not wish to commit to a full major program in First Nations studies, with the associated requirements of a bachelor's

degree. Persons of First Nations descent and people who are working in the area of Aboriginal education can benefit from this shorter term program. UNBC offers Aboriginal language courses in Carrier, Cree, Haida, Haisla, Tsimshian, Nisga'a and Gitksan.

The Certificate in First Nations Public Administration consists of First Nations studies courses and political science, with offerings from business administration and economics. First Nations studies courses provide students with foundations in internal and external First Nations issues and culture, and political science courses provide foundations in the principles of government, politics and public administration, and some specialization in First Nations law, self-government and administration. The program is generic in nature so that the knowledge can be transferred to different community settings, as well as to the variety of situations that students will encounter throughout their lives.

The Certificate in General First Nations Studies allows individuals to pursue their interests in First Nations studies through a concentrated program of courses on First Nations subjects. The program ladders into a major in First Nations studies, anthropology, biology, history, education, English, environmental studies, forestry, geography, nursing and community health, political science, psychology, social work and women's studies.

The Certificate in Métis Studies allows individuals to pursue their interests through a concentrated program of courses on the Métis Nation. The certificate in Métis studies allows students to receive a credential after one year of studies which can be laddered into any UNBC program.

The Certificate in Traditional Environmental Knowledge offers a concentrated program of courses on First Nations and environmental subjects. This program ladders into a major in First Nations studies, anthropology, biology, history, education, English, environmental studies, forestry, geography, nursing and community health, political science, psychology, social work and women's studies.

The Certificate in Rural and Northern Nursing provides the opportunity for experienced registered nurses to pursue post-diploma undergraduate studies through a concentrated program. The certificate provides students with some of the essential knowledge and clinical skills needed to provide nursing care in rural and northern community hospitals, clinics and health centres.

Outreach programs

UNBC, the Cariboo Tribal Council and Thompson Rivers University offer the Cariboo Chilcotin Weekend University. Courses offered in Williams Lake lead to a number of degree options at the university partner institutions. Over 200 First Nations students have taken a course through this program. The completion and success rates are exceptionally high.

The Certificate in Nisga'a Studies is a concentrated program of courses offered on the Nisga'a First Nation for persons of Nisga'a descent, other Aboriginal people, and people who are working with Aboriginal organizations. It is offered in partnership with the Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a (the Nisga'a university college) at New Aiyansh and is funded from Aboriginal sources.

UNBC maintains regional centres to serve the northern students:

- Northwest Campus at Terrace;
- Northwest Community College at Prince Rupert;
- Peace River-Liard Campus at Fort St. John;
- South-Central Campus at Quesnel;
- Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a (the Nisga'a university/college) at New Aiyansh.

Transition programs

The Northern Advancement Program is a transitional program that targets Aboriginal students, but is open to any student. Emphasis is placed on developing support networks for personal growth and helping students in the northern advancement program deal with personal issues that impede their academic success.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The First Nations Centre assists First Nations students through a culturally sensitive and supportive environment so as to promote academic excellence.

The First Nations Student Association organizes social gatherings, events and activities of interest to First Nations students. This includes the annual Native Awareness Days. The centre is a place for First Nations students to meet and share their academic experiences.

Extensive support services are available to Aboriginal students. A few examples include: peer support network; comprehensive academic and personal support system; individualized pre-admission counselling; pre-admission orientation program; talking circles and cultural events; supportive advocacy through Office of First Nations Programs; First Nations student study hall and computer lab; First Nations Cultural Centre and counsellor; and First Nations Elder and spiritual healers.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

UNBC offers scholarships, bursaries and loans to Aboriginal students. The university waives registration fees for sponsored students. There are two scholarships for Aboriginal graduate students.

Administrative and policy framework

There is an Office of First Nations Programs and a Senate Committee on First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples. There is Aboriginal representation on the Board of Governors.

A number of commitments, policies, actions and strategies for First Nations and Aboriginal cultures are stated in UNBC's strategic plan to ensure First Nations and Aboriginal cultures are a pillar of the institution.

Aboriginal population on campus

For each of the past five years, about 10 percent of students self-identified as Aboriginal. However, UNBC estimates that closer to 13 percent of the student population is Aboriginal.

NOVA SCOTIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

NSAC's recruitment officers visit local high schools in First Nations communities and connect with local school board employees who serve First Nations students.

Aboriginal youth engagement

NSAC hosts student groups for on-campus tours and visits classrooms as requested.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

There are no Aboriginal specialization programs at NSAC. However, individual faculty members have worked with local First Nations communities to develop programs that would be relevant to their needs, such as NSAC's Aquaculture program.

Academic programs available off campus

NSAC's continuing and distance education offers "university preparation" non-credited courses to all students that lack one or more requirements for admission, designed to improve their academic skills. Student admission to the program is individually assessed based on previous studies and maturity.

NSAC has a continuing education department that offers a variety of courses via distance learning.

Transition programs

Students can partake in general first-year programming, pre-university preparation courses, and a University Access Path program that includes a University Study Skills class.

Support services for Aboriginal students

NSAC offers targeted academic and general counselling to Aboriginal students.

Cultural and social events are organized for Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

NSAC's Special Cohort Coordinator is dedicated in part to supporting Aboriginal students.

ONTARIO COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Two Aboriginal recruiters for OCAD visit high schools, colleges, community centres and friendship centres locally and in central Ontario. They provide positive role modelling, portfolio workshops and information about postsecondary education opportunities at OCAD. OCAD's Aboriginal recruitment program is a priority of the Aboriginal Visual Culture program and has grown in the last five years.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

OCAD offers an interdisciplinary Minor in Aboriginal Visual Culture. OCAD's Aboriginal Visual Culture Program has the highest enrolment of OCAD's interdisciplinary minors. The program has its own centre, making gatherings, artist visits and meetings easier to coordinate and facilitate.

Academic programs available off campus

OCAD offers two liberal studies courses by video conferencing in the far north through a partnership with the Klondike Institute of Art and Culture's School of Visual Arts. Continuing Education offers programming and non-credit curricula to the public in Aboriginal-related subjects.

Support services for Aboriginal students

OCAD offers an Aboriginal student study centre with computer, word processor and Internet access. There is an Aboriginal student meeting centre and access to a mentor and advisor on a one-on-one or group basis.

The Aboriginal Visual Culture Program and OCAD organize and sponsor regular symposia and gatherings of Aboriginal artists and scholars, which are open to the community. The program organizes and supports Aboriginal student and faculty art exhibitions and hosts a bi-weekly buffalo lunch for students, faculty and visitors.

Administrative and policy framework

The Interim Director, Aboriginal Visual Culture Program, develops and implements the program and oversees curriculum development.

The Honourable James Bartleman (Ojibwa), former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, is Chancellor of OCAD and co-chair of OCAD's Aboriginal Education Council. The Council, which meets once a year, is an external advisory panel made up of senior members of the national cultural community. The Council is co-chaired by Chancellor Bartleman and OCAD President Sara Diamond.

OCAD has an Aboriginal mentor/advisor whose role is to chair discussions and education meetings to address racism and prejudice towards Aboriginal peoples.

Aboriginal population on campus

OCAD estimates that fewer than two percent of students self-identify as Aboriginal. Five academic staff members self-identify as Aboriginal.

When OCAD's Aboriginal Visual Culture program was launched in February 2009, there were an estimated 12 to 15 self-identified Aboriginal students on campus. OCAD implemented the First Generation Student Survey in fall of 2009, which included the option for students to self-identify as Aboriginal, Inuit or as having Aboriginal heritage. The survey had a 77 percent response rate, indicating a major increase in the Aboriginal Student population from five to 80 in 2009. Statistics compiled in March 2010 by the registrar indicate that at present OCAD has 85 self-identified Aboriginal students, representing a five-fold growth in the inaugural year.

UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA / UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Aboriginal liaison officer liaises between the university and the Aboriginal population in Ottawa, in urban organizations and in First Nations communities. It is a university priority to recruit First Nations, Inuit and Métis students.

The University of Ottawa's Aboriginal Outreach Officer visits local Aboriginal communities. The university's Aboriginal Student Portal provides information to students and the community.

The faculties of Law, Medicine and Education offer specialized applications processes for Aboriginal students.

Aboriginal youth engagement

To promote youth engagement, the University of Ottawa visits Elders, hosts cultural events at high schools and in communities and promotes the university's transition programs.

Native studies programs

University of Ottawa offers a bachelor of arts degree with either a major or minor in Aboriginal studies.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Some of the professional programs including an Aboriginal specialization or focus are the Native Teacher Education program, the MD program (seven Aboriginal seats available), the Common Law and Civil law degree programs (Aboriginal seats and some Aboriginal course content) and Anthropology (some Aboriginal course content).

Students in other degree programs, such as arts or social science, can choose to do a minor in Aboriginal Studies.

Academic programs available off campus

The Community-Based Native Teacher Education Program consists of in-school work, distance education via Contact North and classes at a location of choice.

The University of Ottawa delivers a First Nations Leadership certificate with Saint Paul University.

Transition programs

The University of Ottawa's transition programs include an Aboriginal student mentoring program; academic writing support; counselling and coaching services; an Aboriginal Resource Centre; and career services for all students.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Aboriginal Resource Centre works with all university faculties to develop initiatives that support and benefit Aboriginal students. The centre promotes strong working relationships with government agencies and with Aboriginal communities and organizations. Services and activities of the centre include: academic guidance and counselling; peer-to-peer support; Aboriginal legal referral services; visiting Elders program; information on local Aboriginal services, programs, social and cultural events; and social and cultural activities.

A coordinator in the Faculty of Medicine ensures Aboriginal student success by providing personal counselling, group assistance and tutoring. The Faculty of Law's Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee provides a culturally relevant legal educational environment in both French and English.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The University of Ottawa provides bursaries for Canadian Aboriginal students and bursaries for foreign Aboriginal students. The Faculty of Law offers scholarships to Aboriginal law students.

Administrative and policy framework

The university's Senior Aboriginal Advisor reports jointly to the President and the Provost Academic.

The Aboriginal Education Council advises the university's administration on policies relating to Aboriginal matters. It is comprised of members of the Aboriginal community and organizations, Student Academic Success Services and the Aboriginal Resource Centre.

Aboriginal population on campus

Between 150 to 330 students currently self-identify as Aboriginal. There are approximately six staff members who self-identify as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Native studies programs

The interdisciplinary Canadian Studies program includes some courses dealing with Aboriginal issues.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Certificate Program in Conflict Resolution Studies offers a foundation in conflict resolution and concentrations in mediation, negotiation and facilitation.

The Bachelor of Education is a two-year, post-degree program. Students are required to complete a specialization in either international education or Indigenous education. Students in the Indigenous education specialization complete a practicum in an Aboriginal community.

Two seats are designated for Aboriginal students in nursing. Applicants must meet the admission requirements for nursing, but are not required to compete with other applicants.

Academic programs available off campus

The Master of Education in Leadership in Learning is the first graduate degree program offered in Nunavut. The curriculum was specially designed to balance western and Inuit knowledge of education and leadership. The University of Prince Edward Island, the Nunavut Department of Education, Nunavut Arctic College and St. Francis Xavier University cooperated to develop this program.

The Centre for Life-Long Learning offers a variety of online courses, summer institutes and on-campus certificate programs for students from all backgrounds.

Transition programs

The UPEI transition program ensures students get their university career off to the best possible start. The program provides writing, research, study and computer skills courses and academic and personal support.

Any first-year student feeling the need for additional academic and peer support may participate in the program.

The university offers a University 100 course for first-year students wanting help with their university studies and with developing communications and research skills.

The Aboriginal Support Program, operated by the School of Nursing, offers academic guidance, support and tutoring services to all Aboriginal students. As part of the program, an Aboriginal Lounge and welcoming space for Aboriginal students and their families is provided.

Support services for Aboriginal students

There is a small Aboriginal Student Centre on campus that provides a meeting space and location for social events.

Administrative and policy framework

Aboriginal affairs on campus are the responsibility of the Vice-President (academic development).

There is a committee that advises the university and the Department of Education on Aboriginal education.

UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À TROIS-RIVIÈRES

Programmes axés sur les questions autochtones (sur le campus)

L'UQTR offre un microprogramme de premier cycle en intervention psychosociale pour les étudiants autochtones. Ce programme vise à développer des connaissances et des habiletés reliées à l'intervention psychosociale en milieu autochtone. Les cours dispensés visent à fournir une meilleure compréhension des problèmes d'adaptation chez l'enfant, l'adolescent et la famille ainsi que la connaissance de programmes d'intervention pertinents.

Le certificat en histoire et le baccalauréat en histoire offrent un cours sur l'histoire des Autochtones.

Des microprogrammes de premier cycle en didactique et fondements de l'enseignement au primaire I, II, III et IV sont offerts depuis 2006 aux étudiants atikamekws sur le campus de l'UQTR.

Programmes d'extension des services

Le microprogramme de premier cycle en intervention psychosociale pour les étudiants autochtones est donné par du personnel universitaire hors campus.

L'UQTR offre plusieurs cours en ligne ainsi que deux programmes: microprogramme en soutien pédagogique dans les CPE et autres services de garde et un certificat en traduction.

Programmes de transition

L'UQTR offre quatre microprogrammes de premier cycle en didactique et fondements de l'enseignement au primaire permettant à la cohorte atikamekw de poursuivre son cheminement parallèle au baccalauréat d'éducation au préscolaire et d'enseignement au primaire.

Soutien aux étudiants

L'embauche d'une agente d'aide pour les étudiants atikamekws inscrits au baccalauréat d'éducation préscolaire et d'enseignement primaire a grandement contribué à la réussite des étudiants autochtones.

Population autochtone sur le campus

La proportion des étudiants atikamekws est de moins de deux pour cent. Un chargé de cours s'identifie comme étant autochtone.

UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À CHICOUTIMI

Recrutement d'étudiants autochtones et admissions

Les représentants de l'UQAC font de la promotion dans les communautés des Premières Nations. L'UQAC fait aussi la promotion par les médias (Web, journaux et périodiques), et présente les Journées de sensibilisation à la culture des Premières Nations.

Engagement des jeunes autochtones

Camp « Carrières santé » pour les jeunes des Premières Nations (de 11 à 14 ans).

Programmes d'études autochtones

- Baccalauréat en éducation préscolaire et en enseignement primaire
- Certificat de perfectionnement en transmission d'une langue autochtone
- Certificat en études pluridisciplinaires
- Certificat en formation d'aides-enseignants en milieu autochtone
- Certificat en formation de suppléants en milieu scolaire autochtone
- Certificat en technolinguistique autochtone
- Programme court de premier cycle d'intervention en apprentissage d'une langue autochtone
- Programme court de premier cycle de perfectionnement en français écrit
- Programme court de premier cycle en comptabilité financière
- Programme court de premier cycle en développement socioéconomique
- Programme court de premier cycle en relation d'aide
- Programme court en histoire et culture des Premières Nations du nord-est de l'Amérique du Nord

Programmes axés sur les questions autochtones (sur le campus)

- Certificat de perfectionnement en transmission d'une langue autochtone
- Certificat en formation d'aides-enseignants en milieu autochtone
- Certificat en formation de suppléants en milieu scolaire autochtone
- Certificat en technolinguistique autochtone

- Programme court de premier cycle d'intervention en apprentissage d'une langue autochtone

L'UQAC offre aussi des cours de langue Innu en collaboration avec le département du Services aux étudiants.

Programmes d'extension des services

L'UQAC emploie les vidéoconférences, l'Internet et la formation continue pour offrir les services suivants :

- L'enseignement en milieu scolaire des Premières Nations
- La technolinguistique autochtone
- Les études pluridisciplinaires
- La relation d'aide
- Le développement socioéconomique
- La comptabilité financière
- Le français écrit
- L'histoire et la culture des Premières Nations

Programmes de transition

L'UQAC offre les programmes de transition suivants :

- Le programme pluridisciplinaire
- Le programme de français écrit
- Le programme de français langue seconde écrit pour les Premières Nations (à venir).

Soutien aux étudiants

L'UQAC offre les services suivants spécifiquement aux étudiants autochtones :

- Hébergement et résidence pour étudiants sur le campus
- Orientation professionnelle
- Orientation générale
- Mentorat par les pairs

- Orientation de carrière / emploi
- Support pédagogique
- Cercle de partage

L'UQAC dispose des installations suivantes destinées spécifiquement aux étudiants autochtones sur le campus :

- Salle pédagogique
- Activités culturelles
- Activités sociales
- Bibliothèque

L'UQAC appuie les activités suivantes pour les étudiants autochtones sur le campus:

- Activités sociales et culturelles
- Garderie
- Visites d'ainés
- Liens avec les collectivités autochtones locales et le Centre d'amitié autochtone de Saguenay

Bourses d'études et d'entretien destinées aux étudiants autochtones

L'UQAC offre des bourses d'études aux étudiants autochtones comme la bourse « Jean Paul Simard ».

Cadre administratif et stratégique

Le Centre des Premières Nations Nikanite de l'UQAC est chargé de conseiller l'administration de l'UQAC sur les politiques touchant les autochtones. Le Directeur du Centre des Premières Nations Nikanite relève du vice-rectorat à l'enseignement et à la recherche et est responsable des affaires autochtones à l'UQAC. Des objectifs relatifs aux étudiants autochtones sont inscrits dans le schéma directeur de l'UQAC. Un des membres du Conseil d'administration de l'UQAC est issu des Premières Nations.

Population autochtone sur le campus

Les étudiants autochtones forment plus de 10 pour cent de la population étudiante de l'Université (déclaration volontaire). Deux professeurs à l'UQAC s'identifient comme étant autochtones.

UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC EN OUTAOUAIS

Programmes axés sur les questions autochtones (sur le campus)

Certains cours sont offerts dans le cadre des programmes de 1^{er} et de 2^e cycles en sciences sociales.

Cadre administratif et stratégique

Le doyen des études est responsable des affaires autochtones. Celui-ci relève du vice-recteur à l'enseignement et à la recherche.

Population autochtone sur le campus

Moins de deux pour cent des étudiants s'identifient comme étant autochtone.

UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC EN ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE

Recrutement d'étudiants autochtones et admissions :

Les membres du Service Premières Nations, plus particulièrement la coordonnatrice, s'occupe de la promotion auprès des étudiants potentiels des Premières Nations. La promotion consiste en :

- envois de cartes publicitaires annonçant les programmes offerts à la session d'automne;
- envois de courriels aux conseils de bande ainsi qu'aux organisations autochtones;
- présence de l'UQAT lors des salons carrières et emplois qui se tiennent dans chacune des communautés autochtones de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue, du Nord du Québec et ailleurs en province.

Engagement des jeunes autochtones :

C'est par le biais de la promotion, principalement lors des journées carrières tenues dans les communautés, que l'UQAT présente aux étudiants des écoles autochtones les avantages d'étudier à l'UQAT. Également, l'université a développé depuis 2002 des stratégies pour créer des réseaux avec les communautés autochtones. L'un des outils cruciaux pour l'UQAT est la table de concertation que constitue le Comité consultatif des Premières Nations, à laquelle siègent des directeurs de l'éducation et des représentants d'organisations autochtones (neuf personnes en 2009-2010). Ce comité a la mission d'orienter les institutions (Cégep et Université) dans leurs décisions en ce qui concerne l'éducation des Autochtones. Le Comité consultatif des Premières Nations est régulièrement consulté, des rencontres ont lieu plusieurs fois par année. De plus en plus, les intervenants autochtones de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue valorisent la réussite scolaire par le biais d'événements (Gala de reconnaissance Mëmëgwashi du Centre d'amitié autochtone de Val-d'Or), ou de modèles autochtones ayant réussi leurs études (avocats, infirmières, enseignantes).

L'UQAT proposera sous peu un Programme préparatoire aux études universitaires qui encouragera l'intégration à l'université des personnes moins scolarisées, et leur permettra d'acquérir des pratiques pour structurer leurs études et mettre à jour leurs connaissances avant de débiter un programme de formation. Ce nouveau programme sera offert aux personnes âgées de 21 ans ou plus qui possèdent de l'expérience pertinente dans un secteur dans lequel ils aimeraient étudier. Il leur permettra de développer des attitudes gagnantes afin de réussir leurs études universitaires.

Programmes d'études autochtones :

Voici la liste actuelle de nos formations spécifiques en études autochtones :

- Certificat de développement de la pratique enseignante en milieu nordique
- Certificat de développement de la pratique enseignante en milieu nordique II
- Certificat d'enseignement au préscolaire et au primaire en milieu nordique

- Microprogramme en études autochtones
- Microprogramme de 1er cycle en formation à l'enseignement d'une langue seconde en contexte autochtone.

Programmes axés sur les questions autochtones (sur le campus) :

Voici la liste des programmes offerts en français à l'UQAT:

- Baccalauréat en éducation préscolaire et enseignement primaire (4 ½ ans)
- Baccalauréat en travail social
- Baccalauréat en enseignement au secondaire – volet univers social
- Certificat de développement de la pratique enseignante en milieu nordique
- Certificat de développement de la pratique enseignante en milieu nordique II
- Certificat d'enseignement au préscolaire et au primaire en milieu nordique;
- Certificat en administration
- Certificat en sciences comptables
- Microprogramme en études autochtones
- Microprogramme de 1^{er} cycle en formation à l'enseignement d'une langue seconde en contexte autochtone
- Microprogramme de 1^{er} cycle d'initiation à la gestion (A2010)

Voici la liste des programmes offerts en anglais :

- Bachelor Degree in Preschool Education and Primary Teaching (4½ years)
- Bachelor Degree in Social Work
- Certificate in Administration (F-2010)
- Certificate in Accounting (F-2010)
- Certificate in Management and Regional Socio-Economic Development (F-2010)
- Certificate in Interactive Multimedia (F-2010)
- Undergraduate Short Program – Introduction to Management (F2010)

En outre, l'UQAT a offert, en collaboration avec le Réseau DIALOG, l'Université nomade en août 2009, et l'offrira pour une seconde fois en juin 2010. C'est une activité de formation créditée, offerte sur cinq jours à temps complet durant la saison d'été qui, à travers un contact privilégié avec les leaders autochtones, analyse les enjeux autochtones contemporains. Il y a également une formation spécifique en langues algonquiennes pour les étudiants issus du programme en enseignement au secondaire – volet anglais langue seconde. Il y a également une approche autochtone distinctive dans plusieurs cours du certificat en gestion et développement régional. À cela s'ajoutent aussi des projets de recherche de deuxième et troisième cycles en lien avec deux chaires de recherche à l'UQAT. Il est aussi important de mentionner les travaux reliés aux études autochtones effectuées à l'Unité de recherche, de formation et de développement en éducation en milieu inuit et amérindien.

Au cours des dernières années, l'UQAT a augmenté le nombre de programmes offerts aux étudiants autochtones et revu plusieurs de ses programmes afin de mieux répondre aux besoins de cette clientèle et d'inclure des objectifs et du contenu plus conforme aux réalités vécues par les Autochtones. L'université a notamment modifié ses programmes en science de l'éducation, en science de la gestion et en sciences sociales. Elle a aussi récemment mis sur pied l'Unité de formation et de développement des programmes autochtones. L'Unité gère l'offre des programmes offerts (et à offrir) aux clientèles autochtones, et supporte les étudiants inscrits dans ces programmes, le corps professoral et le personnel de l'Université impliqué auprès des étudiants autochtones, notamment le Service Premières Nations, au milieu professionnel ou social concerné.

L'UQAT offre également des cours de langue en cri et algonquine.

Programmes d'extension des services

- Baccalauréat en éducation préscolaire et enseignement primaire (4 ½ ans)
- Baccalauréat en travail social
- Baccalauréat en enseignement au secondaire – volet univers social
- Certificat de développement de la pratique enseignante en milieu nordique
- Certificat de développement de la pratique enseignante en milieu nordique II
- Certificat d'enseignement au préscolaire et au primaire en milieu nordique
- Certificat en administration
- Certificat en sciences comptables
- Microprogramme en études autochtones
- Microprogramme de 1^{er} cycle en formation à l'enseignement d'une langue seconde en contexte autochtone
- Microprogramme de 1^{er} cycle d'initiation à la gestion (A2010).

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- Bachelor Degree in Preschool Education and Primary Teaching (4½ years)
- Bachelor Degree in Social Work
- Certificate in Administration (F-2010)
- Certificate in Accounting (F-2010)
- Certificate in Management and Regional Socio-Economic Development (F-2010)
- Certificate in Interactive Multimedia (F-2010)
- Undergraduate Short Program – Introduction to Management (F2010).

L'UQAT offre des cours sur un support vidéo (DVD), et elle a le plus grand réseau de salles de vidéoconférence au Québec qui permet aux étudiants de suivre leur formation près de leur communauté. L'université offre aussi de la formation sur Internet.

Programmes de transition

L'UQAT est présentement à élaborer un programme de formation visant le développement de compétences pour faciliter la transition vers la formation universitaire. Le programme préparatoire aux études universitaires devrait être lancé à l'automne 2010.

Soutien aux étudiants :

Le Service Premières Nations offre aux étudiants les services suivants : soutien pédagogique, agente de relations humaines, animatrice à la vie étudiante. Le fait que les services soient maintenant situés dans le nouveau pavillon des Premiers-Peuples, construit en 2008 et habité depuis le début de 2009, permet aux étudiants autochtones d'évoluer dans un environnement qui rappelle leur culture. D'ailleurs, toute la configuration de l'édifice a été pensée et conçue grâce à des consultations qui se sont tenues sur les territoires algonquins et cris, avec pour objectif de rendre l'endroit représentatif de la culture autochtone.

Bourses d'études et d'entretien destinées aux étudiants autochtones

Avec l'aide du Service Premières Nations, l'UQAT aide les étudiants dans leur recherche de bourses d'études à travers un répertoire que l'université a mis sur pied. L'UQAT soutient aussi les étudiants dans la préparation de leurs demandes de financement.

Cadre administratif et stratégique

La structure organisationnelle de l'UQAT a amorcé depuis 2007 le développement d'une unité de formation et de développement de programmes autochtones et a embauché en 2008 une chargée de projet responsable des dossiers autochtones.

Le directeur du campus de l'UQAT à Val-d'Or est le responsable des affaires autochtones. Le projet éducatif destiné aux Autochtones s'est établi au campus de Val-d'Or depuis le début des années 90. En 2008, la construction du Pavillon des Premiers-Peuples est venue confirmer l'orientation de l'UQAT à Val-d'Or en regard des autochtones. Pour l'assister dans les orientations touchant la clientèle étudiante issue des Premières Nations, le directeur peut compter sur l'équipe du Service Premières Nations composée de six personnes. L'équipe développe des programmes destinés aux clientèles autochtones et coordonne la tenue d'événements tels le Colloque annuel des Premières Nations et d'autres activités ponctuelles visant à susciter un rapprochement interculturel à Val-d'Or.

L'UQAT a officialisé un poste au sein du conseil d'administration de l'université pour un représentant autochtone. Il y a aussi le même type de poste au comité d'éthique de la recherche. L'UQAT a aussi intégré un enjeu portant sur les Premiers Peuples dans le plan de développement 2009-2014.

Population autochtone sur le campus (étudiants et membres du personnel)

Entre deux et cinq pour cent des étudiants à l'UQAT s'identifient comme étant Autochtones. Mais plus de 10 pour cent d'étudiants à l'UQAT sont identifiés par les données de recherche de l'établissement comme étant Autochtone.

L'UQAT a un professeur autochtone, mais a plus d'une vingtaine de chargés de cours s'identifiant comme Autochtones.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

UBC actively recruits Aboriginal students through school and college visits, career fairs, community visits, tours of the campus and referrals. Similar activities occur at the UBC Okanagan campus. Aboriginal coordinators in various faculties throughout the university work with the First Nations House of Learning to act as focal points for student recruitment activities. The Longhouse News is distributed in the fall to some 2,000 schools, colleges and universities, Aboriginal communities and other organizations and individuals across Canada. UBC Okanagan also advertises in local, provincial and national Aboriginal news papers and newsletters.

There is an Aboriginal applicants' webpage and under the Aboriginal Admissions Policy, special consideration can be given to students who do not meet regular admissions criteria. Graduate admissions policies have also recently been revised to better reflect a broad-based admissions approach for Aboriginal and other applicants and to directly encourage Aboriginal students to apply. There is an Aboriginal student recruiter position in enrolment services and UBC has developed Aboriginal-specific recruitment materials. Pre-admissions advising is available.

There are extensive credit-transfer agreements in place and students can transfer credits for up to 50 percent of their course requirements towards a program at UBC Okanagan.

Aboriginal youth engagement

UBC has a wide variety of programs in place to engage youth during elementary and high school.

The CEDAR Program is a free two-week summer camp in August for Aboriginal middle-school students in grades 6-8 to encourage students to consider university at an early point. The program emphasizes science and forestry.

The Institute for Aboriginal Health also offers a one-week science program twice each July for 40 students in grades 8-11.

GEERingUP is a non-profit summer program associated with the Faculty of Applied Sciences. Engineering students offer outreach programming in Aboriginal communities near Powell River.

The Faculty of Medicine runs the Aboriginals into Medicine Preadmissions Program that introduces youth to the study of medicine.

The Ch'nook Cousins project works with 50 college-bound Aboriginal high school students providing them with the opportunity to meet with students currently enrolled in full-time business studies.

The Native Youth Program at the UBC Museum of Anthropology offers Aboriginal youth the chance to research and interpret their own cultures in a museum setting and brings groups to the UBC campus.

The Bridge through Sport Program gets Aboriginal youth interested in pursuing higher education through team-building activities like soccer and other sports. The annual Musqueam and UBC Youth Soccer Tournament is one of these initiatives.

The Faculty of Arts' First Nations Language Program has made an arrangement with the Ministry of Education, through which courses may be taken by students who are still in high school. Not only do these courses fulfill secondary school language requirements, students also receive advance post-secondary credit. Several students from three local high schools in Vancouver have participated in the classes under this option.

UBC Okanagan has Aboriginal middle and high school students participate in a week-long introduction to university programs during the spring break. These students take part in activities in various academic, lab and recreational activities throughout the campus.

Native studies programs

The Faculty of Arts' interdisciplinary First Nations Studies Program is offered both as a major and a minor. There are currently 35-40 students in the program and it has strong community ties.

The First Nations Languages Program delivers courses in five languages: Musqueam (Coast Salish), Nle'kepmxcin (Thompson River Salish), Kaska, Dakelh (Carrier), and Cree. These are accepted for university second language requirements. Musqueam is taught on the Musqueam reserve near campus. Kaska is offered in the Yukon.

UBC Okanagan offers the Indigenous Studies Program (major BA and minor program in the faculty of arts and sciences). It has courses that provide perspectives of Aboriginal Peoples from the Okanagan, Canada and world communities. The Indigenous Studies major offers coursework and community research project options. There is an Indigenous Studies graduate level summer institute designed to deliver graduate level course to part-time graduate students.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

UBC has developed a number of Aboriginal specific and focused programs.

The First Nations Legal Studies program provides legal education relating to Aboriginal issues and supports the legal education of Aboriginal students.

The First Nations Concentration in the School of Library, Information and Archival Studies has MAS and MILS programs that train information professionals to work effectively both within and outside Aboriginal communities.

The Aboriginal Residency Program provides Aboriginal medical graduates, and others interested in Aboriginal health issues, an opportunity to focus on the health and health care challenges facing Aboriginal people. Training is done in communities, family practices and hospitals. The training

offers experience with Aboriginal patients in family practice and elective rotations.

The Forest Resources Management Major's specialization in community and Aboriginal forestry provides a comprehensive understanding of the discipline of forest management. The program is designed to facilitate students' acquisition of specific knowledge and skills to give them the confidence they need to make effective decisions in the emerging field of community and Aboriginal forestry. Graduates, after appropriate work experience and examination, will be eligible for registration as professional foresters.

The T' kel Graduate Studies Program in the Faculty of Education provides students the opportunity to develop expertise needed for First Nations schools and other educational contexts.

There is an Aboriginal graduate student program (master's and doctorate) in fisheries.

The Developmental Standard Teaching Certificate provides certification for teachers to teach the Okanagan language and culture in public schools.

UBC Okanagan offers a modular Aboriginal Teacher Education Program. It proceeds thematically, from the larger teaching pedagogical perspective and professional practice, through to the culture of the school and to the particulars of classroom teaching.

In addition, significant Aboriginal content is available to students in a wide range of study areas including: anthropology, archeology, history, art history, education, nursing, sociology, law and music.

A number of programs have set targets for Aboriginal recruitment. For example, the Faculty of Medicine has set a goal of five percent of the first year MD spaces being filled by Aboriginal students.

Academic programs available off campus:

The Native Indian Teacher Education Program (NITEP) builds upon Aboriginal identity and cultural heritage while preparing and challenging persons of Aboriginal ancestry to be effective educators for public, band and independent schools in BC. The program is guided by an advisory council of Aboriginal educators and community members, UBC faculty, a NITEP coordinator, a B.C. Teachers' Federation representative and program students.

Persons of Aboriginal ancestry who qualify for university admission complete two years of studies at one of the NITEP field centres where the program consists of courses in arts, sciences, pedagogy, and First Nations studies, as well as structured education placements. The program has both elementary and secondary options, both of which are five-year concurrent programs. Students attend the UBC campus to complete remaining degree requirements. The locations of NITEP centres are agreed upon jointly by representatives from Aboriginal communities, university colleges, colleges, UBC and cooperating school districts. Presently, field centres are located in Duncan, Kamloops and on the UBC Vancouver campus (urban focus).

NITEP graduates are awarded the bachelor of education degree (elementary or secondary) and apply to the British Columbia College of Teachers for a professional teaching certificate when they have completed all program requirements.

The Certificate in Aboriginal Health Care Administration is offered by UBC Continuing Studies and is a mixed-mode course combining 50 percent on-campus teaching and 50 percent online instruction. Students are normally working in the field and begin by attending extended four-day weekend classes at the UBC Longhouse followed by online distance learning for a two-month period. The cycle is repeated over the year-long duration for each cohort of community-based students.

The Sauder School of Business's Chinook Aboriginal Business Education program provides business education opportunities for Aboriginal students. The Chinook Business Diploma, offered through some B.C. colleges in partnership with UBC, is a two-year diploma that covers a full range of business fundamentals. It includes two UBC business courses for Chinook students from all partner colleges, as well as a summer internship. Partner colleges include Camosun College, Capilano College, College of New Caledonia, Langara College, and Northwest Community College. Aboriginal students who have completed the Chinook Business Diploma at one of UBC's partner colleges have the opportunity to enrol in the Bachelor of Commerce - Chinook Option and select courses designed to address Aboriginal business issues and interests.

The First Nations Bachelor of Social Work Program is delivered through a partnership between the Squamish First Nation and the UBC school of Social Work and Family studies. The program evolved from a request from Squamish Nation for social work education for their staff and administrators. Students are able to enter the program without the requisite arts credits typically needed for admission to the BSW program. Students are able to fulfill the Arts requirements after completion of the social work component, an option which allows them to immediately obtain the skills and knowledge identified as most needed by their communities.

The Okanagan Language Program is offered in partnership with the En'owkin Centre, the Okanagan Nation post-secondary institution.

Transition programs:

At UBC Okanagan, the Access Studies program allows applicants, upon approval by a faculty member, to take a limited number of courses in a specific area to upgrade or achieve a qualification. Distance education students may be enrolled in this category. Students in this category may normally take up to six credits per academic term, up to a maximum of 24 credits in total while registered as access studies students. Although documentation requirements vary by faculty, access studies applicants are not normally required to submit transcripts or other academic documentation of prior study.

The Aboriginal Access Studies program offered through the UBC Okanagan campus in Kelowna and the En'owkin Centre in Penticton, provides access to a specific set of university level courses for students who have not initially registered in a degree program or are undergoing the standard

admissions process. An Okanagan language course is included in each term to enhance student's cultural knowledge. The university provides extensive tutorial and personal supports through advisors, counsellors and peer mentors. Students registered in 9 credits per term in the Aboriginal Access Program are eligible to apply for government student loans.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Support for Aboriginal students at UBC Vancouver is centred in the First Nations House of Learning, an eight-person unit reporting to the president's office. The unit is physically located in the 22,000 square foot First Nations Longhouse, a custom-built facility designed to serve as a "home away from home" for Aboriginal students. Services provided include:

- a coordinator of student services;
- accredited counselling;
- computer centre;
- Xwi7xwa Library, a branch of the UBC Library;
- social and cultural activities;
- Elder in residence;
- tutoring;
- academic advising;
- Aboriginal graduation ceremonies.

The Longhouse also houses the Native Indian Teacher Education Program.

There are Aboriginal coordinators in the faculties of arts, science/agricultural science, forestry, medicine, law, education, graduate studies and in the school of business who provide counselling and support for Aboriginal students in their disciplinary units and coordinate the special programs of those units.

Priority access to the university's residence system is available for a limited number of Aboriginal students and their families.

There are a number of Aboriginal student organizations including: First Nations Student Association, First Nations Law Student Association, Indigenous Students in Science and Health Association and Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE). Only the Indigenous association is affiliated with the campus-wide student union. Over the year, these groups organize various events including: Coffee Houses, Aboriginal Awareness Week and Indigenous Graduate Symposium.

At the UBC Okanagan campus, the Aboriginal Student Council Resource Centre offers a meeting space, cultural and social activities and provides linkages to Elders and the local community in general. Other services include counselling, peer support and academic skills workshops. There is an Aboriginal Student Association on the Okanagan campus.

UBC Okanagan's community service learning program offers an opportunity for Aboriginal students to participate in community service projects as a means of providing experience in the development and delivery of community services.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

UBC has over 60 awards specifically for Aboriginal students and students pursuing Aboriginal-relevant coursework that are administered by Awards and Financial Aid. The Faculty of Graduate Studies also administers a number of merit-based awards including Aboriginal Graduate Fellowships. Several fellowships and scholarships are offered to Canadian Aboriginal graduate students selected on the basis of academic merit. A number of faculties also administer their own awards for Aboriginal students.

There are also entrance scholarships available exclusively to Aboriginal students at UBC Okanagan.

Administrative and policy framework: In 2006 a new position, Senior Advisor to the President on Aboriginal Affairs, was created. The Senior Advisor is also the Director of The First Nations House of Learning. The creation of this position has resulted in increased communication about Aboriginal issues with senior management, the development of an Aboriginal strategic plan, and the incorporation of Aboriginal issues into UBC's strategic plan. The President has hosted two Aboriginal roundtables with leaders of the Vancouver Aboriginal community. UBC Vancouver and UBC Okanagan have Memoranda of Understanding with the Musqueam First Nation and with the Okanagan Nations Alliance, respectively.

UBC's Aboriginal Strategic Plan promotes the development of new curriculum focusing on Aboriginal content and perspectives across disciplines. The full document may be obtained at <http://aboriginal.ubc.ca/plan/>. At UBC Vancouver the implementation of the plan has resulted in the formation of two committees, the internal ASP implementation committee and the President's Advisory Committee, UBC Vancouver, on Aboriginal Affairs, comprised of Aboriginal community members.

UBC Okanagan has an Aboriginal Council. This council invites representation from six Okanagan bands, four Shuswap bands, three native friendship centres, one Métis association, two Aboriginal students, Okanagan College and Elders. This Council reports to the Director of Aboriginal Programs and Services.

Graduate programs

The Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE) program is available for prospective and current Aboriginal PhD students. Approximately 25-30 students have participated from various B.C. universities. The goal is to produce a critical mass of PhD/EdD-credentialed Aboriginal people in the province. The program is coordinated by the Indigenous Education Institute of Canada at UBC with four cohorts strategically located across the province (Vancouver, Victoria, Kelowna and Prince George). The program provides a supportive network for Aboriginal graduate students who meet to share experiences and receive advice from each other and from visiting speakers.

The School of Social Work and Family Studies has five seats for Aboriginal students in the MSW program.

Aboriginal population on campus (student and staff)

Enrolment services has drawn data from student self-identification in applications for admissions, housing, awards, and graduation, as well as a report of students sponsored by an Aboriginal community through 3rd party billing. These data show that 506 students who identified as Aboriginal were enrolled at UBC Vancouver in the 2009 winter term. It is believed that this process is still missing some Aboriginal students and shortfalls will be addressed by the development of an official process for data collection. In addition, there were 153 self-identified Aboriginal students at UBC Okanagan in 2009.

In 2009/10, 120 self-identified Aboriginal students graduated from UBC Vancouver. This represents a continued upward trend, and an increase of 79% since 2001/02.

The University is aware that many Aboriginal students, for a variety of reasons, may choose not to identify as Aboriginal. As such, Aboriginal enrolment may be significantly higher than these figures indicate.

The Indigenous Academic Caucus is an informal association of UBC Vancouver faculty members who identify as Indigenous. As of April, 2010, this group had 23 faculty members including two adjunct professors and one instructor. Sixteen management and professional staff members have also identified themselves as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The University of Regina employs an Aboriginal Recruitment Officer who focuses on the recruitment of Aboriginal students across Saskatchewan. The university's main recruitment of Aboriginal communities has been done through Saskatchewan Universities and Technical Institutes Liaison, an organization that includes institutions like University of Saskatchewan, SIAST and Lakeland College. The institutions travel together to communities in Saskatchewan to provide presentations to high schools about government funded, postsecondary education opportunities in Saskatchewan. The travel to First Nation communities occurs January –April each year.

The University Ambassador program employs students to visit high schools and conduct campus tours. An increasing proportion of the student ambassadors are Aboriginal students who frequently visit Aboriginal communities on behalf of the University of Regina and First Nations University of Canada.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The Aboriginal Student Centre supports the Stepping Stones Career Fair, an annual career gathering for Aboriginal youth. The centre also runs the Aboriginal Mentorship program that pairs up successful Aboriginal university students with high school students.

Native studies programs

There is a BA (and BA honours) and an MA program in Indigenous Studies. The programs are run predominantly through the First Nations University of Canada, a federated college of the University of Regina, but degrees are granted by the University of Regina.

Aboriginal focused programs on campus (does not include all programs at the First Nations University of Canada)

- Both the Bachelor of Indian Social Work and Master of Aboriginal Social Work programs are offered with the School of Indian Social Work at the First Nations University of Canada in partnership with the University of Regina Faculty of Social Work. Fundamental to both programs is an understanding of traditional Aboriginal spirituality, culture and healing, and especially how these traditions can function effectively in contemporary settings. The graduate program aims to prepare students as clinical practitioners, especially skilled in Aboriginal approaches to therapy and especially sensitive to issues facing Aboriginal communities.
- Aboriginal Arts Internship. This program allows arts students to receive academic credit for an unpaid internship. Students work 8-10 hours a week for 13 weeks on a designated project at a host organization and receive academic credit for a three-credit class. Students must have declared a major in the Faculty of Arts (excluding human justice and journalism).

- The Aboriginal Cooperative Education Program provides Aboriginal students attending classes at the University of Regina with meaningful work experience while going to school. Students registered in the faculties of arts, business administration, engineering and science can apply to the co-op program after completing their third semester of classes.
- The Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Health and Science is offered in partnership with the Department of Science, First Nations University of Canada and the University of Regina.
- There are a variety of Aboriginal language-instruction credit courses offered in Cree, Dakota, Dene, Nakota, and Saulteaux (Ojibway) and a linguistics program with an emphasis on the structure and preservation of First Nations languages. First Nations languages are considered for second language credit requirements in other programs.
- Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) delivers a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) program through the Gabriel Dumont Institute, located on the main University of Regina campus. The SUNTEP program prepares prospective teachers of Aboriginal ancestry to be fully qualified teachers, sensitive to the educational needs of all students, particularly those of Métis/First Nations ancestry.
- The following degree programs offer in depth exposure to native or Aboriginal studies: Bachelor of Arts (Indian Art); Bachelor of Arts (Indian Art History); Bachelor of Administration (delivered at First Nations University of Canada); Diploma of Administration (delivered at First Nations University of Canada); Bachelor of Fine Arts (Indian Art); Bachelor of Arts (Cree Language Studies); Bachelor of Arts (Saulteaux Language Studies); Bachelor of Arts (Cree Language Oracy); Bachelor of Arts (Cree Language Literacy); Bachelor of Arts (Saulteaux Language Oracy); Bachelor of Arts (Saulteaux Language Literacy). Some programs are run predominantly through the First Nations University of Canada but degrees are granted through the University of Regina.
- The Centre for Continuing Education offers a variety of programs both off and on campus, face-to-face and online that feature Aboriginal content and/or engage Aboriginal people. It also offers a “Weekend University” and a “Summer University” program for those unable to attend regular semester classes.
- Aboriginal perspectives, history, culture are a feature of courses and programs in many areas of study at the University of Regina.
- Aboriginal Cooperative Education Program provides Aboriginal students attending classes at the University of Regina with work experience while going to school. Students registered in the faculties of arts, business administration, engineering and science can apply to the co-op program after completing their third semester of classes.

Academic programs available off campus

- Partnered with the Parkland Regional College and Standing Buffalo Reserve to have credit courses delivered at Fort Qu'Appelle.
- In partnership with the University of Regina, Yukon College offers an accredited undergraduate Bachelor of Social Work program with a University of Regina degree. This program prepares students for social work practice in northern, remote and First Nations communities. The program features a ten-day culture camp, hosted by a Yukon First Nation and set in a remote wilderness location. Also in partnership with Yukon College, the University of Regina is involved with the Yukon Teacher Education Program. The program is delivered at Yukon College by local staff with graduates receiving a University of Regina degree.
- In partnership with the University of Regina, Aurora College offers a two-year Certificate of Social Work Program from the University of Regina that is intended to provide the graduates with a sound basic foundation to work with the cross-cultural populations of the Northwest Territories. The program focuses on such areas as counselling skills, community practice and professional values as well as an understanding of the theoretical models related to human problems, social systems and intervention methods. Successful completion of the program provides students with the opportunity to practice social work in the North or to apply for transfer to the University of Regina, the First Nations University of Canada or Yukon College to complete their BSW.
- The Northern Teacher Education Program, which can be completed entirely off-campus, is offered in partnership with the University of Saskatchewan. The program includes extensive field experience and two concentrations selected from Cree, Dene, English, Indian/Native Studies or science.
- A variety of University of Regina courses are delivered throughout Saskatchewan via a regional college system, some by distance instruction and some by local or travelling instructors.

Transition programs

- Campion College (a Catholic college of the University of Regina) offers a first-year tutor/mentoring program for first-year students taking English courses. There is also a writing clinic run by senior students.
- There are a variety of transition support programs offered (for example transition to university classes, writing at university classes, orientation, campus tours, writing support services (tutoring) and math support services (tutoring), study skills workshops) that are available to Aboriginal students. Most of these programs are run by the Aboriginal Student Centre.

Support services for Aboriginal students

- In the 2006, the Aboriginal Student Centre was created. The main focus of the ASC is to assist students to succeed in university and beyond through various programs and events. The ASC focuses on four program areas: student success; cultural and traditional awareness; CIBC kâspohtamâtôtân Aboriginal mentorship; and outreach
- The Aboriginal Student Centre's cultural awareness programming provides a variety of supports to engage the campus community including access to Cultural Advisors (Elders), Sharing Circles as well as an Annual National Aboriginal Day Celebration, tipi raising competition and other cultural activities.
- Rediscovering the Path Initiative is a guest lecturing series whereby the Aboriginal Students Centre hosts cultural and traditional guest speakers (most often First Nation Elders) to speak about a topic of their choice. Their lectures have been captured on a DVD. English translation is provided for lectures in traditional languages.
- The Centre for Continuing Education, Seniors Education Centre offers outreach and non-credit activities. Activities include the Aboriginal Grandmothers Caring for Grandchildren Support Network and the Intercultural Grandmothers Uniting group, which brings together older women who are interested in building bridges of understanding, respect, trust and friendship among First Nations, Métis and other women.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The university offers a large number of undergraduate awards and scholarships specifically for Aboriginal students.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research funds a scholarship specifically for self-declared Aboriginal students. The Aboriginal Graduate Awards Program encourages and supports Aboriginal students in graduate studies in a diverse range of programs. There is also funding for Aboriginal graduate students through the Indigenous Peoples Health Research Centre, a partnership between the University of Regina, First Nations University of Canada and the University of Saskatchewan.

Research

The University of Regina conducts a wide range of research programs and projects of relevance to Aboriginal communities and people. Some current research projects include: integrated mental health service delivery in First Nation communities, improving HIV/AIDS support structures in northern Saskatchewan Aboriginal communities and community collaboration to improve health care access of northern residents.

Administrative and Policy framework

First Nations University of Canada is federated with the University of Regina and its graduates receive University of Regina degrees.

The university's new strategic plan has identified as a priority "...to engage with and meet the needs of the larger community, strengthen our commitment to the liberal arts and sciences, and attract First Nations and Métis, francophone and international students, including international Aboriginal students."

The President's Office has an advisor on Aboriginal issues. The University Secretary's office has been tasked to set up an Elder Council. Currently, the University of Regina is in discussion with the First Nations University of Canada regarding their governance model.

The Board of Governors and senior management have added Aboriginal awareness training as part of the overall professional development and orientation for Board members. The Senate and General Faculties Council both currently have Aboriginal people present by the fact that they are either members of faculty or members of the professional groups that are part of the Senate.

Other

Connecting aboriginal faculty and graduate students in North America. The university has developed Careers for Aboriginal Scholars which is a North American listserv focusing on Aboriginal scholars within North America. Its purpose is two-fold: to recruit Aboriginal scholars for faculty positions and to recruit Aboriginal students into graduate programs.

Aboriginal population on campus (student and staff)

Approximately 13 percent of the university's students self-declare as Aboriginal. This is based on the fall 2009 term, first-year undergraduate student population and includes students at the federated colleges. As of the winter 2010 term, close to two percent of the total academic staff at the University of Regina identify themselves as Aboriginal. This includes permanent, sessional and term academic staff.

ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

As a result of Royal Roads University's research work with Aboriginal communities, First Nations organizations and government departments concerned with Aboriginal Peoples, the university forms partnerships that encourage Aboriginal peoples to explore university programs that may fit their needs.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Royal Roads University does not offer any Aboriginal-focused programs. However, many core faculty members are involved in Aboriginal research, often with local communities. Their research reaches students via the curriculum.

Administrative and policy framework

At Royal Roads University there is an Aboriginal Relations Advisory Committee composed of the Chiefs (or their representatives) of the local First Nations bands on Vancouver Island. This committee reports to the president.

The Associate Vice-President Research is responsible for Aboriginal relations. An Aboriginal Coordinator, who reports to the vice-president, maintains the relationships between the university and the surrounding local First Nations communities on Vancouver Island and beyond.

Aboriginal population on campus

Two to five percent of the student body self-identify as Aboriginal.

While there are no numbers indicating how many of the university staff are Aboriginal, the Research Ethics Board, the Aboriginal Gathering Place Committee and the Board of Governors all have members who are Aboriginal. The Aboriginal Coordinator is Aboriginal.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Saint Mary's University attends local events and career fairs in Aboriginal communities.

Aboriginal youth engagement

In order to engage Aboriginal youth, Saint Mary's promotes awareness weeks, information tables, speakers, movie nights and celebrations of Aboriginal culture.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The BA in Atlantic Canada Studies is an interdisciplinary program that studies Atlantic Canada from socio-scientific, ecological and cultural historical perspectives. This program includes Aboriginal content as part of its interdisciplinary focus.

Academic programs available off campus

Online courses and extension centres are available in various communities.

Transition programs

All new students are offered a program called FYI Boot Camp, which teaches academic skills and provides summer and fall orientations for new students and their families.

Support services for Aboriginal students

There is an Aboriginal student advisor who provides information, support, education and referrals to prospective, new and returning Aboriginal students studying at Saint Mary's University. A peer-to-peer mentoring program is available for Aboriginal students.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Saint Mary's University offers a Money Matters workshop to potential students and their families. It entails staff visiting local communities to provide financial aid information.

Aboriginal population on campus

Fewer than two percent of the student body self-identifies as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITÉ SAINT-PAUL / SAINT PAUL UNIVERSITY

Native studies programs

Two courses are available through the Faculty of Human Sciences: Dialogue with Indigenous Religions; and Regional Ethnography: Aboriginal Peoples of North America.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

All Saint Paul University students may pursue courses at the University of Ottawa and exchange credits subject to certain constraints.

Administrative and policy framework

As a research institute, Saint Paul University has included in its Research Ethics Policy, ethical standards, procedures and principles concerning research involving Native, Inuit or Aboriginal Peoples.

ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

In order to promote recruitment and admissions, St. Thomas More College hosts band school visits, career and education fairs.

Aboriginal youth engagement

In conjunction with the University of Saskatchewan, St. Thomas More College hosts an Aboriginal Achievement Week, whose program includes a youth talent search and High School Spend-a-day.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Aboriginal content is decided by individual instructors.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

St. Thomas More College offers Entering and Continuing Aboriginal Scholarships and Bursaries.

Aboriginal population on campus

Over 10 percent of students self-identify as Aboriginal.

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Recruiters regularly attend First Nations career events. St. Thomas University has a Director of Aboriginal Education Initiatives and a consultant to focus on recruitment and retention.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The Director of Aboriginal Education Initiatives builds relationships with the 15 First Nations communities in New Brunswick and supports their education programs.

Native studies programs

St. Thomas University offers a bachelor of arts in Native Studies.

Academic programs available off campus

St. Thomas University is involved in a Mi'kmaq and Maliseet bachelor of social work, a joint program with Dalhousie University. The program is delivered to First Nations students at multiple sites to accommodate the long distances between First Nations communities.

St. Thomas University offers a certificate in Native language immersion teaching comprised of a variety of courses delivered both on and off campus.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Aboriginal Student Centre provides a meeting place, hosts cultural and social events and provides linkages to the local Aboriginal community, including inviting Elders to the campus. Native Awareness Days are organized annually on campus.

There is a Native Student Council that supports extra-curricular activities. Academic advising and other support services are available to all students.

Administrative and policy framework

The Director of Aboriginal Education Initiatives, reporting to the Vice-President, Academic, is responsible for recruitment and retention of First Nations students.

The Aboriginal Student Council plays a role in multicultural, social, and informative events, such as Native Awareness Days.

Aboriginal population on campus

Two to five percent of St. Thomas University students self-identify as Aboriginal. Three academic staff members self-identify as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Recruitment Officer focuses on Aboriginal student recruitment through outreach activities and events in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In any given recruitment cycle, between 20 to 40 Aboriginal-focused visits within the province of Saskatchewan take place.

The Native Access Program to Nursing and Medicine has built a student role model component into the university's recruitment activities for Health Sciences. Representatives attend career fairs and presentations across the province with role model graduates each year.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The Kamskénow program, is a corporate sponsored pilot project that has instructors mentor grade four and five students in one of Saskatoon's community schools. Students receive help in a range of subjects in a fun learning environment in the hopes of improving representation of inner-city children in the sciences.

The Aboriginal Students' Centre has a strong partnership with the Saskatoon Public School Board. University of Saskatchewan students can reach Aboriginal youth through partner events including Community Intertribal powwows in various schools across Saskatoon; Aboriginal Achievement Week; Spend-a-day programs where high school students participate in on-campus activities throughout the year as well as during Aboriginal Achievement Week; college displays; and other cultural events.

The Aboriginal Business Student Ambassadors program promotes business education to Aboriginal youth, developing professional networks and role modeling and mentoring.

The university's College of Engineering runs many outreach programs to engage Aboriginal youth. A few examples include:

- Northern Student Campus Visits for students to gain hands-on experience in a range of science-related departments and visit campus research facilities, such as the Canadian Light Source;
- The Counsellor-in-Training Program for Northern Students gives northern high school students an opportunity to gain volunteer experience for their résumés; mentor younger students; and receive a tuition credit if they attend the University of Saskatchewan;
- myWISEmentor Program (College of Engineering) - an email mentoring program for girls age 11-18 interested in science and engineering. Although this is a province-wide initiative, the program targets high-Aboriginal populations including the north.

The university's College of Medicine provides students interested in medicine exposure to the health-care field through its Aboriginal Student Mentorship Program. The College of Medicine arranges for students to spend time with a physician and to meet medical students, doctors, and other health care workers.

Pre-Health Professions Club is a partnership between several universities and regional health authorities, school divisions and their communities. The Club and partners provide career development opportunities for Aboriginal high school students within medicine, nursing and pharmacy professions.

The university's Aboriginal Health Science Camp is for Aboriginal youth interested in pursuing a career in a health related field. It introduces students to university life and health professions.

Native studies programs

The Native Studies department offers Native Studies majors in three, four year and Honours BA degrees. There is a MA program and a special case PhD program.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Teacher Education Programs help students of Aboriginal ancestry become certified teachers. The College of Education offers a number of different programs designed to meet the need of students and the communities in which they will teach. These include the Indian Teacher Education Program, including students from the Aurora College Teacher Education Program in the Northwest Territories; the Northern Teacher Education Program; and the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program.

The Program of Legal Studies for Native People offered through the Native Law Centre is open to Aboriginal students from across Canada. It offers a property law course and full academic support to prepare Aboriginal students for success in law school. There is an Indigenous Peoples and Justice Initiative stream within the LLB program at the College of Law.

The College of Medicine incorporates Indigenous knowledge and relevant topics pertaining to medicine and Aboriginal peoples in its medical program. The student-led Aboriginal, Rural and Remote Health Group promotes an interdisciplinary approach to Aboriginal, rural and remote health issues. The group encourages Aboriginal youth to consider careers in the health sciences and related fields through experiential learning, outreach and peer education opportunities.

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition incorporates Indigenous knowledge into their curricula. Students learn about issues facing Aboriginal communities and develop professional skills to deal with people from different Aboriginal cultures.

The Aboriginal Business Administration Certificate provides an opportunity for those Aboriginal students who do not meet the admission criteria to develop business skills and knowledge.

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources offers the Indigenous Peoples Resource Management Program to First Nations land managers from across Canada. The College is also home to the Indigenous Land Management Institute.

The College of Arts and Science offers numerous courses with an Aboriginal focus as well as

programs developed for Aboriginal communities. The Indigenous Peoples and Justice Program fosters interdisciplinary academic and research programs to explore Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in the realms of justice, law and social order.

The Aboriginal Public Administration Program prepares Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students for careers in the governmental and non-governmental spheres. It helps students understand the unique governance, administrative, management and policy issues in Aboriginal communities, and the impact of current public institutions and processes on Aboriginal people.

Students of Native ancestry with an interest in issues of social justice and criminology can pursue the Aboriginal Justice and Criminology Program. Graduates of the program receive a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Sociology and concentration in Aboriginal Justice and Criminology.

The Community Planning and Native Studies program prepares students for work as community planners in Aboriginal communities or in non-Aboriginal communities where a deep understanding of Aboriginal history, philosophy, methods and priorities are important.

The University's main library has developed a comprehensive Indigenous Studies Portal that allows researchers efficient and timely access to international Indigenous issues.

Academic programs available off campus

The University of Saskatchewan provides a myriad of options for students to study off campus through independent, online, televised, multi-mode or off-campus face-to-face studies.

A graduate program in education offers classes taught by Aboriginal faculty to students in their community.

Transition programs

The College of Arts and Science Transition Program is open to all students and has a high number of Aboriginal students enrolled. Some of the strategies used to increase success include study skills workshops; commitment to meeting requirements necessary for band funding; small class sizes; opportunities for social interaction outside of class; help nurturing meaningful relationships with faculty and staff.

The Mathematics and Science Enrichment Program provides Aboriginal students a foundational year in mathematics and science. It is designed to help participating students make a smooth transition to university life by preparing them academically for their major areas of study.

The Aboriginal First-Year Experience Program based in the College of Arts and Science provides a gateway to programs available within the college and other professional colleges and schools. The purpose is to foster a sense of community among Aboriginal students on campus.

The Summer University Transition Program for Aboriginal Students supports Aboriginal students

in the transition to first-year studies at the University of Saskatchewan. It provides a foundation for programs available within the College of Arts and Science and other direct entry colleges at the university.

The Aboriginal Business Administration Certificate provides pathway programming for those Aboriginal students who do not meet the admission criteria for direct admission or transfer to the undergraduate program.

The Native Access Program to Nursing and Medicine helps nursing students succeed. The program provides support at the College of Nursing, on the university campus and off campus.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Aboriginal Achievement Model program aims to increase the success rates of Aboriginal students. Some of these initiatives include Elder services, life skills coaching, tutoring and mentorship.

The Aboriginal Students Centre provides a support network for Aboriginal students at the university, while helping Indigenous culture to flourish in the campus community. Students who register with the centre can access a wide range of supports and services including Elder services and ceremonies; phone and fax services; office space; social gatherings; personal advising; career counselling; financial counselling; an Aboriginal Student Orientation program; and tutoring for self-identified Aboriginal students from all colleges.

The Edwards School of Business has dedicated space for Aboriginal students. The centre is equipped with computers, resource material, and houses a lounge and the offices of the Director of Aboriginal Initiatives and the Rawlco Aboriginal Business Student Services Assistants.

Aboriginal Achievement Week on campus promotes awareness of traditional Aboriginal cultures locally and internationally. It focuses on celebrating the contributions and achievements of Aboriginal students, faculty and staff.

At the University of Saskatchewan, a First Nations or Métis Elder participates in each of the University of Saskatchewan Spring and Fall Convocation ceremonies. There is also an Aboriginal Student Graduation Banquets across disciplines as well as a Graduation Powwow.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The university has a number of undergraduate awards, scholarships and bursaries targeted at Aboriginal students.

The university offers scholarships and awards for Aboriginal graduate students. Each year it awards \$50,000 in graduate scholarships to help graduate programs meet equity goals in their enrolments (as identified in their graduate scholarship equity plans). The scholarship requires matching resources from the program.

There is a repayable loan available to any self-identified Aboriginal business student in the Edwards School of Business at the University of Saskatchewan.

Administrative and policy framework

There are a number of positions responsible for Aboriginal affairs at the University of Saskatchewan. For academic programs, the Provost, the Deans and faculty Council have primary responsibility. For institutional arrangements responsibility rests with the President and/or the Provost.

Reporting to the president, the Special Advisor on Aboriginal Initiatives identifies, initiates and develops university-wide programs to support the Conceptual Framework for Aboriginal initiatives both on and off campus. The position is responsible for communicating the university's core vision on Aboriginal inclusion and for the promotion and delivery of programs and services that support Aboriginals across the university.

The University Senate and Board of Governors have had Aboriginal representation for many years and continue to encourage Aboriginal people to participate in all levels of governance.

Aboriginal population on campus

The University of Saskatchewan has a student population of close to 20,000 students who are registered in both undergraduate and graduate programs; Nearly nine percent have self-identified as Aboriginal students. There are over 100 Aboriginal staff and faculty who self-identify as Aboriginal people.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal Recruitment and Admissions

Simon Fraser University has a full-time Indigenous Recruiter Coordinator. The recruiter visits schools, communities, and career fairs. An academic advisor, who is specifically designated to assist Aboriginal students and applicants, offers pre-admission academic counselling. The university's website offers information specifically for Aboriginal people who are considering applying to Simon Fraser University, as undergraduate or graduate students.

First Nations Study Programs

Simon Fraser University offers a Minor and a Major in First Nations Studies, which can be taken in conjunction with any major or honours bachelor's degree program or with a bachelor of general studies degree program. Some courses are available through distance education. For the 2009-2010 academic year, there were 512 students enrolled (this number represents course enrolment and does not reflect a person count. Some students were enrolled in more than one FNST course).

The First Nations Student Centre publishes a list of close to forty undergraduate courses with Aboriginal content and topics.

Other Aboriginal-Focused Programs On-Campus

The Faculty of Education has programs in Aboriginal education, for both pre-service and in-service teachers. The faculty also offers courses in Aboriginal education at the undergraduate and graduate studies levels.

Aboriginal-Focused Programs Off-Campus

The First Nations Languages Program is being preserved and revitalized, with administrative offices being moved from SFU Kamloops to SFU Burnaby. An Aboriginal languages certificate program will continue to be offered through this program around the province.

The Faculty of Education has programs in Aboriginal education, for both pre-service and in-service teachers. The faculty also offers courses in Aboriginal education at the undergraduate and graduate studies levels. Some of these programs are offered off-campus.

The Learning Strategies Group in the SFU Faculty of Business and the Industry Council of Aboriginal Business work together on the Leadership Exchange Program. This is the first university-based business relationship development program in Canada to bring Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal senior leaders together to learn from each other.

Transition Programs

The Pes'ka Shad Valley Program, which is a summer camp program for Aboriginal youth, has been

held on the SFU campus. This program introduces high-achieving Aboriginal high school students to university life with a focus on technology and academics. SFU hopes to offer a similar program again.

SFU has two Aboriginal Pre-University Bridging Programs, one general and the other related to careers in health. Both offer official credit for courses and conditional acceptance into SFU university programs thereafter.

SFU has a well-developed transfer program between colleges and universities all over the province. This includes programs offered at BC's two Aboriginal colleges, the Native Education College and the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology.

Support Services for Aboriginal Students

Staff of the First Nations Student Centre includes a Director, a Student Life Coordinator, an academic advisor for Aboriginal students and applicants, and an Indigenous Recruiter Coordinator.

The SFU Library's Student Learning Commons has been working with the First Nations Student Centre to provide ongoing academic support and workshops to the Aboriginal student body.

The First Nations Student Centre has previously had an Elders Council in operation. Plans are currently underway to revitalize an Elders Program at SFU.

The FNESC offers one-day orientation programs for new Aboriginal undergraduate and graduate students each September. These are in addition to the general orientation programs for all students.

Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels are organized on the SFU campus.

Contact people at SFU for Aboriginal students and specific services for them have been established in Academic Advising, Career Services, Financial Aid and Awards, Counseling, and Graduate Studies.

There is a First Nations Student Association on the SFU campus.

Scholarships and Bursaries for Aboriginal Students

The First Nations Student Centre maintains a list of Aboriginal financial aid sources including a number of scholarships and bursaries dedicated to Aboriginal students at SFU. There are some bursaries available for Aboriginal graduate students.

Aboriginal Administrative and Policy Framework

Simon Fraser University has a First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan in place — passed by the university senate in 2007 — that is being implemented around SFU. Major components of this First Nations Strategic Plan include: (1) Academic program development (2) research development

(3) student recruitment, retention, and support (4) liaison and outreach to the Aboriginal community (5) international engagement (6) Indigenous knowledge development (7) infrastructure and facilities development (8) Aboriginal leadership development.

To initiate the various aspects of this Strategic Plan, an Office for Aboriginal Peoples (OAP) was established in 2009 and the office's first Director was hired in early 2010. A First Nations University-Wide Steering Committee was quickly established by the Director, to provide him and the OAP with direction and guidance regarding implementation of this comprehensive Strategic Plan.

In the past, SFU has had a First Nations Advisory Council which adopted a statement of First Nations Guiding Principles in its aim to better serve First Nations students and communities. The council reported to the vice-president and the president of the university. The current First Nations University-Wide Strategic Plan calls for a re-commitment and re-creation of a new First Nations Advisory Council. This may be taking place over the course of the 2010-2011 year.

Aboriginal Population on Campus

Simon Fraser University is currently working on improving the system which flags and counts attending Aboriginal students. As of 2010, approximately 400 students attending SFU self-identify as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

A recruitment officer of the university's First Nations House travels to Aboriginal communities, liaises with community representatives, meets with potential applicants and provides school tours.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The university develops initiatives with the Toronto District School Board that include or specifically target Aboriginal youth. For example, First Nations House supports conferences, summer mentoring programs, sports camps and school tours to help students learn about specific fields of study.

The University of Toronto supports a summer literacy camp in a Northern Ontario community. Its mentoring program links student role models with Aboriginal youth in public schools. Mentorship programs and March Break programs for Aboriginal youth are offered by the faculties of Medicine, Applied Science and Engineering, and Physical Education and Health.

Native studies programs

The Centre for Aboriginal Initiatives is responsible for academic interests related to the study and research of Aboriginal issues, interests and affairs. The Centre offers opportunities to learn about Aboriginal issues, engage with cutting edge research in Aboriginal studies, and access advice and information on best practices in Aboriginal postsecondary education.

The undergraduate Aboriginal Studies program resides in the Centre for Aboriginal Initiatives, and focuses on the languages, cultures, histories, arts, creativity, and well-being of Indigenous peoples and on their knowledge within Canada and worldwide.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Aboriginal Education Program (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education) addresses current issues, trends, perspectives and models of Aboriginal and Indigenous education through historical, cultural, spiritual, social and political philosophies and themes.

Several faculties have programs to help recruit or retain Aboriginal students. For example, The Faculty of Law has an admissions policy directed at Aboriginal students and a Native student advisor who runs a tutoring program. Similar programs, or ones that give special consideration to Aboriginal applications, are offered by a number of other faculties.

Outreach programs

Outreach programs are captured by the Aboriginal Youth Engagement category above.

Transition programs

The Transitional Year Program at the University of Toronto is a special access program for adults who do not have the formal educational background to qualify for university admission. This full-time, one-year course of study leads successful students to enter the Faculty of Arts and Science.

The Academic Bridging Program enables students who are at least 20 years of age to pursue degree studies at U of T. Designed to bridge the gap between a student's prior secondary education and the requirements of first year university courses, successful students will be admitted to the Faculty of Arts and Science and retain a full credit towards their degree studies.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The hub for Aboriginal students is First Nations House. It provides a comprehensive range of academic, cultural and social support services to Aboriginal students. Programming includes culturally supportive academic counselling, pre-admission counselling, academic and graduate school planning, tutoring services, financial aid advice, a resource centre, Elders-in-residence program, writer-in-residence program and a lounge.

First Nations House Magazine is a bi-annual publication produced by First Nations House.

The Native Students Association is a consensus-driven collective that serves all Aboriginal U of T students. It is a vehicle through which students can unite to express their ideas, interests and goals.

The Native Law Students' Association at the Faculty of Law is an active circle of students from many different Aboriginal cultures.

The Indigenous Education Network is a self-determining Aboriginal student association within the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). The Indigenous Education Network provides an Aboriginal presence at OISE and a forum for discussion and action on issues relating to Aboriginal education and research.

U of T has developed a program called Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement to support Aboriginal graduate students with a range of academic and social supports including a mentorship program, academic skills workshops, a monthly peer support forum and writing retreats.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The University of Toronto provides institutionally funded financial aid to students facing financial barriers. The majority of U of T's financial aid is based on financial need and is provided as a grant.

In addition to U of T's dedicated student aid funds, several faculties have earmarked specific scholarships for Aboriginal students. The university makes earmarked scholarships and aid available to Aboriginal students from donors. The Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities provides some bursary funding earmarked for Aboriginal students.

There is an academic and financial aid counsellor on the staff of First Nations House.

Administrative and policy framework

The Vice-Provost, Students leads the design and administration of major programs and services for Aboriginal students, and is the executive sponsor of a cross-university, tri-campus Council on Aboriginal Initiatives. The Council on Aboriginal Initiatives was established to enhance coordination of Aboriginal initiatives and provide guidance to the university on Aboriginal initiatives.

Aboriginal population on campus

The university estimates that Aboriginal students comprise fewer than two percent of the student body. Institutional research indicates that U of T's proportion of Aboriginal students has remained stable over the past five years.

The university estimates that approximately 16 faculty, sessional instructors and teaching assistants self-identify as Aboriginal. According to an employee census conducted in 2008, 66 staff members (administrative staff and faculty) self-identify as Aboriginal.

TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Trinity Western University recruitment staff occasionally visit First Nations schools. Members of the Indigenous Peoples' Task Force meet with local Métis and First Nations leaders.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The School of Nursing operates two clinics on local reserves in full partnership with the band leadership.

The School of Business' mentorship program involves Aboriginal business people mentoring Aboriginal students. The Department of History and Political Studies offers courses on Canada's Aboriginal Peoples.

The School of Education has achieved success in placing students in practica in Aboriginal band schools in northern British Columbia.

Academic programs available off campus

Distance e-learning programs are available.

Transition programs

Trinity Western University does not have transition programs specifically targeted to Aboriginal students. However, the university does have pre-degree transition programs (distance and onsite), which are suitable for Aboriginal students.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Trinity Western University offers the Canadian Pacific Aboriginal Leadership award (for the graduate program in Leadership) and Ch'nook Business Scholarships.

Administrative and policy framework

The Indigenous Peoples' Task Force assists First Nations and Métis Peoples in developing leadership among their own.

Aboriginal population on campus

Trinity Western University estimates indicate that approximately one to two percent of its student body would self-identify as Aboriginal. Five members of the Indigenous Peoples' Task Force are Aboriginal.

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The University of Victoria employs an Indigenous Student Liaison who visits Aboriginal communities, high schools and career fairs to promote courses, programs and services offered.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs also employs a Coordinator of Indigenous Student Support who builds and maintains community connections with local Aboriginal communities, high schools, Indigenous Adult Learning centres and Aboriginal community organizations.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs coordinates and delivers the Indigenous Adult Orientation program, which offers adult students from Aboriginal learning institutions an opportunity to be introduced to a variety of programs and disciplines at the university. Students stay for several days and are provided with information sessions on programs and services, tours, workshops and simulated classes. The office also coordinates and delivers two regional information sessions per year in Aboriginal communities, which provide information about the university's Aboriginal programs and services, the Aboriginal Service Plan and programs under development. These sessions also engage in open-dialogue forums to discuss potential future initiatives and partnership building.

The University of Victoria has a statement in its calendar (available online) that explains the application process for those of First Nations, Métis and Inuit ancestry.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The Office of Indigenous Affairs coordinates and delivers the Indigenous Student Mini-University Summer Camp program which offers students in Grades 8–12 an opportunity to come and stay on campus for a number of days, in order to experience university life, and to learn about university supports and services.

Over the past three years, the Office of Indigenous Affairs in partnership with the Victoria Native Friendship Centre has coordinated and delivered the Deer Island Experiential Leadership Camp, which is focused on connecting urban youth with land and water through a combination of traditional and academic approaches. As well, youth from the Victoria Native Friendship Centre have attended drum making workshops in the First Peoples House at the university.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs has coordinated the implementation of the STEM Program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) with departments at the university to deliver science-based workshops in after-school programs to Grade 1 – 12 students in Aboriginal communities with several Aboriginal community partners (Tsawout First Nation, T'Souke Nation, Lau-Wel-new Tribal School, Tseycum Nation, and Victoria Native Friendship Centre).

Native studies programs

The faculties of humanities and social sciences jointly offer an interdisciplinary Minor in Indigenous Studies which provides both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students with a core program incorporating Aboriginal world views and ways of knowing. This is a general program leading to the BA degree.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus:

- **Developmental Standard Term Certificate in First Nations Language and Culture:** This laddered program allows First Nations language learners and speakers to receive training and the opportunity to teach First Nations languages in schools and communities, and eventually earn a Bachelor of Education degree and a Professional Teaching Certificate.
- **Master of Education in Counselling for Aboriginal Communities:** This program is community-based and developed with the support and guidance of local Aboriginal communities. It provides graduates with the necessary background to provide culturally responsive counselling to Aboriginal communities and in schools.
- **Master of Education in Curriculum Studies:** The program draws people from diverse backgrounds to work together in learning about the forest and ocean environments, respecting the cultures of Aboriginal people and educating future citizens to make wise decisions regarding long-term sustainable communities and environments. This program is open to students with two years teaching experience in the public school system or students with two years of related educational experience (e.g. park interpretation, museum education, First Nations applications or public environmental education).
- **Indigenous Law Program:** This program provides a broader understanding of Aboriginal legal issues for the Canadian legal community and for Aboriginal lawyers. The University of Victoria has adopted an Aboriginal Equity Plan.
- **Bachelor of Social Work Indigenous Specialisation:** This specialisation is a concentration within the BSW program and provides opportunities for First Nations BSW students to focus their undergraduate program on preparing for leadership roles as helpers in First Nations communities. Students will co-create learning environments with other First Nations students and faculty in the school. An MSW Indigenous Child Welfare Specialization is under development.
- **Graduate Indigenous Governance Program.** Situated in the faculty of human and social development, the Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance (MAIG) program provides students with a strong background in the values, perspectives, concepts and principles of Aboriginal political cultures.
- **Concurrent LLB / MAIG Program.** The faculties of law and human and social development jointly offer a concurrent LLB / MAIG degree program. As the first of its kind in Canada,

the program responds to specific and increasing demand by students and the legal profession. Concurrent degree students will have to apply to, and be accepted into both LLB and MAIG programs to qualify for the concurrent degree.

- The departments of women's studies, history, anthropology, elementary education and the Island Medical Program all offer a wide range of undergraduate courses in Aboriginal studies.
- Three First Nations Languages are taught at the university: Salish (SENCOTEN and Hul'qumi'num), Athabaskan (Dene) and Wakashan

Academic programs available off campus

- Akitsiraq Law School, Bachelor of Laws Program: This program is offered in partnership with Nunavut Arctic College and the Akitsiraq Law School Society offered in Iqaluit, Nunavut.
- The School of Nursing has numerous initiatives underway in Aboriginal nursing. The School is currently partnered with Tsawout First Nation in Saanich, B.C., on the Reciprocal Partnership Model in Nursing Education Project, funded by the B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education. Tsawout/Saanich and University of Victoria BSN students are paired or working in small groups in each others' communities and learning environments to develop health related projects that will directly benefit Tsawout and Saanich communities. Regularly scheduled activities include the students being together in class at the university, in health settings and in the Tsawout/Saanich communities.
- Certificate Program in Aboriginal Language Revitalization. Offered by the faculty of humanities in cooperation with the division of continuing studies and the En'owkin Centre, this partnership program offers 13.5 units of coursework focussing on the dynamics of language loss and recovery in Aboriginal communities across British Columbia and beyond. Core courses are offered in summer institutes at the En'owkin Centre in Penticton, and elective courses are offered in communities throughout British Columbia.
- Diploma in Indigenous Child and Youth Care – First Nations Partnership Programs. The First Nations Partnership Programs (FNPP) is a two-year, university-accredited training program that is delivered in partnership with First Nations communities and the University of Victoria. Within partnerships, the “generative curriculum model” is used to honour and include local Aboriginal knowledge into the classroom and helps prepare students to practice in culturally sustaining ways. Some of the course content is delivered online.
- Certificate Program in Aboriginal Fine Arts. Operated by the faculty of fine arts in cooperation with the En'owkin International School of Writing and Visual Arts in Penticton, B.C., the faculty offers a certificate in Aboriginal fine arts, with options to specialize in either creative writing or visual arts. This certificate is only available for students who complete these requirements at the En'owkin Centre. The certificate program is designed primarily for mature students of Native Indian ancestry who wish to develop specialized skills in creative writing or visual arts in a Native Peoples context.

- Certificate in Administration of Indigenous Governments. The certificate in the administration of Aboriginal governments is now available by distance. Offered in partnership by the Aboriginal governance program and the school of public administration, this certificate aims at providing students with a background in Indigenous governance and leadership issues as well as the tools and skills necessary to be more effective leaders and managers. Taught online, the courses are aimed at those living and working in Aboriginal communities or in other Aboriginal organizations and who are assuming leadership positions.

Transition programs

The Office of Indigenous Affairs has developed an Indigenous University Entrance Program focused on preparing Aboriginal learners to ease the transition into their first year of university. This program will be piloted in fall 2010.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs hosts a Week of Welcome every fall semester to provide new Aboriginal students with campus tours, programs and services information, and introduction to faculty members and academic advisers, as well as providing a variety of traditional welcoming celebrations.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs has coordinated and delivered Successful Student Transitions Forums in partnership with North Vancouver Island groups (Kwakiutl First Nation, Gwa'sala Nakwaxda'xw First Nation, Namgis Nation and Quatsino Nation). This forum was provided to high school students to transition successfully from rural high schools into urban postsecondary institutions.

Student support

The First Peoples House is a gathering place for Aboriginal faculty, staff and students. It provides the spaces dedicated to Aboriginal students for the following purposes: a reading room, the Aboriginal Counsellor, an Elder's lounge, student office space, kitchen/lunch room, ceremonial hall, three classrooms, the Office of Indigenous Affairs and the Coordinator of Indigenous Student Support Office.

The Elders-in-Residence Program has Elders available for Aboriginal students, as well as the local non-Aboriginal students, faculty and staff.

A large number of cultural activities are supported including: talking circles, Craft & Culture Night, a Drum Group, Aboriginal Traditional Foods Conference, Aboriginal alumni gathering. Other activities include creating community workshops, math and computer tutoring, writing assistance, a Co-op Forum and the Indigenous Graduate Student Symposium.

There is an Aboriginal writing circle and a walking our path talking circle.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs employs the Coordinator of Indigenous Student Support who provides support and information to students to access band funding, student loans, student awards,

bursaries and scholarships. The office has coordinated and delivered Successful Student Transitions in partnership with a number of Aboriginal organizations and community groups. Workshops have been delivered at these forums to address funding information pertaining to band funding, Canada Student Loans, student grants, provincial loans, Aboriginal Internship Program, scholarships and bursaries, co-op and career services, and budgeting.

The Office of Indigenous Affairs offers the Exit Strategies Program, which prepares students to transition from school into their professional careers. The office offers the TD Indigenous Student Career Transition Project that is designed to help fourth-year and recent graduates gain direct job skills through job shadowing, mentoring and reciprocal learning. Students also receive professional development skills such as resume writing, preparing for graduate studies and professional portfolio development.

In addition there is an Aboriginal student adviser in the faculty of human and social development, a First Nations education coordinator in the faculty of education and an Aboriginal academic programs advisor in the faculty of social work. There is also an academic and cultural support program in the faculty of law operated by the Aboriginal law program coordinator.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The Aboriginal liaison office maintains a list of at least 40 different awards available for Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

The Office of Indigenous Affairs provides leadership and support across the university's Aboriginal initiatives, including academic programs, student support services and protocol activities. The office also assists with the promotion and coordination of special events related to Aboriginal culture and tradition. The Director of Indigenous Affairs reports to the Associate Vice-President, Student Affairs.

The President's Advisory Council on Indigenous Education recommends to the president how the university can increase the participation of Aboriginal people in the university and how the university might facilitate their success. The committee includes Aboriginal members of faculty, staff and students as well as seven external Aboriginal advisors and the vice-president academic. In 2009 the university also implemented the First Peoples House Advisory Council.

The Student and Faculty Aboriginal Cultural Training committee was developed to increase faculty and staff awareness of Aboriginal historical and contemporary realities in order to create a more respectful and culturally safe environment for Aboriginal students.

Chief Lydia Hwitsum of Cowichan sits on the University Board of Governors. There are also Aboriginal representatives on the University Human Rights Committee.

There is a Native Student Union and a Native Law Students' Association.

Aboriginal population on campus

The University of Victoria estimates that between two to five percent of its student body self-identifies as Aboriginal. The university has 44 self-identifying Aboriginal staff and 18 self-identifying Aboriginal faculty members.

VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

An Aboriginal recruitment staff member travels to communities, career fairs, youth conferences and workshops. Each year, Vancouver Island University hosts an Aboriginal Post-Secondary Visitation Day for high schools, community partners and Friendship Centre school programs.

Aboriginal youth engagement

The university welcomes many different groups, organizations, First Nation schools, Friendship Centres and Alternate schools to visit, tour the campus, participate in classes and visit the First Nations Student Services Centre. Vancouver Island University hosts ABC Days at local high schools to share information about the university with Aboriginal students.

Native studies programs

The university offers a bachelor of arts with a major and minor in First Nations Studies. These specialties explore contemporary First Nations issues in an integrated, multidisciplinary manner and prepare students for living within First Nations societies and beyond.

The Child and Youth Care First Nations program offered at the university's Cowichan Campus provides students with the knowledge and skills to work with individuals, their families and small groups across a variety of practice settings, providing support to First Nations children, youths and their families. The program is continually developing with involvement from the First Nations communities of the Cowichan area, and from First Nations students who bring the teachings of their communities into the program.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The Aboriginal Construction Program combines First Nations cultural components with Industry Training Authority Level 1 Carpentry training, which is the first step to becoming a journeyman carpenter. Current students are gaining hands-on experience constructing the university's Aboriginal Gathering Place.

The Centre for Shellfish Research offers a comprehensive shellfish aquaculture training program which includes several courses specifically designed for First Nations communities.

A six-credit course is offered in the Hulquiminum language of the Coastal Salish people.

Academic programs available off campus

The university offers a number of online programs and courses.

Transition programs

The Aboriginal University Bridging Program helps students successfully enter a university or trade program. It is comprised of prerequisite courses for most faculties and individually centered programs reflecting a student's chosen path of study. Sixty students were in 2009, which was twice the amount of the previous year.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The First Nations Student Services Centre (Shq'apthut) is a dedicated space for Aboriginal students on the Nanaimo campus. The centre supports Aboriginal students in making a successful transition to Vancouver Island University and helps students succeed in their academic endeavours by providing direct services and referrals.

Services offered include: support with academic or personal concerns, assistance with applications and registration, assistance in finding accommodation and day-care, and information about Aboriginal bursaries, scholarships, student loans, and funding for Status, non-Status and Métis students. The centre also provides information on, or referrals to: community services, personal counselling, substance abuse, career planning, employment information. Centre staff liaise with bands, tribal councils, Aboriginal organizations, students, faculty, and elders.

The centre also promotes cultural, recreational, and social activities in partnership with Aboriginal students and the Aboriginal Student Union Representative. For example, the Aboriginal Recognition Ceremony is held annually to recognize graduating students. In its first year 125 students participated. In 2009/10, 250 students participated.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Vancouver Island University offers a number of scholarships and bursaries specifically for Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

The Director of Aboriginal Education reports to the Executive Director of Student Services and the Vice-President, Academic. The director helps uphold the university's objective of being a culturally responsive postsecondary institution committed to working with Aboriginal peoples to improve their education opportunities.

The Director of Aboriginal Education strives to include Aboriginal content and perspectives through guest speakers.

The university has two Elders-in-Residence. They are affiliated to the BA in First Nations and the Art's One First Nations programs and are invited into classes to speak.

The First Nations Advisory Committee has 18 representatives from local and regional First Nations organizations, Métis representatives and community partners. The council's mandate is to ensure that opportunities for all students to learn and succeed are maximized and that respect is shown to First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures and traditions.

There are several members of the Board of Governors who self-identify as Aboriginal including the university's chancellor, Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo.

Aboriginal population on campus

Between five and 10 percent of Vancouver Island University students self-identify as Aboriginal.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Aboriginal services coordinator develops and implements long-range Aboriginal recruitment strategies and orientation programs for prospective and new students to acquaint them with the university's programs and resources.

The Firekeepers program is an Indigenous enrichment program that brings Aboriginal high school students from southern Ontario to spend a week at St. Paul's College.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

The University of Waterloo's Bachelor of Social Work program includes a course in Aboriginal Studies.

Academic programs available off campus

The University of Waterloo has an extensive distance learning program and several degree programs can be completed online.

Transition programs

The University of Waterloo's Native University Program is a pre-degree transition program offered with Six Nations Polytechnic.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The university supports Aboriginal students by providing campus housing; academic, general and career counselling; and peer-to-peer mentoring.

The university has dedicated Aboriginal spaces for meetings, cultural and social events, an Aboriginal library and study space. Elder visits and linkages to local Aboriginal communities are also facilitated for Aboriginal students and faculty.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

The University of Waterloo provides a residence bursary and administers a Provincial Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training (PSET) Bursary.

Administrative and policy framework

The Aboriginal Education Council supports the development of Aboriginal education initiatives at the University of Waterloo and reports to the president.

The Aboriginal services coordinator reports to the principal of St. Paul's College.

The Aboriginal Student Association plays a role in the university's student government.

Aboriginal population on campus

Fewer than two percent of the student body self-identify as Aboriginal. While there is no information on staff who self-identify as Aboriginal, the program director for Aboriginal high school outreach programs, the manager of Aboriginal student services and an Honorary Chair of the Board of Governors of the St. Paul's University College self-identify as First Nations.

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

Recruitment activities include school and community visits, school break programs, open houses and campus tours. This past year the university commenced an enhanced undergraduate outreach and Aboriginal Headstart program. The AFS Aboriginal Field of Study-Masters in Social Work at the Kitchener campus does recruitment specifically targeting schools of social work who graduate significant numbers of Aboriginal students, band offices, and urban and on-reserve Aboriginal social work agencies. Aboriginal recruitment activity is based out of the Brantford campus. Aboriginal-specific recruitment has been underway since 2000 and the university does some Aboriginal recruiting at neighbouring Mohawk College.

Native studies programs

Many Honors BA programs have an Indigenous Studies option. This program examines local and global Indigenous communities and their place in the contemporary world and prepares students for work in Indigenous communities or on their behalf, in a professional environment or related careers.

Topics of study include the role of women as leaders; the effects of colonialism; community-based studies and research; Indigenous responses to globalization; education; government/First Nations relations; health; self-government; and Native-settler relations. Indigenous Studies courses allow students to examine local issues within a global context.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

In the Masters of Social Work – Aboriginal Field of Study, students develop an understanding of the Aboriginal holistic healing approach and the application of this knowledge within diverse and generalist practice contexts. This includes practices with individuals and groups, as well as in contexts where community work is undertaken and in policy and research arenas. This sequence of courses enables students to develop an understanding of the interrelated and intergenerational impacts of Canadian policies with respect to Aboriginal peoples and the effects of colonization.

The program commences with a Cultural Camp where students are fully immersed in Aboriginal holistic healing practices. Courses encourage students to examine their own holistic nature and how this impacts on their own inherent capacity to engage other people's lives while facilitating a healing journey. Faculty delivering the program include four Aboriginal Faculty members. The program also has an Elder-in-Residence

Although not limited to Aboriginal issues, the interdisciplinary minor in Human Rights and Human Diversity prepares students for work and life by helping them understand a variety of human rights and diversity issues.

Approximately 20 courses from a wide range of disciplines have Aboriginal issues as a significant focus.

Academic programs available off campus

The Masters in Social Work – Aboriginal Field of Study is delivered in Fort Frances, Ontario and through FNTI in Tyendinaga as well as on the Kitchener Campus. The university also offers courses to students of all backgrounds via distance learning via its online learning management system.

Transition programs

Wilfred Laurier offers all new students options for preparation for university study. During the summer of 2010 the university will launch a Headstart program that is tailored for Aboriginal students entering university. The program is open to any students attending the university.

Support services for Aboriginal students

Wilfred Laurier University offers a comprehensive set of services to undergraduate and graduate students on their campuses. Aboriginal specific services include Elders in residence, and Aboriginal student advisors on each of the main campuses. The Kitchener campus has a circle room. The Brantford research and academic centre (under construction) includes a combination circle room and longhouse facility as well as space dedicated for Aboriginal student support.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

In 2009/10 Wilfrid Laurier University awarded over \$22,000 in scholarships and bursaries to Aboriginal students.

Administrative and policy framework

The institution has a Senior Advisor on Aboriginal Affairs, a member of the senior academic leadership team, who is responsible for development of university strategic direction, external connections and operational supports for Aboriginal education initiatives.

The Aboriginal Education Council reports to the President and VP Academic. The committee is composed of members of senior administration, Aboriginal students, Aboriginal Elders, Aboriginal community representatives and Aboriginal staff members.

Wilfrid Laurier University offers a workshop series open to faculty staff and students. Topics include:

- “Everything you wanted to know about First Nations People but were afraid to ask”;
- “Seven Generations” or “The Coming Faces”;
- Exploring the Cultural Landscape; and
- The Path to Empowerment and Social Justice.

The Student Diversity Centre provides training for student leaders to build understanding and foster tolerance and acceptance of different cultures, world views and personal orientations that make up the university community. Aboriginal student advisors and Elders-in-residence form a visible presence and reminder of the role of Aboriginal cultures in higher education and modern society.

Wilfrid Laurier University acknowledges that the use of the four sacred medicines (tobacco, sweet grass, sage and cedar) of the Aboriginal Peoples forms part of the Aboriginal culture and heritage. There is a policy outlining the university's guidelines with regards to this matter. The use of tobacco, in particular, is given special consideration with respect to the Wilfrid Laurier University smoking policy.

The university's academic plan (2005-2010) identifies diversity as one of our core principals. Aboriginal culture, history and knowledge are identified as key elements of the plans, an excerpt from the plan:

We acknowledge and respect the richness and diversity of all members of our community and value their contributions to every aspect of university life. Laurier strives to affirm people of all genders and sexual orientations, persons with disabilities, Aboriginal persons, persons of a visible minority and other historically disadvantaged groups as contributing to the vitality of the Laurier community, not in spite of their differences, but because of them. Laurier recognizes the unique heritages of Aboriginal peoples and supports the intentions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples to preserve and express their distinctive indigenous cultures, histories and knowledge through academic programming and co-curricular activities. We are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion within the university and larger communities.

Aboriginal population on campus

Since Wilfrid Laurier University started tracking Aboriginal students in 2006, the number of students identified as Aboriginal increased from one percent to 1.6 percent in 2008. The number of applicants who self-identify as Aboriginal increased from 25 in 2006 to almost 200 for the most recent year. 1.4 percent of academic staff and 2.1 percent of support staff self-identify as Aboriginal.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

The Aboriginal Recruitment Officer visits Aboriginal communities, high schools and career fairs to make presentations and offer campus tours. The university advertises in Aboriginal media and promotes its offerings via the Internet and works with First Nations, Métis and Inuit governments, organizations and communities to create relevant and respectful programming and promote the education of Indigenous students.

Aboriginal youth engagement

Through its Innovative Learning Centre, The University of Winnipeg works with 30 inner-city schools and runs a free-of-charge Eco-U Summer Camp for 1,000 children and youth annually. This has become the largest day camp for children in Winnipeg's inner-city. It also runs a program called Eco-Kids on Campus that brings elementary students to campus once a week for several months. Students are taught by tenured professors who volunteer their time to create fun and educational activities that explore science and the environment. Lessons build on the students' school curriculum.

The university has a community centre called the Wü Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre, which provides Aboriginal youth and their families with access to computers, mentors and homework clubs, Elders' teaching/sharing circles, as well as fun movie nights, a chess club and a homework club. Student volunteers from the university assist neighbourhood children with homework after school. Approximately 2,000 people visit the centre monthly.

Aboriginal academic programs on campus

Master's in Development Practice (MDP) with a focus on Indigenous Development will begin in September 2011, in partnership with the MacArthur Foundation and as part of a global network of 22 leading universities. The University of Winnipeg has established a MDP Advisory Circle to be led by Dr. Phil Fontaine, former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. The MDP will combine training in the health sciences, natural sciences, social sciences and management to give practitioners the tools to address the world's most challenging problems while creating leaders in Indigenous development studies.

Master's and Bachelor of Arts in Aboriginal Governance are offered in the form of a diploma (in partnership with Red River College) and a three- or four-year bachelor's degree. The University of Winnipeg also offers one of the only master's degrees in Aboriginal governance in Canada.

The University of Winnipeg offers two access programs designed to train Aboriginal teachers: the Integrated Bachelor of Education / Bachelor of Arts - the Winnipeg Education Centre Access Program and the community-based Aboriginal Teacher Education Program.

The Aboriginal Language Teacher Education Program (in partnership with Red River College) trains fluent Algonquian speakers in Aboriginal language instruction, interpreting and translation.

The Bachelor of Science in Science, the Environment and Indigenous Knowledge is a three- or four-year program covering aspects of environmental science from an Indigenous perspective, and includes field experience and participation by Elders. Courses developed by the university's partner, the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER), as well as appropriate co-op placements, provide a critical link between Western science and Indigenous worldviews.

The University of Winnipeg offers a Bachelor of Theology: Aboriginal Ministry Stream.

The university actively encourages its faculty to incorporate Indigenous content and perspectives in their curricula. As a result, study in the area of Indigenous peoples is available as part of several degree programs, including Education, History, Anthropology, Religious Studies, Sociology, Political Science and English. The University of Winnipeg also offers language courses in Cree and Ojibway (Anishnabemowin), the two most commonly spoken Indigenous languages in Manitoba.

The Division of Continuing Education offers a number of relevant programs.

The Aboriginal Information Communications Technologies Diploma program prepares individuals of Métis, First Nation, or Inuit descent to succeed in pursuing entry level positions in the information and communication technologies sector. The program combines solid technical skills with the highly sought after business skills required to be a key member of any team.

The Indigenous Police Preparation Program prepares individuals of Métis, First Nation, or Inuit descent to succeed in meeting the admission requirements of police forces across Manitoba. This full-time, eight-month program equips graduates with transferable skills that open up opportunities in a variety of fields including regional, municipal and tribal police forces, corrections services and justice departments.

Outreach programs

The “Red Road” is a unique education and healing initiative that combines academic educators and Aboriginal Elders and traditional peoples (local Ojibway, Dakota and Cree). The program utilizes a holistic approach integrating the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of the individual in the learning process. In addition to classroom instruction and teaching circles, regularly scheduled sweat lodge ceremonies are held. This program is designed to reverse the negative effects of colonization, contribute to the healing of the participants and educate students on Aboriginal spirituality, culture and history while stimulating interest in further education.

The Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre is open to the community and to University of Winnipeg students and is a collaborative effort between the university and a growing number of First Nations, Métis, Inuit and inner-city organizations. The centre houses computer facilities, a reading room, anthropological displays and provides educational programs and services.

The Kinesthesia Specialist Educational Assistant program, offered in partnership with the Aboriginal People's College and Red River College, provides the theoretical and practical knowledge needed to make educational assistants more effective in the classroom. Graduates of KSEA acquire a practical understanding of exceptional children and how to help them, and an understanding of language

development, human development, and students' learning abilities, and working with special needs students.

The Aboriginal Management Certificate Program provides individuals with the skills, knowledge and awareness required for positions in management. Participants gain a solid understanding of the fundamentals of current business management and of traditional leadership in order to deal with the complex issues facing Aboriginal communities and organizations today. The program is offered at the Winnipeg campus, but can also be offered off campus when required.

The Centre for Distributed/Distance Learning offers a variety of courses via instructional television and online learning. The university is a member of Campus Manitoba.

Transition programs

To help new students adjust to the city and campus life, The University of Winnipeg offers a Transition Year Program. The program offers a 'core' academic writing course. A mandatory orientation week allows students to become familiar with supports and services and receive advice. Each new student is matched with a returning Aboriginal student, who updates the student on the Aboriginal Student Centre's activities and helps them adjust. Tutors are also available to enhance their academic success. Enrolment in the Transition Year Program has increased by 30 percent in the last five years.

The university also offers an innovative Model School tied to the university's Collegiate (high school) that provides individual learning plans for at-risk youth. Many of the students are then integrated into the Collegiate high school and prepared for postsecondary education.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The Aboriginal Student Services Centre offers various support services including individualized assistance in admission and registration, personal one-on-one academic advising and orientation for the Transition Year Program. Aboriginal students are also offered support for issues such as daycare, financial aid and housing.

The university offers financial aid, affordable housing in the new McFeetors Hall: Great-West Life Student Residence, and child care in an expanded new daycare facility.

In addition to the teachings and cultural activities held at the Aboriginal Student Services Centre, the campus Elder provides support and guidance for all students, faculty and staff.

The Aboriginal Students' Council represents all Aboriginal students and acts as a social, cultural and advocacy group. It hosts visiting speakers, monthly pot-lucks and offers computing and telephone facilities in the Aboriginal student lounge.

The university works with the community through the Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre to offer cultural activities such as Elders Teaching Circles and language programs. The university offers many

conferences, workshops and lectures that are open and free to the public on topics ranging from residential schools to Aboriginal governance. The Aboriginal Student Council hosts an annual spring powwow that brings together the campus and community to share and learn.

The university also has a Native drum group and encourages staff and students to participate in sweat ceremonies and language classes offered in Cree and other languages.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

Awards and Financial Aid Services administer over 20 different bursaries and graduate fellowships designed specifically for Aboriginal students. This includes the University of Winnipeg's Opportunity Fund that provides approximately 100 need-based "fast-track" bursaries per year to First Nations and Métis students. The Opportunity Fund also provides tuition credit accounts to 100 Aboriginal and inner-city children and youth (grades 4 – 12) annually. The 'earn and learn' approach rewards students for each year of school successfully completed, and for participating in extra-curricular activities in their communities.

The university offers bursaries to assist students with the up-front costs of applying to the university before other student financial aid is available. There is a similar program to help University of Winnipeg students with the costs of applying to graduate and professional programs.

Administrative and policy framework

The University of Winnipeg uses a holistic approach to its administrative framework for Aboriginal education. Senior officials involved in the university's approach include the President and Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-President Academic, the Vice-President Student Services and the Executive Director of Indigenous Affairs.

The President's Advisory Committee, which advises on Indigenous matters, is composed of First Nations and Métis education leaders (including some former students).

The University of Winnipeg's Board of Regents has four active Indigenous members.

The university is working in partnership with urban Aboriginal organizations, with First Nations and Métis governments, organizations and communities, and with individual First Nations to share the university's resources and respond to the needs of Indigenous peoples. The university works with Indigenous leaders to advocate for policy change within various levels of government.

Aboriginal population on campus

The number of students who self-identify as Aboriginal rose from seven percent in 2005 to nine percent in 2008. The university is currently developing success measures based upon the introduction of enhanced Aboriginal self-declaration processes. Eleven academic staff members in the faculties of Education, Arts and Science self-identify as First Nations and Métis.

Aboriginal recruitment and admissions

York University's Recruitment Officer participates in the Aboriginal Postsecondary Information Program and visits First Nations and urban Aboriginal communities across Ontario.

Osgoode Hall Law School has a discretionary admissions category that makes up 30 percent of the LLB program. Aboriginal applicants are one category under the Special Admission Policy. Admission may be conditional on completing the University of Saskatchewan's Program of Legal Studies for Native People.

Aboriginal youth engagement

York University hosts an Aboriginal Youth Education Day for Aboriginal high school students from various southern Ontario district school boards and First Nations communities. Activities include information sessions on admissions, programs, student life and student support, and scholarships; a campus tour; and a panel discussion with York's Aboriginal community members made up of student services, faculty and student group representatives.

Native studies programs

A Certificate of Indigenous Studies is offered by the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies.

The Faculty of Education offers a Bachelor of Education in Indigenous Teacher Education.

Aboriginal-focused programs on campus

Osgoode Hall Law School provides a one-semester, intensive program on Aboriginal Lands, Resources and Governments.

Many programs within the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies have courses of study focused on Aboriginal topics.

Academic programs available off campus

York University offers courses and programs through the division of continuing education and the Centre for Distance Education (online, correspondence, mixed-mode).

Transition programs

The Aboriginal Women's Bridging Course is offered through a partnership with the Native Women's Resource Centre in Toronto. After successfully completing the course, participants can apply for admission to York University.

The Riverdale Project establishes positive relationships between self-identified Aboriginal secondary school students in the Toronto District School Board and York University. The Riverdale Project provides students the opportunity to enrol in a university credit course, at no cost to them, while completing their high school diploma.

Support services for Aboriginal students

The First Nations and Aboriginal Students' Association advocates on behalf of the Aboriginal students, organizes social and cultural events and sponsors the annual Aboriginal Awareness Day and Powwow.

The Aboriginal education counsellor based in the Faculty of Environmental Studies provides academic and personal counselling to Aboriginal students on campus. Academic advising also takes place in each faculty.

The Aboriginal Resource Centre provides a meeting space and hosts cultural and social events including visits from community Elders.

Scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal students

There are a number of awards for Aboriginal students in Osgoode Hall's law programs and there are a number of general scholarships and bursaries for Aboriginal undergraduate students.

Administrative and policy framework

York University's Aboriginal Education Council is comprised of representatives of the local GTA Aboriginal organizations, surrounding First Nations communities and administration, and staff and faculty members of the university.

The Aboriginal Student Association has a role in the student government

Aboriginal population on campus

Fewer than two percent of York University students self-identify as Aboriginal. There are six staff members who self-identify as Aboriginal.