

âcimowin, Kitachimowinaw, Our Story

October 2022

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights series | November 2

U of A's Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights series will be hosting Dr. Cindy Blackstock on November 2. This evening event will run from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Timm's Centre for the Arts, U of A campus. [Registration is free through Eventbrite](#). Dr. Blackstock will talk about colonialism, how it created intergenerational inequalities and what can be done about it to achieve justice for Indigenous Peoples.

Métis Foundational Knowledge Course | November 7 to December 5

Interested in deepening your understanding of Métis history and culture, with specific emphasis on the Métis experience in the land we now call Alberta? Join the free five-week [Foundational Knowledge course at the St. Albert Public Library](#) to learn from Métis knowledge holders and educators. If you're interested in this free Moodle course but cannot join the St. Albert group in November, you can [sign up for alternative learning times and formats with Rupertsland Institute](#).

Get Ahead of Your Future Job Fair | November 17

On November 17, Rupertsland Institute presents the [Get Ahead of Your Future](#) job fair at the Edmonton Convention Centre for Métis Nation of Alberta students ages 15-17. To find out more or register for the event, email careerfairs@rupertsland.org. High schools throughout the Division will be busing students to the event. In December, visit the [EIPS First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education team's website](#) for highlights from EIPS students in attendance.

Upcoming Days of Significance | November

EIPS staff and students will be recognizing a variety of important events throughout the month of November. Check with your school's lead teacher and the [EIPS First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education team's website](#) to find out how the Division is getting curious and learning more about each special event.

- November 7: International Inuit Day
- November 8: Indigenous Veterans Day
- November 14-18: Métis Week

Direct Student Support

Jordan's Principle

Learn more about Jordan's Principle and the funding supports available for First Nations children—visit the [Assembly of First Nations](#) and [Government of Canada](#) resources.

Access to Technology

Is lack of technology a barrier to learning for the student in your life? Reach out to your school's lead teacher to find out about Division supports available.

Support for Students

Members of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education team are available to meet with self-identified students throughout the Division in one-on-one or small-group settings. Talk with your school's lead teacher to discuss options available.

Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation Program Applications

The [Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation](#) has opened the application process for First Nations, Métis and Inuit grades 11 and 12 students who are interested in attending a week-long summer program to explore a future in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM). The full [2023 application package](#) with program details is now available.

To apply online:

- Visit www.vernakirkness.org.
- Go to the “Apply Now” tab.
- Click on “2023 VJKF Program (In-Person).”
- At the bottom of the page, the online application is available under the “apply now” section.
- Students enter their email address and click “NEXT” to continue.
- The application can be filled out online or printed and emailed/mailed to the Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation.

What’s needed to apply:

- Completed application form
- Completed parental consent form
- Personal reference from a teacher
- Essay explaining why they want to attend (50-400 words)
- The attachments (essay, references and parental/guardian consent) can be emailed to ProgramManger@vjkf.org or attached to the online application.

***Student grades are not a factor in being accepted.**

The deadline to apply is **Dec. 31, 2022.**

Resources of Interest

- Interested in learning more about EIPS divisionwide work in First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education? Connect with the [Central Services Team](#) and read the Division’s [monthly blog](#).
- *Did you know?* The First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education team has a collection of hundreds of books by Indigenous authors for teachers to bring into their classrooms and lessons? If you know of an excellent print resource for any level of K-12 education that you think the Division should know about, connect with your school’s lead teacher.
- Did you know? Métis Crossing near Smoky Lake offers traditional arts workshops throughout the winter months, including capote making, beading, and ribbon skirt making. [Check out their website](#) for details and to register.
- A few years ago, the Alberta School Boards Association partnered with First Nations, Métis and Inuit knowledge holders throughout Alberta to create the [Indigenous Insights video series](#). The short videos were created to support school trustees throughout the province to increase their foundational knowledge and to act as an entry point to consider how they can respectfully build relationships with Indigenous families within their divisions’ boundaries.

At SouthPointe School students learned about Indigenous Veterans who served Canada courageously. Classes researched and learned of many sacrifices and heroic bravery. Historical inequality and dedication of Indigenous Veterans as well as specific contributions of Cree Code Talkers. Digital posters of Indigenous Veterans were created to continue building awareness of the continued pursuit

of peace. Grade 6 and Kindergarten classes created artwork for a beautiful representation of learning. The two collaborative bulletin boards are shown below.



Here is a link to the slides.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rKo5bTk7kTrORd5jMNzfUrqy1ZOUtPKZPF1QULtNMZI/edit?usp=sharing>

In November to integrate discussion of the Seven Grandfather teachings and celebration of Turtle Island. We will start our focus with Truth and the Turtle. Truth is about living all the teachings in a good and balanced way and following one's dreams with integrity and kindness. I am also excited to share more about my own Métis heritage this upcoming week. It will be great to see all the students. **Mikwec, Maarsii and Thank you to those who have introduced yourselves or filled out interest for some school events so far this year!**

Mrs. Danielle Booker
Grade 6 and First Nation, Métis and Inuit Lead Teacher