



May 2023

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Our school collected gently loved Teddy Bears and/or pairs of children's shoes next week in the front office to support the "Blanket of Remembrance" initiative. These Teddy Bears or shoes will need to be dropped off by students or parents by Friday May 5th to ensure they are delivered. Thank you to all who donated!

Our schools teachings continue next week with Spirit Bear Day and Moose Hide Campaign days May 10th and 11th. The Indigenous Society is hosting a Red Dress Day walk at Legacy Park for all community members to attend this evening. Please see the poster below for details.



Family Gatherings | June

The First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education team will be hosting family gatherings again, but we'll be in person this year. Gatherings are a time in the evening when we can meet together to share, learn and connect. All family members are welcome and dinner will be provided at all gatherings. More details and registration will be shared with families closer to each event, but for planning purposes, the dates are as follows:

- **May 30, 2023** from 6-7pm
 - Fort Saskatchewan Family Gathering

MAY 30, 2023

FORT SASKATCHEWAN FAMILY GATHERING

Come for snacks and conversation. Elder Evelyn Day will start us off in a good way.

Please bring a lawn chair to sit by the fire.

6-7 PM
TURNER PARK,
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

An opportunity for First Nations Métis & Inuit students and families to create connection in the Fort. See you there!



Elk Island Public Schools

- **Thursday, June 8** from 6 to 8 p.m.
 - Land-based Learning (hosted at EIPS Central Services land-based learning space, Sherwood Park)

Cultural Programs | Late Winter and Spring

The First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education team is busy working with Elders and knowledge holders to plan a variety of cultural learning experiences for students and families. More details will be shared as plans are finalized, but know there are many exciting opportunities coming soon!

Direct Student Support

Study Help for Métis students Rupertsland Institute has secured access to Alberta ExamBank for K-12 Métis students to test their understanding through online practice. Métis students can sign up for the [RECC Room](#) to find the login for their MNA Region. Questions? Contact education@rupertsland.org.

Is your child in Grade 12 and looking to move on to post-secondary education? There are a [variety of scholarships, bursaries and grants](#) available to First Nations, Métis and Inuit students to attend trade school, college or university. Talk to your child's lead teacher for more information or support in filling out applications.

Resources of Interest

Beautiful Michif Album

Métis singer/songwriter/actress Andrea Menard recently released her latest album, *Anskoonamakew lii Shansoon*, meaning Giveaway Songs. The collection of 10 songs are sung in and translated into the different languages and dialects of Michif people and are a way for Andrea to help share and preserve the Michif language. The songs can be streamed from a variety of platforms. A short video, the album and the lyric sheets are available on [her website](#). Did you know: EIPS teacher Shelly Grauman's daughter, Tai Amy Grauman, is a Métis playwright, and a song from one of her plays is included in the collection? Amazing talent!

At-home Supports for Métis Youth and Families

Are you a citizen of the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA)? The MNA Children and Family Services team offers a [variety of supports, programs and resources](#) at no cost to citizens.

Opportunity for Youth in the Fort Saskatchewan Area

The Indigenous Society of Fort Saskatchewan is offering powwow teaching for youth in the community.

Wednesdays, Jan. 25 to June 14, 2023

6 to 7:30 p.m.

No classes March 29 or May 10

Location: TBD

Spaces are available for 25 girls and 25 boys. There will be a performance during the MMIWG2S Gathering at Legacy Park on May 5. Register by emailing isfortsask@yahoo.com.

SouthPointe News:

We enjoyed having Goota Desmarais for a special presentation in April for Grades 2 and 5 (including ½ split and ⅔ split classes). Goota is Inuk from Cape Dorset, Nunavut. She has lived in Treaty 6 territory and been a presenter in Alberta schools for over 25 years. Goota teaches students about Inuit culture, language, and traditional ways of life.

As part of the presentation, students will have the opportunity to try some traditional foods, such as cariboo, smoked arctic char, and narwhal. Here are some pictures:



We look forward to seeing familiar faces at the community events taking place over the next couple months and using our outdoor learning spaces more!