


**FREE
POW WOW
DANCE CLASSES**

Every Wednesday, Starting
September 20, 2023
at 6:00pm
EVERYONE WELCOME!

LOCATION:
Ecole Park Elementaire School
9607 Sherridon Drive
Fort Saskatchewan, AB.

**INDIGENOUS SOCIETY
OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN** Presented by:  **CITY OF
FORT SASKATCHEWAN**

We also have our second Fort Saskatchewan Gathering January 23rd, 2023



**A Gathering for
Fort Saskatchewan
Indigenous Families**

**An event bringing together First
Nations, Métis and Inuit Families in
Fort Saskatchewan.**

LET'S COME TOGETHER, SIT IN CIRCLE,
CONNECT WITH AN ELDER, AND BUILD
COMMUNITY.

JAN 23, 2024 6-7 PM

**WEST RIVER'S EDGE PAVILLION
1875 RIVER VALLEY DRIVE**

 **Elk Island Public Schools**

Next Fort Family Gatherings with Elder Evelyn Day

-Tuesday, May 28, 6:00-7:00pm -Turner Park Gazebo

Ribbon Workshop | January 30 and 31

The Ribbon Workshop is for secondary students—make your own Ribbon Skirt or Shirt. We'll continue with our yearly tradition of sharing teachings from Elders and sewing ribbon skirts with interested students. This year, we are adding men's teachings and sewing ribbon shirts. More information will be released as we get closer to the date.

January 4 is [National Ribbon Skirt Day](#), but EIPS is on winter break at that time. Therefore, we've planned our own EIPS divisionwide Ribbon Skirt/Ribbon Shirt Day on **February 7**.

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.

Interested in learning more about how your school is engaging in truth-telling and the reconciliation process? Connect with Danielle Booker, the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Lead Teacher at the school.

Interested in learning more about EIPS divisionwide work in First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education? Reach out to your school's lead teacher, connect with the Division team at victoria.vilaivan@eips.ca and read the Division's [blog](#).

SouthPointe School Community

SouthPointe School had a great celebration of Métis culture during Métis Week. Students in Grades 3 and 4 learned how to do the traditional Broom dance and discussed traditional foods looking at samples of plants and how water is foundational for the Food Tipi. They discussed how living from the land required innovation and planning for First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures.

During this week we had school wide events like Rock Your Mocs, Socks and Crocs to include all students and link to our Bully Awareness celebrating the uniqueness of all students.

It was amazing to showcase my own beading and family heritage with a display in the library and resources from Rupertsland Institute to guide students to build their foundational knowledge.





Students have started an Art Collective club that will be sharing different First Nations, Métis and Inuit art and creating art to express our own unique ideas. Mrs. Booker, Ms. Gauchier and Ms. Germaine will be sharing art and helping build this community. We meet every Tuesday and Thursday PM recess and will be inviting the students to smudge once a month. There will be an announcement to invite First Nations, Métis and Inuit student to join even if not in the art club.

Resources of Interest

Curious about Indigenous-focused events and programs planned for our area?

- Visit [Strathcona County's Indigenous Connections](#) page for information and upcoming events.
- The City of Fort Saskatchewan has a [Truth and Reconciliation initiatives page](#) and an active [Indigenous Society of Fort Saskatchewan](#).
- Visit the [Indigenous events page through eventbrite](#).
- The [Edmonton Indigenous Relations Community Bulletin](#) shares events and initiatives in the Edmonton area.

Interested in learning more about the Cree 13 Moon calendar?

[Cree Literacy Network](#) has a [printable 2024 calendar](#) around the Cree th- and y-dialects. The website is also full of excellent information and resources on Cree language and culture.

[When the Trees Crackle with the Cold](#) by Bernice Johnson-Laxdal and Miriam Korner is an excellent book and activity pack that can be used by families to learn more about the 13 Moons.

The names of the 13 Moons can vary, depending on one's teachings, dialect, place and culture. For example, Métis scholar [Elmer Ghostkeeper outlines the 13 Moons](#) from his teachings. You can read more in his book, *Spirit Gifting: The Concept of Spiritual Exchange*.

- I am a proud Métis mother and teacher at SouthPointe since September 2018. My family heritage is from Northern Alberta on my mom's side and on my father's side Golden Lakes Algonquin Nation and root Métis ancestors in the Ontario Ottawa Valley area, Region 6.
- Please reach out to me and introduce yourself via email and let me know a time we can connect for a phone call. If your child is interested in support at school.

Warm regards,
Danielle Booker

Grade 2 and First Nation, Métis and Inuit Lead Teacher
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