

mikisiwi pisim -Eagle Moon -March 2024 *Month the eagle returns*

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Family Gatherings

The First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education team will be hosting family gatherings in Fort Saskatchewan and Sherwood Park this month. 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:

- **March 15, 2024**
 - Round Dance hosted at F.R. Haythorne Junior High
 - 300 Colwill Boulevard
 - Sherwood Park, AB
- **May 28th, 2024**
 - Fort Saskatchewan Family Gathering
 - West River's Edge
 - Fort Saskatchewan, AB

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.

Spirit Bear Award

The Spirit Bear Award is awarded to groups of young people who demonstrate their commitment to reconciliation and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. This year, three awards of \$500 will be given to groups of young people to use as they would like toward their activities or simply to celebrate!

The deadline for all nominations is Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 11:45 PM ET.

<https://fncaringsociety.com/awards-scholarships/spirit-bear-award#:~:text=Created%20in%202019%2C%20the%20Spirit%20Bear%20Award%20is,the%20Truth%20and%20Reconciliation%20Commission%E2%80%99s%20Calls%20to%20Action>.

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!

My son and I were so happy to attend Andrea Menard's show at the Citadel Theatre "Rubaboo" which is in Edmonton until March 3rd!

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.

SouthPointe News:

moshikahan Connie!



We are so grateful to have artist Connie Kulhavy lead the students at SouthPointe in a collaborative art piece from February 12-16th, 2024. The wetlands-inspired focus on the influence of water and the importance of individual stewardship of the land will build foundational knowledge for our school community.

More About Connie Kulhavy

"I work and reside on Treaty 6, Region 4 in Edmonton AB. I have worked in Education for over twenty years sharing my Métis Culture and History. I was born in Hay River NT and I have many fond memories of the Northern Lights, Snow Snake games and walking to school seeing the birch tree's leaves change with the seasons. In the past five years I have taken up beading and painting as a way of sharing and connecting more to my Culture, Flower Beadwork Hearts and Birch Bark Paintings. I shared my first work about five years ago and sold, and I have since

sold it through the Royal Alberta Museum, The Bear Claw Gallery, The Strathcona Museum and Archive in Sherwood Park. I have hosted workshops at the Royal Alberta Museum for the employees and at Gallery 501 for public and the Strathcona Museum as well for the Métis Nation of Alberta, The Métis Community in St. Albert, many Teacher Professional Development Days and family-teacher evenings for paint nights and I also host workshops in Public Libraries in Edmonton and the surrounding area. I work in different School Districts in Alberta and Saskatchewan. In September I was a host for a week-long Land Based Festival in Fort McMurray sharing my work with the public and then hosted workshops for the high school students for three days after the Festival. I work with a company called Connect North and I Zoom into remote classrooms all over Canada sharing my Birch Bark Paintings and Sash Weavings on Medicine and Culture. I have also hosted the Folk Festival and Arts Festival in Edmonton. I have one of my hearts and Sash with Michif words for Valentines on a calendar with the Gabriel Dumont Institute and I have shared some of my heart lessons online to classes all over Canada through Rupertsland Education Institute."

You can follow me on my Feel Good Medicines page on FB, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.



Linguistic Morphology Interesting Connections:

1. michif

moshikahan-rise come in; go up

<https://dictionary.michif.atlas-ling.ca/#!/results>



moshikahan

English to Michif Michif to English Advanced Options

Results Credits Help* Browse

Entries

1

moshikahan ʘ.

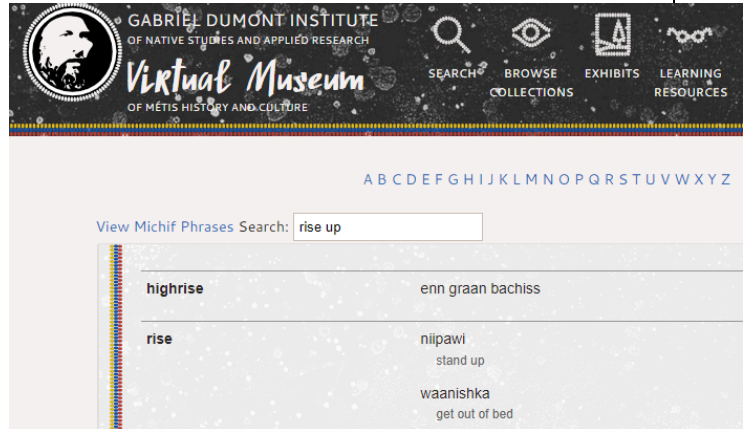
rise: come in; go up

2. michif

niipawi

Rise-Stand up!

3. cree



nīpiy ᓂᐱ+ **NI** water (CW)

nīpiy ᓂᐱ+ **NI** water (EC)

<https://www.creedictionary.com/search/?q=water&scope=0&submitButton.x=54&submitButton.y=9>

Upcoming events:

Elk Island Public Schools is hosting a Round Dance at F.R. Haythorne. More details to follow!



Happy Elderbeary Day!



On March 20, celebrate Elderbeary Day!

Elderbeary Day honours and celebrates the contributions of our Elders, who do so much to teach and raise our little ones. Celebrate by thanking your Elders for all that they do for you and for your community in ways that you believe best represents how much you care. Loneliness is something we all can do something about.



If you'd like to share your Elderbeary Day celebrations on social media, use the hashtags #ElderbearyDay or #JournéeOursonAîné.

<https://fncaringsociety.com/elderbeary-day#:~:text=On%20March%2020%2C%20celebrate%20Elderbeary%20Day%21%20Elderbeary%20Day.you%20believe%20best%20represents%20how%20much%20you%20care>

Here are some ways to celebrate with senior citizens and honour their wisdom:

- Saying hello
- Doing yard work
- Running errands & dropping off supplies
- Making gifts
- Making your favourite food together
- Asking questions! Listening.
Go for a walk!



On the Horizon:

I have accepted a position as First Nations, Métis and Inuit Cultural Consultant with Supports for Students with Elk Island Public Schools which will begin March 1st, 2024. I will continue to be visiting students at SouthPointe as often as I can!

Ms. Melynk will be continuing the work and connection building for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students on a daily basis at SouthPointe School. She has served on the Indigenous Committee since SouthPointe's beginning and invests in Truth and Reconciliation through thoughtful advocacy. I am so thankful for my journey at SouthPointe and will continue my journey with many fond memories!

Mrs. Danielle Booker, M.Ed.

