

GDI HISTORY CHRONOLOGY

1976 -1998

Gabriel Dumont Institute

- 1976-1980 Initial preparation for the founding of the institute
- 1980-1985 Implementation of initial programs
- 1980-1987 Cultural Programming was implemented
- 1985-1993 Development of first phase of program expansion
- 1988-1994 Period of retrenching at the institute
- 1995-2000 The institute's renaissance

The Gabriel Dumont Institute Leadership

Past Executive Directors

- 1997-1998 Robert Devrome, Acting Executive Director
Karon Shmon, Assistant Executive Director
- 1996-1997 Robert Devrome, Acting Executive Director
- 1995-1996 Robert Devrome, Acting Executive Director
- 1994-1995 Isabelle Impey, Acting Executive Director
Anne Dorion, Acting Executive Director
Robert Devrome, Acting Executive Director
- 1993-1994 Isabelle Impey, Executive Director
- 1992-1993 Isabelle Impey, Assistant Executive Director
- 1991-1992 Christopher LaFontaine Executive Director
- 1990-1991 Christopher LaFontaine Executive Director
- 1989-1990 Christopher LaFontaine Executive Director
- 1988-1989 Christopher LaFontaine Executive Director
- 1987-1988 Christopher LaFontaine Executive Director
- 1986-1987 Christopher LaFontaine Executive Director
- 1985-1986 Christopher LaFontaine, Executive Director
- 1984-1985 Keith Goulet, Executive Director
Christopher LaFontaine, Assistant Director
- 1983-1984 Kenn Whyte, Executive Director
Timothy Pynch, Assistant Director
- 1982-1983 Kenn Whyte, Executive Director
Bev Cardinal, Assistant Executive Director
- 1981-1982 Ken Whyte, Executive Director
Walter Currie, Assistant Director
- 1980-1981 Kenn Whyte, Executive Director
Walter Currie, Assistant Director
- 1979-1980 Kenn Whyte, Executive Director

1987-1992 This Chronology includes:

- GDI's publications and reports to government
- the implementation dates for various GDI programs
- outside factors in society and government structure that had an impact on the institute
- relationships with the MSS and the MNS
- events of importance in Métis society in Saskatchewan
- all cultural conferences and other public events

A Chronology of the Gabriel Dumont Institute

1976 A Métis cultural conference was held after extensive lobbying by the Association of Métis and Non Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS). Once the delegates were assembled, active planning for a Métis and Non-Status Indian educational institute.

1976-1980 All levels of government were lobbied for funding for the creation of the GDI.

1980: January 21 The Gabriel Dumont Institute came into formal existence in a formal signing ceremony with the Saskatchewan Department of Continuing Education.

1980: June 1 The Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) began operations in (Regina).

1980: June 8 The Key Lake Inquiry meeting was held at Ile-la-Crosse.

1980: July 30 SUNTEP was formally launched.

1980: August 16 The official declaration of Métis rights was released.

1980: October 27 GDI was granted official status by the provincial government during opening ceremony.

1980 GDI's first cultural conference was held.

1981-1982 The Training on the Job Program was launched.

1981: 30 January The Métis were recognised as an Aboriginal people when the Constitution was repatriated.

1981: 14 September SUNTEP classes began in Prince Albert Centre.

1982 Federally-funded Preparatory Credit Skills Training and University Program was initiated.

1982: January A Cultural Conference was held at Prince Albert.

1982: 28 January The SUNTEP Centre in Prince Albert was opened.

1982: 23 February Aboriginal People at La Loche discussed strategies for economic development.

1982: June Conservative MPs vote against granting Louis Riel a posthumous pardon.

1982: November A cultural conference was held in Saskatoon.

1983: 16 March A constitutional conference was held to identify and define Aboriginal rights.

1983: 17 March Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau announced the establishment of the Office of Aboriginal Constitutional Affairs.

1983: April 19 SANLG(?) held a press conference and called for a public inquiry into Cluff Lake Phase 2.

1983: 29 April Parliament approved an accord which recognised certain Aboriginal rights.

1983: 22 August Human Resource Development Programs began in Ile-a-la Crosse and Lloydminster.

1983: 23 August The Recreation Technology Program began in Regina.

1983: 29 August The South East Métis Local protested funding cuts to Kapachee Centre at the Saskatchewan Legislative Building.

1983: August 31 A gathering was held in Regina which discussed the impact of Non Status Indian and Métis funding being removed from AEC's.

1983: September 7 STEP classes began.

1983: December 13 GDI relocated its main office to 121 Broadway Avenue East in Regina.

1984: 8 March The federal government introduced Bill C-31 in order to grant "Indian" status to many disenfranchised Aboriginal people. Many Métis people became Status Indians as a result.

1984: 9 March A First Minister's constitutional conference was held without Aboriginal consultation.

1984: 13 March The Aboriginal community proposed to create a K-12 Aboriginal school in Regina?

1984: 1 April The Native Elders Program began at the Prince Albert Penitentiary.

1984: 27 April The first SUNTEP graduation was held at the Saskatoon Centre.

1984: 16 June The first Regina SUNTEP was held.

1984: 9 October Early Childhood Development Program began at Saskatoon and Buffalo Narrows.

1984: 29 October The Farm Machinery Mechanics Program began at Melfort.

1985 The GDI report "Seventh Direction".

1985: 8 January Saskatchewan's Core Curriculum Advisory Committee held its first meeting. This meeting had a great impact on the development of curriculum writing, particularly at GDI.

1985 The Napoleon Lafontaine scholarship was initiated.

1985: 3 February The Radio Television and Electronics Program began and concluded on 10 March 1987.

1985: 4 February The GDI publication, A Metis Wedding was released.

1985: 2 March The GDI publication The Skirmish at Seven Oaks was released.

1985: 5 March The GDI publication Metis Crafts: Quill and Beadwork Earrings Kit was released.

1985: 12 March The GDI video Gabriel Dumont: Metis Legend was released.

1985: 21 March The Radio Television and Electronics Program began at Esterhazy.

1985: 4 April Métis Crafts: Finger Weaving Kit was released.

1985: May The Early Childhood Development Program began in Saskatoon and Buffalo Narrows.

1985: May The Business Administration Program began at Fort Qu'Appelle.

1985: 3 June The Alberta government transferred control of the Métis settlements to the province's Métis people.

1985: 5 June A constitutional conference was held and Prime Minister Mulroney agreed to discuss land claims with the Métis.

1985 11 June The GDI publication Metis Rebellion or Government Conspiracy was released.

1985: 9 July, A gathering was held at Batoche to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the North West Resistance.

1985: 31 July The GDI publication The Red River Insurgence was released.

1985: 28 July The GDI publication The North West Resistance of 1885 was released.

1985: August The Native Management Training Program started in Prince Albert and concluded in November 1988.

1985: 5 September The GDI Social Work Program began at Ile-a-la-Crosse and concluded on 30 April 1987.

1985: 5 November The constitutional conference held by Canada's

First Ministers abandoned its commitment to Aboriginal rights.

1985: 29 November A meeting of AMNSIS was held in order to determine if a split between the Métis and Non-Status Indian membership would be more beneficial to each group's move toward recognition and self-government. The membership decided to stay together.

1985: 9 December The Senior Citizens Provincial Council met with a minister regarding the social plight of Aboriginal Elders.

1985: 18 December The film strip, Gabriel Dumont: Méis Legend was released.

1985: 20 December The GDI publication Louis Riel was released.

1986: Three Human Resource Development Programs began in late 1986 in Meadow Lake, Cumberland House and Archerwill. The Saskatchewan Training for Employment Program, an agreement between GDI and SIAST began. Four preparatory programs began in Meadow Lake, Cumberland House, Archerwill, and Buffalo Narrows. Other programs in 1986 included the Radio, Television and Electronics Program and Programs for employment with affiliation with the Canadian Jobs Strategy in Yorkton, Regina, Ile-a-la-Crosse and Esterhazy.

1986: 20 January Community consultations were held at Prince Albert regarding land regarding land claims and self-government.

1986: 21 February The GDI poster "Our Children: Our Future" was released.

1986: 26 February The GDI study print series "The Métis: Two Worlds Meet" was released.

1986: 24 March The GDI publication "Buffalo Hunt" was released.

1986: 23 April The GDI publication The Metis Development in the Canadian West Series was released.

1986: 18 August The Lebret Métis farm was returned to the Métis people by the Saskatchewan government.

1986: 15 September The Gabriel Dumont Institute Scholarship Foundation was established.

1986: November The Native Social Work Program began in Meadow Lake and concluded on July 1988.

1986: 3 November The Science Skill Development Program or Health Services Preparatory Program began at Buffalo Narrows and concluded on March 31, 1997.

1986: 15 November The second intake for the Business Administration Program began at Fort Qu'Appelle and concluded on 19 August 1988.

1986: 17 November The Social Program began at Meadow Lake and concluded on 31, March 1987.

1986: 18 November The Pre-Social Work Program began at Cumberland House and Archerwill and concluded August 1988.

1986: 19 November The Early Childhood Development Program began in Saskatoon and concluded on 19 August 1988.

1986: 25 November MEDFO began operation with \$ 3.6 million in start up capital from NEDD or NEPP?

1987: The institute arranged for a co-management of the Native Studies Division within the SIAST system. The institute also signed an agreement with the federal government known as the Canadian Jobs Strategy Access Program. Other programs included Academic 12 Upgrading in Regina, The Native Social Work Program at Meadow Lake, handicraft Training at Archerwill and Cabinet making.

1987: 1 February The seventh annual GDI Cultural Conference was held in Saskatoon.

1987: 13 February The second intake of the Preforesstry Program began at La Loche.

1987: 17 February "The Look and Listen Poster" was released.

1987: 27 March The Meech Lake Process completely shut out Aboriginal concerns.

1987: 7 April The Saskatchewan Minister of Justice terminated the Native Court Workers' Program".

1987: 14 May MEDFO and SNEDCO were officially opened in Regina.

1987: 23, May The GDI Publication The One-and a Half Men was released.

1987: 15 June The Job Readiness Training Program began at Yorkton.

1987: 2 July The Academic XII Program began at Yorkton.

1987: 11 July The GDI publication Fifty Historical Vignettes was released.

1987: 13 July The Pre-Nursing Program(Community Health Workers) began in Ile-a-la-Crosse.

1987: 23 July The Métis Society of Saskatchewan was born and the AMNIS was abandoned, and Non Status Indians were left out of the Métis organisation.

1987: September The Native Human Justice Program began in Prince Albert, and it concluded in May 1989.

1987: 1 October The GDI publication Learning To Speak, Read and Write Cree was released.

1987: 12 October The GDI publication Atlas of Aboriginal Settlement was released.

1987: 15 October The first intake of the Human Justice Program occurred at Prince Albert.

1987: 17 October The GDI publication Home From the Hill was released.

1987: 22 October The GDI publication Flags of the Metis was released.

1987: 24 October The Second intake of The Radio, Television and Electronics Program began at Esterhazy.

1987: 23 November A contract between GDI and SIAST created the Native Services Division.

1987: 29 November The Business Management Program began in Regina and Prince Albert and lasted until July 1988.

1988: A zero funding increase came from Core.

1989: January, The Pre-Management Training Program began at La Loche and lasted until July 1988.

1988: 11 January The Pre-Business Program began at La Loche.

1988: 12 January The Pre-Forestry Program began at La Ronge.

1988: 28 February The Community Development Training Program began at Archerwill and continued to the end of the year.

1988: 28 March The Business Administration Program began at Buffalo Narrows and concluded on February 1989.

1988: April The Business Administration Program at Buffalo Narrows started and concluded in February.

1988: 28 April The Job Readiness Training Program began in Moose Jaw.

1988: 26 May GDI sponsored an Aboriginal Conference on Aboriginal people and the Justice system.

1988: 27 May GDI purchased a building in Prince Albert.

1988: July The Pre-Nursing Program concluded at Ile-a-la-Crosse.

1988: 16 July The opening day of the first annual Lebret Métis Heritage Days occurred.

1988: 20 August A court-ordered referendum vote which would determine the political structure of the Saskatchewan Métis and Non-Status Indians' Association was held.

1988: 2 September The second intake of the Human Justice Program

began in Prince Albert.

1988: 8 September The GDI Board reaffirmed its commitment to both Métis and Non-Status Indian clientele.

1988, 7 October A provincial court ruled in favour of the Métis Society of Saskatchewan as a recognised political structure.

1988: November Native Business Management Program began in Saskatoon and concluded in October 1989.

1988: 6 November The Native Business Management Program began in Saskatoon, and it ran until October 1989.

1988: 30 November The Saskatchewan government announced the sale of its Métis farms at Green Lake and at Ile-a-la-Crosse.

1988: 4 December The GDI poster "Keep Your Spirit Free" was released.

1988: 11 December The Métis Society of Saskatchewan held its first annual assembly in Saskatoon.

1989: The Institute began publishing The Journal of Indigenous Studies and Saskatchewan Justice and GDI created the first Community Training Residence (CTR) for female offenders in Saskatchewan.

1989: 6 January, The first annual Métis Society of Saskatchewan annual assembly was held.

1989: 9 January The Pre-nursing Training Program began at SIAST, Wascana Campus in Regina and lasted until August 18, 1989.

1989: 14 January The Job Readiness Training Program graduated 12 students.

1989: 16 January The Pre-Health Program began in Regina.

1989, 17 January The Pre-RCMP Program began at Fort Qu'Appelle.

1989: 28 January The Radio Television Electronics Training Program in Esterhazy ended.

1989: February The Early Childhood Development Program began in Prince Albert.

1989: February The Pre-Forestry Technician Program started and ended in August 1989.

1989: 1 May The Native Management Studies Program began in Regina, and the students graduated in June 1991.

1989: May The Forestry Technician Program began in Buffalo Narrows.

1989: 11 May CTR for women offenders began in Saskatoon.

1989: 15 May The Pre-Chemical Dependency Program began at Ile-a-la-Crosse.

1989: 16 May The Pre-Forestry Program, with 20 students, began at Prince Albert and it ended in the Spring of 1990.

1989: 26 May The GDI report Native Women in the Work Place: Job Reentry Program was released. The report was a funding proposal presented to the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission Social Assistance Recipient Training Program.

1989: 17 July The Pre-Management Program began at Cumberland House and was completed in February 1991.

1989: August 12-13 Students completed their studies for JRTP(?) in Yorkton.

1989: 1 August The GDI traditional dancing video, "Steps In Time" was released.

1989: 28 August The third intake of the Human Justice Program began at North Battleford.

1989: Fall A full-time Native Services Counsellor was assigned to the Wascana Campus of SIAST in Regina.

1989: September The Native Human Justice Program started in Prince Albert; its first class graduated on May 14, 1989.

1989: September 19 students enrolled in the High School Completion Program at Ile-a-la-Crosse.

1989: 25 September The Business Administration Program was initiated in North Battleford.

1989: 1 October , The 0-5 Basic Literacy Program began and lasted until June 30, 1990.

1989: 15 November CTR opened its residence in Saskatoon for female offenders.

1992: 1 February The GDI report Towards Self-Government : A Mandate For the Nineties.

1993: The Métis Employment Equity Development Program began.

1993: 28-30, January, The 13th annual GDI Cultural Conference was held.

1994: January The GDI report Vision and Direction for the Education and Training of the Métis People of Saskatchewan was released.

Gabriel Dumont Institute Program Offerings

Academic 12

1987-1988 (Regina): 19 students
1989 (Ile-a-la-Crosse): 39 students
1990-1991 (Ile-a-la-Crosse): 14 students

Adult Basic Education

1993-1994 (Provincially): 200 students
1994-1995 (Provincially): 200 students
1995-1996 (Provincially): 200 students

Agricultural Mechanics

1985 (Melfort): 12 students

Business Administration

1985-1986 (Fort Qu'Appelle): 27 students
1988 (Buffalo Narrows): 12 students
1989-1990 (Cumberland House): 21 students
1989-1991 (Regina): 25 students
1989-1990 (Buffalo Narrows): 20 students
1989-1990 (Saskatoon): 21 students
1989-1990 (North Battleford): 20 students
1991-1993 (Cumberland House): 16 students
1991-1993 (Meadow Lake): 25 students
1991-1993 (Regina): 35 students
1993-1995 (Yorkton): 25 students
1995-1996 (Buffalo Narrows): 15 students

Chemical Dependency Worker

1989-1991 (Ile-a-la-Crosse): 26 students
1991-1992 (North Battleford): 20 students
1993-1994 (North Battleford): 12 students

Community Economic Development

1988 (Archerwill): 10 students

Computer Applications

1996 (North Battleford): 6 students

Early Childhood Development

1985-1986 (Saskatoon): 27 students

1988-1989 (Saskatoon): 10 students

1985 (Buffalo Narrows): 10 students

1988 (Prince Albert): 10 students

Forestry Technician

1989 (Buffalo Narrows): 19 students

1989 (Prince Albert): 20 students

GED Preparatory Course

1996 (Meadow Lake): 15 students

Health Care Administrator

1991-1992 (Ile-a-la-Crosse): 22 students

Heavy Equipment Operator

1993 (Batoche): 12 students

1994 (Batoche): 10 students

Home Care/Special Care Aide Pre-Employment

1991-1992 (North Battleford): 20 students

Housing Administration Program

1993-1994 (Saskatoon): 10 students

Human Resource Development

1983-1985 (Saskatoon): 14 students

1983-1985 (Lloydminster): 14 students

1983-1985(Ile-a-la-Crosse): 19 students

Integrated Resource Management

1991-1993 (Buffalo Narrows): 25 students

Introduction to Office Management

1996 (LaRonge): 9 students

Job Readiness

1987-1988 (Yorkton): 15 students

1988 (Moose Jaw): 12 students

1988 (Yorkton): 15 students

1988 (Yorkton): 15 students

1989 (Moose Jaw): 14 students

1989 (Yorkton): 18 students

Local Government Administration

1990 (LaRonge): 22 students

Metis Entrepreneurial Program

1994 (Meadow Lake): 10 students

1994 (North Battleford): 15 students

Micro Computer Repair Technician

1996 (North Battleford): 10 students

Native Human Justice

1987-1989 (Prince Albert): 30 students

1988-1990 (Prince Albert): 30 students

1989-1991 (Prince Albert): 20 students

1990-1992 (Prince Albert): 28 students

1991-1993 (Prince Albert): 28 students

Native Management Training

1987-1988 (Prince Albert): 20 students

1987-1988 (Regina): 20 students

1988-1989 (Prince Albert): 20 students

1988 (Saskatoon): 20 students

Native Social Work Program

1985-1986 (Ile-a-la-Crosse): 26 students
1986-1987 (Archerwill): 21 students
1986-1988 (Meadow Lake): 25 students
1986-1988 (Cumberland House): 22 students
1993-1996 (Cumberland House): 22 students

Native Studies Instructor

1983-1994 (Saskatoon): 15 students

Pre-Careers

1988 (Moose Jaw): 12 students

Pre-Forest Products Technology

1988 (LaRonge): 20 students
1989 (LaLoche): 14 students

Pre-Health Careers

1989 (Regina): 18 students

Pre-Metis Management

1988 (LaLoche): 14 students

Pre-Nursing Readiness

1987-1988 (Ile-a-la-Crosse): 19 students
1989 (Regina): 24 students

Pre-RCMP

1989 (Fort Qu'Appelle): 33 students

Radio/T.V. Electronics

1985-1986 (Esterhazy): 13 students
1987-1988 (Esterhazy): 19 students
1988-1989 (Esterhazy): 20 students

Recreational Technologist

1983 (Regina): 17 students

Saskatchewan and Training Program (STEP)

1985: 71 students

Science Skills Development

1996 - 1987 (Buffalo Narrows): 23 students

SUNTEP Students

1981-1982: 120 students (4 graduates)
1983-1984: 137 students (14 graduates)
1984-1985: 129 students (43 graduates)
1985-1986: 164 students (27 graduates)
1986-1987: 163 students (24 graduates)
1987-1988: 168 students (19 graduates)
1988-1989: 186 students (20 graduates)
1990-1991: 193 students (34 graduates)
1991-1992: 193 students (36 graduates)
1992-1993: 216 students (31 graduates)
1993-1994: 203 students (43 graduates)
1994-1995: 191 students (43 graduates)
1995-1996: 197 students (44 graduates)

Truck Driver Training Program

1996: (Saskatoon): 12 students

Recreation Technology

1985 (Regina): 15

Youth Care Worker Program

1995-1996 (Meadow Lake): 15 students

1995-1996 (North Battleford): 15 students

TOTAL NUMBER OF GDI STUDENTS: 1519

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF SUNTEP STUDENTS: 1080

TOTAL NUMBER OF ABE STUDENTS: 600

TOTAL # OF GDI/SUNTEP/ABE STUDENTS: 3199