Aboriginal Engagement

A Presentation to Senate, October 2013
Forging New Relationships

“We will be characterized as a place with diversified approaches and flourishing initiatives in every college and school involving rigorous and supportive programs for Aboriginal student success, engagement with Aboriginal communities, inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and experience in curricular offerings and intercultural engagement among faculty, staff and students.”

– University of Saskatchewan Third Integrated Plan
Aboriginal Achievement Model
Student Affairs

- Aboriginal Students Centre / Gordon Oakes-Red Bear Student Centre
- 1st Year Transition Program
- College-based student supports (e.g. Aboriginal Student Achievement Program in Arts & Science, Mentorship Program in Medicine, NAPN in Nursing)
- Academic Advising
- Aboriginal Student Centre Community Engagement
- Self-declaration campaign [positive results]
- Student organizations (Aboriginal & Indigenous Graduate Student Council (AIGSC), Indigenous Student Council (ISC))
- Aboriginal College/Program Orientations
- Aboriginal Achievement Week
- Annual Graduation Pow Wow
Community Outreach

- Office of First Nations & Metis Community Engagement [English River], various events & community participation
- Special Advisor on Aboriginal Initiatives
- President’s Tours
- Science Ambassador Program/Kamskenow
- Saskatoon Tribal Council art initiative
- Faculty initiatives e.g., Standing Buffalo Dakota First Nation & SENS (water issues)
- Treaty 6 Flag Celebration
- Western College of Veterinary Medicine (various Aboriginal communities)
(cont’d)……. Community Outreach

• College of Education (ITEP):
  – North Battleford, Canoe Lake, Onion Lake, Beardy’s & Okemas, Big River, Prince Albert, La Ronge & Aurora College (NWT)

• Flying Dust: U of S Marketing / Recruiting

• Indigenous Peoples Resource Management Program (school presentations)

• International Centre for Northern Governance & Development (ICNGD)

• Indigenous Land Management Institute (Agriculture & Bioresources)
Academic Programs

• Indigenous Peoples Resource Management Program (*Agriculture & Bioresources*)
• Department of Native Studies
• Aboriginal Justice & Criminology (*Arts & Science*)
• Teacher Education Programs (*Education*)
• Program of Legal Studies for Native Peoples
• Native Law Centre
• Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) International Conference held June 13-15, 2013
Research Programs

• Indigenous Studies Portal (iPortal) [Library]
• Aboriginal Engagement [Library]
• Aboriginal Education Research Centre [Education]
• Aboriginal, Rural and Remote Health Group
• Urban Aboriginal Knowledge Network (Prairie Research Centre)
• CRCs in Native-Newcomer Relations, Aboriginal Health
• Wanuskewin Heritage Park
Cultural Programs

• Cultural Coordinator Position [February 2012]
• Cultural Liaison [ASC: September 2013]
• Elders’ Program
• Spiritual & Cultural Ceremonies
• Leveraging Spiritual / Cultural Resources with External Communities
• Aboriginal Symbols [video]
Coordination

• Web site with link to home page
  – http://aboriginal.usask.ca/

• Engagement map

• “Taking Stock”: Aboriginal Symposium
  – Part I: March 2013
  – Part II: Summer 2013
  – Part III: Spring 2014

• Elder’s Teachings at English River
Aboriginal Initiatives

Did You Know..?
Every year, the University of Saskatchewan holds a Pow-Wow in celebration of our new graduates. The Pow-Wow is open to the public and is one of the more "talked about" events each year on campus.

Sharing culture, growing together

Welcome to the University of Saskatchewan Aboriginal Initiatives website. We hope that you enjoy our collection of University Aboriginal initiatives, English River facilities overview, partnership activities, and our academic and community resources directory.

As one of the main pillars of the University of Saskatchewan's Integrated Plan, we are proud to offer this website to the public and look forward to hearing your feedback as we continually develop and improve upon these resources.
About

U of S Aboriginal Maps

Layers | Legend | Basemap
-- | -- | --
Click a tab to switch Legend and Basemap. Click checkboxes to toggle the visibility of layers in the map

- Aboriginal Program
- Aboriginal Students by High School
- Aboriginal Student Home Location: Rural
- Aboriginal Student Home Location: Urban (Only show in large scales)
- First Nation Chief and Council List
- Metis Nation Office
- Metis Nation Boundary (Only show in small scales)
- Indian Reserve Band
- SK Treaty Area (Only show in small scales)

Map navigation:
- Click a feature to pop-up an info window.
- Click and Drag to pan around the map.
- Double click to zoom in.
- Scroll forward / backward to zoom in / out.
- SHIFT + drag the mouse to zoom in.
- Drag the zoom slider up / down to zoom in / out.
- Click the up / down to zoom in / out.
- Use the splitter to resize the left and bottom panels.
- Turn on / off the overview map at the bottom right corner.
- Drag the box in the overview map to pan the main map.
- If applicable, maximize the info window to see pictures, hyperlinks, tables, charts, etc.
- Keyboard users: click an area on the map, use the + or - key to zoom in/out and the arrow keys to pan.
- Touchscreen users: drag the map with your finger to move the map; touch an area with two fingers at once and spread them apart to zoom in; pinch them together to zoom out.
- Click "U of S Aboriginal Maps" to refresh and receive updates, if you previously opened the link.
We are having an impact…

• Size of student body growing
• Provincial survey feedback 2011 – showed a high degree of satisfaction with the U of S among self-declared Aboriginal respondents
• Demand growing for programs on First Nations and in northern communities
Required Future Investment:

- Proportion of student body not representative of Saskatchewan public
- Faculty and staff complement not representative of Saskatchewan public
- Retention of students to 2nd year – 58.2% in 2011-12
- Space issue – Ceremonial spaces, family housing, childcare spaces
- Indigenous knowledge in curriculum