



MEDIA RELEASE

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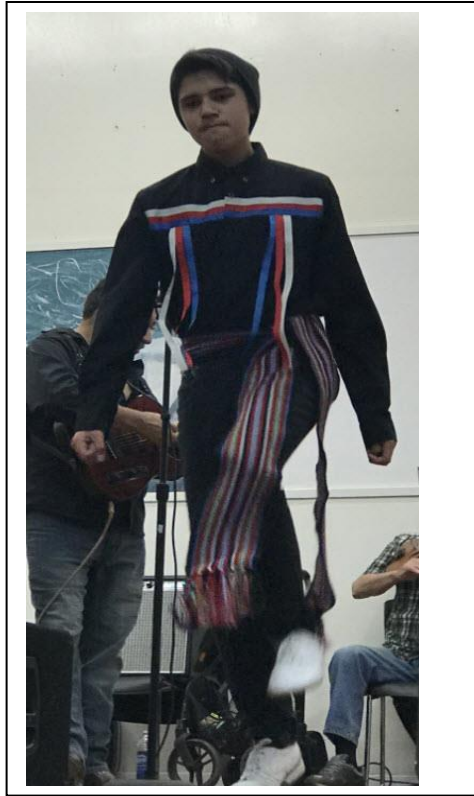
Northern Lakes College Hosts Métis Celebration

Northern Lakes College (NLC) hosted their 15th Annual Métis Celebration at the Grouard campus on Saturday October 21, 2017. The Métis people of the area have long held traditional social gatherings which draw singers, jiggers and fiddlers from across the region to participate, and compete in a variety of talent categories.

The celebration was well attended and provided a great opportunity for people to reconnect, share stories and participate in the competitions for jigging, singing and fiddling. Jigging is a traditional dance of the Métis People - a well-known Métis dance is the Red River jig which is a competitive dance between two partners. Guests had an opportunity to showcase their talent and this year the following individuals took first place in competitions: Keira Inglis (Child Singing); Carmen Pelletier (Adult Singing); Doreen Laderoute (Senior Singing); Brenden Eagleplume (Open Singing); Zachary Willier (Open Fiddling); Kenton Alook (Youth Jigging); Raymond Cardinal (Adult Jigging); and Mavis Goodswimmer (Senior Jigging).

“Northern Lakes College takes pride in the connection we have to our students and the communities we serve. The College recognizes the importance of sharing the history and culture of the Métis people of our area. Hosting the Annual Métis Celebration not only emphasizes the importance of this, it also strengthens relationships and showcases the cultural diversity within our College,” said Ann Everatt, President and CEO of Northern Lakes College.

New this year to NLC was a Métis Celebration Kick-Off event that was held at the Peace River Campus on October 19, 2017. Visitors were able to enjoy stew & bannock, watch a jigging demonstration, and listen to Métis Nation of Alberta speaker Marilyn Lizee and three speakers from Rupertsland Institute - Sharon Sawchuk, Lisa Saville and Michele McCullough. The event was live-streamed on Facebook allowing the public and all of NLC’s Campuses to participate. The Kick-Off event was organized in partnership with the Peace River Community Education Committee, Métis Nation Region 6, Métis Nation of Alberta and Rupertsland Institute.



Kenton Alook, First Place in Youth Jigging

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Northern Lakes College is a multi-campus college located in northern Alberta and is focused on providing relevant, quality programs through a distributed learning model, serving over 6,000 students annually. To meet regional needs NLC offers a wide range of certificate and diploma programs in Business, Health Sciences and Allied Health, Human Services, Technology, Trades, University Studies and Academic Upgrading. The College collaborates with Campus Alberta partners to offer degree completion opportunities throughout its service region, including a Bachelor of Education and a Bachelor of Social Work. Northern Lakes College also provides a wide variety of professional accreditation and certificate programs through its Continuing Education and Corporate Training Department. Northern Lakes College houses the Woodland Operations Learning Foundation (WOLF) to provide Forestry and related post-secondary and professional development programs.

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