



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

FACULTY OF NATIVE STUDIES

Funding Priorities of the Faculty of Native Studies

The Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta is a leader in teaching, research and education concerning Indigenous peoples and understanding their histories and contemporary realities. The Faculty of Native Studies is the University of Alberta's longest running, most successful Aboriginal engagement initiative. The Faculty's interdisciplinary programs and service to community rest on a foundation of deep respect for the knowledge and traditions of Canada's First Peoples, and their place in contemporary Canada. It provides a common ground for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students to explore and critically examine the historical and contemporary relations that concern Aboriginal peoples that impact all facets of Canadian society.

Through consultation and needs assessment, the Faculty has identified four leading priorities for charitable giving. We encourage our alumni and friends to consider these when contemplating a gift in support of Native Studies.

1) Aboriginal Governance & Partnership Program Endowment

The Faculty of Native Studies seeks to develop sustained financial support for the Aboriginal Governance and Partnership program to bridge the leadership gap that exists among Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal organizations. The program empowers students to develop the necessary understanding, competencies, tools and techniques to effectively lead, work and partner with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal businesses, communities, organizations and governments. Its focus is on the development of knowledge while increasing analytical and applied skills suited to the unique governance issues and opportunities facing Aboriginal peoples and their non-Aboriginal partners.

"I never expected a University program to encourage me to ask tough questions, to be critical of current realities, to reshape and re-imagine the way I see the world. This new knowledge and experience has fostered a confidence in me that I

can help create the change Aboriginal people seek and indeed, this is exactly what I intend to do as I continue in my studies.”

Kristy Myshaniuk

B.Sc. (Honours) 2008

B.A. Native Studies (Honours) 2009

Aboriginal Governance and

Partnership Certificate 2009

“I applaud your Aboriginal Governance and Partnership initiative. The Faculty of Native Studies is making great strides to break new ground in meeting the needs of our Indigenous Peoples and First Nations communities.”

Dr. Wilton Littlechild

BPE, 1967; MA 1975; LLB 1976; LLD (Hon.) 2007,

University of Alberta Member, United Nations

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

2) Learning Opportunities Fund

Throughout the year, Native Studies undergraduate and graduate students alike are presented with emerging and unforeseen opportunities to enhance their educational experience. Things like the cost of travel to a symposium or conference, to conduct field research, to acquire new books and equipment, or the expenses associated with bringing Aboriginal leaders and experts to our Faculty for teaching and research presentations. All of these require financial resources that fall outside of the Faculty's limited budget. By contributing to the Native Studies Learning Opportunities Fund, donors help to ensure that there is support available for students to tap into so they can maximize their access to learning opportunities while studying at the University of Alberta.

3) Native Studies Reading Room Fund

The Faculty supports a Reading Room for research relating to Aboriginal & Indigenous issues. The Reading Room is a major resource for all of our students; this fund allows our Faculty to select new materials annually to keep our highly specialized collection current and staffed for student use.

4) Student Support Fund

Our students face the reality of rising tuition costs. Factoring in the higher cost of textbooks, other materials and housing makes the task of concentrating on studies all the more challenging. Contributing to the Student Support Fund will help improve student financial aid and employment opportunities through significant investment in undergraduate scholarships and bursaries, academic advising, undergraduate research opportunities and undergraduate internships and community program/capstone course placements. These initiatives will ensure that an education in Native Studies is accessible to as many students as possible. Support in this area will assist in relieving some of the financial burden our students face, and improve their ability to concentrate on their studies and succeed.

For additional information about the Funding Priorities of the Faculty of Native Studies, please contact nsadmin@ualberta.ca

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