INDIGENOUS GUIDEBOOK
FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS & INUIT STUDENTS
2023 - 2024
WORKING TOGETHER. With Purpose.

At the largest Northern research institute in Canada.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Alberta, its buildings, labs, and research stations are primarily located on the traditional territory of Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, and Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe nations; lands that are now known as part of Treaties 6, 7, and 8 and homeland of the Métis. The University of Alberta respects the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems, and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit nations.
Tansi, My name is Delwiliah Brown.


I am Plains Cree of Treaty 6 from Ermineskin Cree Nation of Maskwacîs. I am in my 4th year in the Faculty of Education in Secondary Education. My major is in Social Studies with a minor in Indigenous Curriculum & Pedagogy. I was also a facilitator of the Indigenous Language Club supported by First Peoples’ House.

One of the most important decisions I made in my life was to come to the University of Alberta. I told myself that I belonged at the U of A, that I belonged in this learning environment and during this experience I learned that I was needed and my voice mattered.

It is our different Indigenous perspectives, personal experiences, cultures, languages and histories that are needed. As a First Nations student, it was challenging walking in two worlds but I always carried my culture with me when I left my community.

My favourite things to do on campus are going to the First Peoples’ House, relaxing on the quad by the sweetgrass bear, and studying with my friends in the Indigenous Students’ Union lounge.”
INFINITE POSSIBILITIES AWAIT YOU
IN A THRIVING COMMUNITY OF INDIGENOUS STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND ALUMNI.

Community Driven Projects
Engage North is a pan-disciplinary hub within the U of A that connects northern community-based organizations with southern resources. The internship program works directly with community-based organizations to develop projects for undergraduate and graduate students for a four-month placement. Projects include land and resources consultation, health and wellness initiatives, and field support for archeological digs. [uab.ca/enagenorth](uab.ca/enagenorth)

Teach Indigenous Perspectives
The Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (ATEP) aims to improve the educational success of Indigenous children by increasing the number of Indigenous teachers with an understanding of Indigenous perspectives in communities in northern Alberta. You could receive an Education degree in Elementary Education and teach in your community through the community-based cohort program, visit the ATEP website for more details on a cohort near you. [uab.ca/atep](uab.ca/atep)

Dedicated Housing Options
We offer diverse on-campus housing options for Indigenous students. First Peoples’ House works directly with Residence Services to offer secured residential options for single students, families, and student couples. [uab.ca/fph](uab.ca/fph)

Our Campuses
North Campus is located in the heart of Edmonton Amiskwacîwâskahikan <d”im”b”>/ᐊᒥᐢᑿᒌᐚᐢᑲᐦᐃᑲᐣ on the edge of a lush river valley. It’s a classic academic setting steeped in over 112 years of history, yet also home to some of the most technologically advanced research and teaching facilities in the world.

Alternatively, you could study at one of our other teaching campuses:
• Campus Saint-Jean, our French-language campus in Edmonton, Alberta
• Augustana, our Liberal Arts and Science campus in Camrose, Alberta

Sign up for a tour led by our Indigenous Ambassadors or virtually tour our campuses at [uab.ca/tours](uab.ca/tours)

Self-Declare as Indigenous
Students show their pride in who they are and where they came from by self-declaring as Indigenous. When you self-declare, you become eligible for scholarships, awards, and bursaries dedicated to Indigenous students and receive information about opportunities, jobs, events, and supports available to you.

You can self-declare when completing your application, or any time online. [uab.ca/fph](uab.ca/fph)

First Peoples’ House
The hub of the Indigenous student community on north campus. FPH offers a variety of programs and services designed to empower First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students to achieve academic success and personal growth. Some of these programs and services include:
• Access to tutors & writing support
• Access to a computer lab and free printing services
• A dedicated Learning Specialist
• Snacks and community meals
• Access to Elders and a ceremonial room
• Financial support

Indigenous Student Services
Indigenous Student Services (ISS) is housed in the community space within the Wahkohtowin Lodge on our Augustana Camrose Campus. The lodge enables First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students to gather and access dedicated academic and mental wellness supports available to Indigenous students. [uab.ca/augiss](uab.ca/augiss)

Some resources at ISS include:
• Indigenous student mentors
• Student advising
• Smudging
• Community gatherings and celebrations

Culture and Ceremonies
Stay connected and grounded with your cultural teachings while you are at the U of A. Sit with elders, access our ceremonial room, and attend events that will keep you connected to your First Nations, Métis, or Inuit roots. Events like:
• Welcoming ceremony (TAWOW)
• Round Dance
• Convocation Honouring Ceremony

BRAIDED SUPPORTS
FROM APPLICATION TO GRADUATION, YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR TOP PRIORITY
FUNDING YOUR FUTURE
SCHOLARSHIP AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPECIFICALLY FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Financial Advice
Whether you have financial barriers or you would just like more information about scholarships, awards and funding options available to you—First People’s House offers one-on-one advising. Appointments can be made with the Engagement Co-ordinator at fph@ualberta.ca.

Tuition Deposit
If you will be funded by your band or another third party, you may qualify for a waiver for the $500 tuition deposit required when you accept your admission offer. Contact an Indigenous Recruiter to find out more at indigenous@ualberta.ca.

Third-Party Funding Options
First Nations students
• First Nation or Tribal Council
• Freehorse Family Wellness Society
Métis students
• Métis Settlement
• Rupertsland Institute (RLI) Post-Secondary Funding
• Belcourt Brosseau Métis Award

Inuit & northern students
• NWT and NU Student Financial Assistance
• Regional Council
• Freehorse Family Wellness Society

All Indigenous students:
• Indspire

Scholarships and Awards
The U of A administers more than $40.6 million in undergraduate financial support. Many faculties and departments offer awards and scholarships for Indigenous students. Explore more of your scholarship, bursary, and financial support options at uab.ca/awards

Admission-based
You might receive a scholarship you didn’t even have to apply for. Eligibility for these awards is based on your admission average at the time of your admission offer.

Indigenous Entrance Scholarship – Self-declaring First Nations, Métis, or Inuit students with an average of 80%+ may receive $1,500.

Application-based
Fill out a single application and we will assess your eligibility based on your background, experiences, academics, and interests. The deadline for application-based awards is January 12, 2023 (unless otherwise stated).

Indigenous Careers Award – Self-declaring First Nations, Métis, or Inuit students who are residents of Alberta completing degrees in programs with high-demand career outcomes may receive $2,000 per semester. Eligible students must apply before October 13, 2023 (unless otherwise stated).

First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Student Awards – Various awards of up to $5,000 available. Students must apply before October 13, 2023.

Turtle Spirit Pathway Award for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Students – Assisting Indigenous students who are entering the U of A and who have demonstrated financial challenges and barriers to attending university. Through the program, students will be considered for up to $8,000 per year in award funding. Up to 20 new students per year will qualify for the award.
THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO COME TO THE U OF A.

Direct Entry (from High School)
For direct entry, you will need to present competitive grades in five core academic 30-level courses, including English Language Arts 30-1 plus four other core courses. The additional four core courses vary by program.

Mature Students
To qualify for admission as a mature (or non-matriculated) student, you must be 21 or older as of September 1 in the year you wish to attend and not have completed any previous post-secondary schooling.

Transition Year Program
The Transition Year Program (TYP), offered through First Peoples’ House at our North Campus in Edmonton, is a one-year university access program designed for students who may not be prepared to enter a faculty through a direct entry route. The program is a full-time university program in Open Studies that partners with 9 faculties. Upon completion, you will be eligible to transfer 15-24 credits into the participating faculty of your choice.

No Fee to Apply To TYP
Initially, there is no fee to apply to TYP. However, the TYP application is a more involved process than a direct entry application requiring additional supporting documents. Indigenous applicants are encouraged to start the application early. The application fee will be required once an admission offer is made and accepted. Apply online at uab.ca/typ.
FIND YOUR PURPOSE
uab.ca/start

ASK US
You’ve got questions, and our advisors have answers.
University of Alberta Indigenous Recruitment
✉️ uab.ca/fnmi
✉️ indigenous@ualberta.ca
📞 780.492.8810 | 1.855.492.3113 (toll-free)

Tresser le passé, le présent et le futur
Braiding Past, Present and Future
Pilrariq: Taimani, Hadja Hivunirmilu