

2020-2021

INDIGENOUS

RESOURCE GUIDE

OUR COMMITMENT

Assiniboine Community College recognizes the unique history of Indigenous peoples and is committed to playing an active role in reconciliation. Our Indigenization Strategy focuses on four initiatives that help reduce barriers to education and educational support to empower Indigenous students to succeed.

CICAN INDIGENOUS PROTOCOL

Post-secondaries that have signed the Colleges and Institutes Canada protocol recognize and affirm their responsibility and obligation to Indigenous education.

BUAPC COMMITMENT OF PARTICIPATION

An MOU establishes the commitment between Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples Council and the City of Brandon to promote Aboriginal education, employment and business inclusion within the community.

MANITOBA INDIGENOUS BLUEPRINT

Institutions of the Manitoba Collaborative Indigenous Education Blueprint for Universities and Colleges are committed to making excellence in Indigenous education a priority.

ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE INDIGENOUS STRATEGY

A strategy encompassing Assiniboine's commitment to the Truth & Reconciliation's calls to action on education in order to overcome the legacy of residential schools in Canada.



Assiniboine Community College campuses are located on the traditional territories of Treaty No. 1 and Treaty No. 2, and the shared traditional lands of Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene and Anishinabek/Ojibwe peoples, and the homeland of the Métis nation. We also recognize other Treaty territories where our community-based training takes place. We welcome students who seek knowledge here.



WELCOME TO ASSINIBOINE!

WELCOME · BIENVENUE · TAWÓW · HAU/HAN
MASIH NENUDELI · TUNGAHOGITI · PIIHTIKWAY
KIWIISHAAMIKOO · MIIGWECH BI-IZHAAYEG

We are honoured to welcome students from many nations across the province and around the country, strengthening our wealth of First Nations, Métis and Inuit knowledge at Assiniboine. We aim to infuse cultural teachings into curriculum to ensure that Indigenous students see themselves and their realities reflected in the learning process. Our goal is that all students will acquire the knowledge and skills to be culturally competent, and gain a true understanding of Indigenous affairs, past and present, in Canada.

FOLLOW US:



ACC Indigenous



ACCMANITOBA



ACCMB



ACCMB



@ACCMB

GET TO KNOW US

Connecting with someone at Assiniboine is a great way to start your educational journey. Meet the team that will help you explore programs and assist with your education plan.

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS



Kris Desjarlais
Director, Indigenous Education
desjarlaisk4@assiniboine.net



Crystal Bunn
Indigenous Services Officer
204.573.3690 | bunnc@assiniboine.net



Cecil Roulette
Indigenous Counsellor/Cultural Consultant
204.725.8700 ext. 7181 | roulettcc@assiniboine.net

Our Indigenous Affairs team offers a wide-range of support and services to assist students along their post-secondary journey. We liaise with academic advisors, connect students with important community resources and provide guidance to First Nation, Métis

and Inuit students from a holistic perspective to support their academic goals. We act as a resource for all students and faculty in their efforts to acquire a true understanding of Indigenous cultures and ways of knowing.

VISITING ELDERS & KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS



Shirley Norquay
Anishinaabe



Eugene Ross
Dakota



Verna Demontigny
Métis



Harvey Pelletier
Métis



Gerry Oleman
St'at'imc

Visiting Elders and Knowledge Keepers are available at all Brandon campuses for traditional knowledge and teachings. They represent Dakota, Lakota, Ojibway, St'at'imc and Métis Nations, and provide guidance, teachings, historical information, traditional knowledge and support to all students. Although our

Elders are not always present on campus, they will meet with students anytime there is a request to do so. Meeting with an Elder may be as informal as a casual visit or can include cultural or spiritual teachings and guidance at your request.

RECRUITMENT



Aaron McKay



Larissa Lockerby



Erin Lambert

Our student recruitment specialists visit numerous communities throughout the year. For many of our students, Assiniboine's recruiters are the first line of contact. We provide opportunities to learn about the college through presentations, campus tours and one-on-one

appointments. We can help you explore programs that are right for you and introduce you to the Assiniboine experience. We are more than happy to meet with you to discuss program options and give you a campus tour!

204.725.8750

Toll free: 800.862.6307 ext. 8750

recruit@assiniboine.net

STUDENT SUCCESS ADVISORS



Brandy Robertson



Caley Strachan



Lorri McLeod



Jane Alex



Valerie McInnes

Our student success advisors meet with prospective and current students of Assiniboine to ensure you are on the right path to achieving academic success. We are available to meet with you in-person or over the phone to answer questions about the college's

programs and services. We can provide guidance on funding, housing and childcare, as well as help you with program planning, academic assessment for admissions and understanding college policies and procedures.

204.725.8723

studentservices@assiniboine.net

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

Assiniboine's friendly and welcoming attitude is simply who we are. Small class sizes mean your instructors know your name and want to get to know you. Our campuses are easy to find and navigate, which means you can move between classes quickly, see friends every day and access any supports you need.

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

The Indigenous Affairs team offers a variety of services and events throughout the year. All students are encouraged to access our services and participate in the following:

- » Orientation
- » Welcome Feast
- » Holistic, proactive advising and support
- » Elders and Knowledge Keepers' program
- » Family events
- » Cultural celebrations, activities and teachings
- » Monthly sharing circles
- » Peer mentoring and role models
- » Student Success Celebration and Pow Wow

Our Cultural Resource Centres (located at the Victoria Avenue East and North Hill campuses) welcome individuals from all cultural backgrounds. Drop in to relax, visit, learn or study. Crystal and Cecil are available to meet with students at the Brandon centres from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday.

MORE THAN 3,560
FULL-TIME STUDENTS
ATTEND OUR COLLEGE
EACH YEAR WITH NEARLY

20%

IDENTIFYING
THEMSELVES AS
FIRST NATIONS,
MÉTIS OR INUIT.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

Everyone experiences a different transition when attending college. We ensure all students have access to the supports they need to live a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Your instructors will be great resources if you have questions throughout your program. We offer supports to all students, including peer tutoring, the Learning Curve, the library, accessibility/disability services and connection to your student success advisor. Visit assiniboine.net/learning-resources for more information.

COUGAR ATHLETICS

Interested in playing a sport while attending college? We offer men's and women's volleyball, soccer, futsal and women's hockey. We provide travel, meals, accommodations and clothing to our student athletes. For more information on Cougar Athletics, visit assiniboine.net/athletics or contact our Athletics Manager at cougars@assiniboine.net.

FINANCIAL AID

The Assiniboine Community College Foundation raises money that goes directly to students each year. Approximately \$300,000 is available annually to students in the form of scholarships and bursaries. Visit assiniboine.net/awards to browse all available options or contact awards@assiniboine.net for more information.

Note: In order to qualify for some forms of funding, students will need certain tax information. Ensure you have filed your taxes so that you can qualify for Student Aid and other forms of funding.

Assiniboine is a post-secondary partner with the Tuition Waiver program, which provides financial assistance to anyone who has ever been in care in the Manitoba child welfare system. Visit futuresforward.ca, call 204.987.8661 ext 671 or email lhildebrand@yesmb.ca for more information.

A portrait of Amber Brightnose, a young woman with long reddish-brown hair and black-rimmed glasses, smiling. She is wearing a dark blue cardigan over a grey floral-patterned top. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with warm lighting.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

AMBER BRIGHTNOSE

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION,
CLASS OF '17

We caught up with Amber Brightnose, an Early Childhood Education graduate, about her Assiniboine experience and working in the field she loves.

Amber's family is from Norway House Cree Nation. She grew up in Cranberry Portage, frequently visiting Norway House.

Growing up, Amber told her mother that she wanted to work with children. This ultimately led to her working at the Cranberry Portage child care centre in The Pas.

While working there, the director encouraged her to "spread her wings" by going to Assiniboine for her education.

Once in Brandon, Amber quickly connected to the college's cultural resource centre and Cecil Roulette, the Indigenous Counsellor and Cultural Consultant.

"I used the cultural resource centre all the time for studying and just relaxing. I used to go there and smudge with Cecil. I used to talk with him because he was my go-to elder," Amber said. "I had to leave my home community and come to another community. Cecil explained how he left his home community, too. He had a lot of the same experiences, so he's able to help you adjust to your new experiences."

It was during her practicum at Kokum's Early Enrichment Programs, part of the Brandon Friendship Centre, that Amber landed her first job upon graduation. While open to staff and children from all cultures, Kokum's includes smudging and other Indigenous cultural practices in its activities.

Amber has pretty straightforward advice for anyone thinking about attending Assiniboine.

"I would say come. You don't sit there and look at a piece of paper and say, 'oh yeah, I know how to change a child's behaviour.' You learn it by doing."

Visit assiniboine.net/blogs for the full interview.

PARTNERSHIPS AND CONNECTIONS

Through community engagement at all levels, Assiniboine strives to celebrate Indigenous cultures, develop stronger ties, improve access to study opportunities and bring learning options directly to those who prefer to learn closer to home.

INDIGENOUS STUDENTS WELCOME

We know many students will be nervous as they make their transition to college. Each year, we like to welcome new and returning students with a day filled with food, fun, prizes, entertainment and ceremony. This event gives students an opportunity to meet peer mentors, advisors, Elders and Knowledge Keepers, as well as other supports available on campus and in the community. It is a great way to get to know other students, make important connections, and helps ensure students are ready to go on the first day of class.

COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMMING

In addition to our campus-based programs, Assiniboine serves Indigenous students through community-based training. This allows us to customize our program delivery to suit the needs of learners and provide flexible, alternative opportunities in communities or central locations. We work with a variety of Indigenous partners throughout the province to deliver programs ranging from credential offerings to targeted programs for specific educational and employment purposes. We are proud to have partnered with more than 20 First Nation communities this past academic year.

OUR JOURNEY: END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

In May, Assiniboine Community College, Brandon University, Brandon School Division and our Indigenous education partners hold a joint celebration of Indigenous student success. It is a chance to honour our graduates together, from Head Start programs through to post-secondary. The day begins with a pipe ceremony and honour song, followed by a Grand Entry and Pow Wow. Métis and Inuit performances round out the music and dance components, and a community-wide feast caps off the celebration.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

BRYDEN MOAR

MATURE STUDENT HIGH SCHOOL,
CLASS OF '14

“ Invest in yourself, and you will see
a return on that investment ”



Originally from Crane River, MB, Bryden Moar is an Assiniboine Mature Student High School graduate and a current Business Administration student.

Last year, we caught up with Bryden as he was preparing to begin his journey at Assiniboine's Victoria Avenue East campus in Brandon. Now, with a year of the program under his belt, we followed up with him to see what the last twelve months attending college have been like.

Bryden's first year as a Business Administration student has been amazing. "Invest in yourself, and you will see a return on that investment," says Bryden. He credits Assiniboine's student services and his work as the Extra Curricular representative for the college's Students' Association (SA) for playing large roles in these positive experiences. Over the past 12 months, Bryden worked closely with his fellow students, offering tutoring for all the courses he was enrolled in. His work in the Students' Association included helping plan events like Bollywood Night, which saw 100% of its tickets sold, and the Road Bash Road Hockey Tournament, which was his most memorable event. A lover of hockey, Bryden enjoyed organizing the event's schedule and being the emcee.

Bryden will continue his work in the Students Association. For the 2019-20 year, he will be acting as the Vice President for Marketing and Events. He has already started planning for the new school year, and will be introducing new events for students, as well as bringing back past events. His work does not stop at the college, either. He and the ACCSA President, Shawn Larway, have started work on a community garden east of Assiniboine's Victoria Avenue East campus. Bryden plans to further his education with Assiniboine's Horticultural Production program after he completes Business Administration, and he hopes to work for the college in the future.

Bryden's experience as a student has shown him that college was not the beast he built it up to be, "I love the community and the culture of ACC." He encourages others who are thinking of college to apply, but also advises them to have a plan in place first and ensure they are doing something they love.



A background image showing three students in a library or study area. A male student in a grey sweater is on the left, gesturing with his hands while talking. A female student in a maroon hoodie is in the middle, looking towards him. A female student in a dark blue hoodie with 'ASSINIBOINE' on it is on the right, looking down at a book or paper. Bookshelves filled with green binders are in the background.

STEPS TO SUCCESS

Use this checklist to track your progress of becoming a successful Assiniboine student.

Part 1 SECURE A SPOT IN YOUR PROGRAM

☐ FIND A PROGRAM THAT INTERESTS YOU

- » See what programs may interest you by taking our Me@ACC career quiz at assiniboine.net/careerquiz.
- » Find out more by searching our program list online at assiniboine.net/programs.
- » Contact us to ask questions, set up a campus tour or meet to discuss program options:
 - Victoria Avenue East or North Hill campus - Brandon
204.725.8750
 - Adult Collegiate - Brandon
204.725.8735
 - Parkland campus - Dauphin
204.622.2222

- » Register to *Spend a Day* at Assiniboine or attend a program information session. Learn more at assiniboine.net/explore.

☐ TAKE UPGRADING COURSES (IF APPLICABLE)

- » We offer upgrading courses for students in both Brandon and Dauphin. Check out the details at assiniboine.net/mshs.

☐ SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

- » Download an application from our website or have one mailed to you by calling 204.725.8750 or emailing recruit@assiniboine.net. Applications must be mailed or submitted in person. Each application requires an application fee that can be paid by cash, debit, credit or money order. Official, original transcripts are required from your high school and any post-secondary institution that you may have attended.



- » Receive an automatic follow-up email from Assiniboine stating we have received your application.

☐ **RECEIVE YOUR ACCEPTANCE E-MAIL**

- » This email will inform you of your acceptance and will ask you to pay your tuition deposit to hold a spot in the program. It will also contain your start date and any conditions of your acceptance.

☐ **APPLY FOR SPONSORSHIP (IF APPLICABLE)**

- » Contact your sponsor (by April for a September start and October for a January start) and ensure they complete a sponsorship authorization form to send to Assiniboine as soon as your sponsorship is confirmed. Visit assiniboine.net/applynow to download the form.

☐ **PAY YOUR TUITION DEPOSIT**

- » This deposit secures your spot in your program. If you cannot pay your tuition deposit on time, call the Admissions Office toll-free at 800.862.6307 ext. 4036.

Congratulations

**ON SECURING A SPOT IN
YOUR PROGRAM!**

Part 2

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE

☐ COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR SUPPORTS

- » Identify supports that will help you through your educational journey. Feel free to contact the member of your team at Assiniboine who has been assisting you so far. They will set up an appointment with your student success advisor for program information or can connect you with cultural supports.

☐ APPLY FOR HOUSING (IF APPLICABLE)

- » Apply for housing early! Some options for housing include Brandon University Residence (brandonu.ca/residence) or a number of listings on ebrandon.ca. In Dauphin, Parkland Crossing (parklandcrossing.ca) welcomes Assiniboine students if space is available. For a list of private accommodations in Brandon, please email studentservices@assiniboine.net.

☐ APPLY FOR CHILDCARE (IF APPLICABLE)

- » The Assiniboine Early Learning Centre is located at the Victoria Avenue East campus in Brandon. Parkland Campus Kids Inc. is located at the Parkland Campus in Dauphin. Call 204.725.8713 (Brandon), 204.622.2222 ext. 6557 (Dauphin) or visit assiniboine.net/child-care for more information.

☐ FIND YOUR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

- » In Brandon, a bus pass is included when you pay your Students' Association fees. If you are bringing a vehicle, electrical and non-electrical sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis at each campus. Visit assiniboine.net/parking for more information.

☐ BALANCE YOUR FINANCES

- » Apply as early as June 1 for a Manitoba Government student loan (if applicable) at manitobastudentaid.ca.
- » Apply for Assiniboine scholarships and bursaries. See assiniboine.net/awards.

☐ RECEIVE YOUR REGISTRATION PACKAGE

- » This package will be emailed to you in July. It will have information on registering for courses, parking and other campus supports.

☐ PAY YOUR TUITION FEES

- » Information on how and when to pay these fees will be delivered to you from our registrar's office.

☐ ATTEND XPLORE ACC

- » In this orientation you will meet your instructors and fellow students, find your classes, get your locker, receive your student ID and much more. Get to know your campus and feel like a part of the community!

☐ ATTEND CLASS

- » Enjoy your first day of classes! Be sure to keep any course outlines and descriptions, as they may be important further along your educational journey.

NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING ON THIS CHECKLIST?

Contact the recruitment team at 204.725.8750 or toll free 800.826.6307 ext 8750 or recruit@assiniboine.net.

VISIT US ON CAMPUS

Thinking about Assiniboine? Come meet with us! We can discuss program options, take you on a campus tour, sign you up for an information session or connect you with our *Spend a Day* program. Contact our recruitment team to learn more about the opportunities we have available to help you make your decision!

Spend a Day

Spend a day in your program of choice with a current student and get a free lunch.

assiniboine.net/spendaday



Info Sessions

Sign up to meet with instructors and learn more about your program of interest.

assiniboine.net/infonight



Campus Tours

Book a one-on-one or group tour with recruitment to get to know our campus.

assiniboine.net/explore





ASSINIBOINE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ATTENDING ASSINIBOINE:
RECRUIT@ASSINIBOINE.NET 204.725.8750 800.862.6307 EXT. 8750

ASSINIBOINE.NET

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Please contact accessibility@assiniboine.net or 204.725.8700 (ext. 6052).