WINTER 2019

ALUMNIIN) ACCTION



SUCCESS IN SANDY BAY FIRST NATION

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Inside of three years, more than 100 individuals have graduated from Assiniboine Community College's Pork Processing program in Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation. The unique partnership between Sandy Bay and Assiniboine has even seen some graduates return to the program as faculty members.

The intensive 12-week program covers essential skills, safety and pork processing knowledge. Graduates are recognized with a Pork Processing certificate, and prepared to work with food processing organizations. One major employer, Hylife Foods, operates a pork processing plant in Neepawa an hour away from the community. Many graduates have gone on to work at Hylife, which has prompted the company to provide a shuttle service to and from Sandy Bay for employees.

Delivering the program in Sandy Bay has allowed Assiniboine to provide customized training for students who previously may not have been able to access this program due to financial or geographical obstacles.

Funding for the program facilities in Sandy Bay was provided in large part by Service Canada in relation to their Women in Trade funding opportunities. "One of the intentions of this program was to encourage women to become more involved in the trades industry," said Chief Lance Roulette of Sandy Bay First Nation. "It has had a large positive impact on the community; students are attaining success and finding jobs."

Some students have been so successful that they've come full circle and are now faculty members within the program. Adrienne Mousseau was a graduate from the program's first cohort of students. A top student, Mousseau has since returned to the program as an instructor. Alongside assistant instructor Willie Spencer, another graduate of the program, the two have just celebrated their first cohort of students graduates this past fall.

There has been an incredible evolution of the program in such a short time, with two community members now at the heart of delivering the program to others.



"It's a really rewarding job, it's something I didn't think I'd ever be able to do," said Adrienne. "I can give back to the community, and it gives me a sense of accomplishment."

For Adrienne, seeing graduates succeed in both large and small companies across Manitoba is rewarding. She sees the value the program had in her own life and how it impacted her future.

"I'm grateful that I have this job, otherwise who knows where I would be," she added.

"We always strive to have local students provide training to our membership where possible because it allows the trust to be at the forefront, and Adrienne is one of those successful students," said Chief Roulette.

The number of participants has grown with each graduating cohort. The 2019 graduating class included students from multiple First Nation communities—a first for the program.

"The program has also expanded out to where we're [Sandy Bay] providing services to other First Nations, such as Long Plain, Ebb and Flow, as well as expressions of interest from other First Nation reserves," said Chief Roulette.

Building upon the success of the Pork Processing program in Sandy Bay, Assiniboine has recently constructed a \$1.4 million Food Processing Centre at its Victoria Avenue East campus in Brandon. That project was generously supported with a combined \$1.165 million from the Government of Canada, Province of Manitoba, Maple Leaf Foods, HyLife Foods, Manitoba Pork, UFCW Local 832, and the Brandon Hog and Livestock Show.

Currently underway in the facility is a new 11-month certificate program in Food Processing – Animal Proteins. Students in the program are prepared for front-line careers in food processing by learning about nutrition, safety, tools, cutting, curing, and smoking various types of animal proteins including poultry, beef, pork, goat and lamb.

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INDIGENOUS EDUCATION WEEK AT ASSINIBOINE OFFERS TIME FOR CELEBRATION, LEARNING AND REFLECTION

Assiniboine celebrated its inaugural Indigenous Education Week this fall from September 30 to October 4 across campuses.

Assiniboine was proud to introduce and Indigenous Education week this fall, from September 30 to October 4, across campuses.

"The week centres around recognizing and celebrating Indigenous cultures and perspectives, while offering a time for reflection," said Kris Desjarlais, Director of Indigenous Education at Assiniboine. "In doing so, we also aim to educate staff, students, and the public on Indigenous history, while providing a venue for compelling visions of the future."

"This was a really beneficial week for Indigenous students as they shared their culture with fellow students, while also providing the opportunity to educate many Assiniboine students on the Indigenous cultures in Canada," he added.

Additionally, Desjarlais and his team focused their efforts on helping others in the college community to learn more about the holistic model of healing and wellness; offered time and space to reflect on reconciliation; and promoted education, business and employment opportunities for Indigenous graduates.

Each day of the week focused around a specific theme, including Every Child Matters, Indigenous Languages, Indigenous Worldviews, and Reconciliation. Friday, October 4 was recognized as the National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, with both a student-led and a faculty-led presentation to the college community.

"It was a fantastic week educating Assiniboine students about Indigenous culture and history in Manitoba. A highlight was integrating cultural experiences into the classrooms." said Desjarlais.



Annual graduate satisfaction & employment survey demonstrates opportunities for grads

The overwhelming majority of recent Assiniboine Community College graduates are living and working in Manitoba, according to the college's annual graduate satisfaction & employment survey results, which were released today.

The 2019 survey shows that 91 per cent of graduates have jobs within nine months of graduation, more than three-quarters of which are permanent. Eighty-five per cent of graduates say they are working in a career related to their field of study.

"As a college, we strive to offer programs that provide graduates with clear pathways into the labour market," said Assiniboine president Mark Frison. "We have seen interprovincial migratory losses in Manitoba for the past three decades, so it's good news to see that 88 per cent of recent Assiniboine graduates remain and work in the province following their studies."

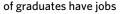
Frison pointed to the college's stated goal of graduating 2,028 graduates by 2028 to help address Manitoba's lagging post-secondary attainment rates. This past academic year, close to 1,400 individuals graduated from Assiniboine, an increase of 45 per cent since 2013.

"We recognize the impact that college graduates have choosing to stay and work in Manitoba," added Frison. "Surveys consistently show that the number one issue for small businesses is attracting and retaining employees. We recognize Assiniboine has an important role to play meeting employer needs with skilled graduates who are ready to work."

The average recent Assiniboine graduate makes an annual salary of nearly \$46,000. About 9 out of 10 would recommend Assiniboine to a friend or family member.

The survey was conducted earlier this year by Insightrix Research and included responses from those who graduated in the previous academic year, between July 2017 and June 2018.









of graduates would recommend Assiniboine to a friend or family member



of Assiniboine graduates stay in Manitoba



of graduates are working in a career related to their studies

\$45,903
average gross annual salary



Assiniboine Community College announced over \$300,000 in scholarships to be available each year to graduating Manitoba high school students through the new 'One to Watch Entrance Award' during the Manitoba High School Leadership Conference hosted at the college's Victoria Avenue East campus in Brandon this past October.

The One to Watch Entrance Award will be available to graduating students from more than 300 high schools across Manitoba. The awards recognize those who demonstrated exceptional leadership or community involvement throughout their schooling and will continue their education at Assiniboine the following year.

"The One to Watch Entrance Award is an exciting opportunity to recognize and reward young students from across Manitoba who have demonstrated leadership and involvement within their local community or school," said Deanna Rexe, Vice-President, Academic at Assiniboine. "We're delighted to support these high school students, helping them to continue their education at the post-secondary level while continuing to develop their leadership talents. They will be a great fit within the Assiniboine community."

The One to Watch Entrance Award aims to foster the next generation of leaders, equipping them with the skills and resources to grow as a capable young person in Manitoba. The first wave of recipients will receive the \$1,000 tuition award upon graduation from high school in June 2020.

"The Province of Manitoba has been encouraging the development of more scholarships and bursaries through The Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative," said Derrick Turner, Director, Advancement. "We are very pleased with the response from donors who have chosen to support our students in their pursuit of a higher education."

The award will provide additional financial resources for successful students to assist in post-secondary education costs.

"What is special about this award is we can recognize students in all corners of Manitoba, from Churchill in the North to Whitemouth in the East. We are interested in welcoming students from across this great province," said Bryce Neufeld, Associate Registrar at Assiniboine.

Each eligible Manitoba high school is invited to put forward a graduating student for consideration to Assiniboine. The deadline for submissions is Monday, June 1, 2020. For nomination forms and more information, visit assiniboine.net/onetowatch or email awards@assiniboine.net.

"What is special about this award is we can recognize students in all corners of Manitoba, from Churchill in the North to Whitemouth in the East"



Arch MacArthur was said to be born with 'trucking genes'. But more than that, his son Clint says, he had a natural work ethic and a desire to motivate others.

"I couldn't describe it other than small town prairies work ethic. That's exactly what he had," said Clint MacArthur of his late father, Arch.

"He was such a big proponent of supporting the young guy trying to get ahead, trying to get a start in his life," says MacArthur. "It became for him, so beyond business. It was a personal mission for him: How do you give a little bit of guidance and a little bit of coaching to the young, the up and comers?"

The business Clint refers to is MacArthur Truck and Trailer, a trucking service and repair business that Arch MacArthur founded in 1977 following his involvement with his father's trucking company earlier in his life. Arch served the trucking industry and community in many capacities throughout his career, including as a leader and member on various industry boards.

After his passing, Arch's family wanted to give back to the local trucking community, particularly to those starting out in the business—something Arch was passionate about. So, the MacArthurs created the Arch MacArthur Bursary available each fall to a student entering the Heavy Equipment Technician program at Assiniboine.

"What we're trying to achieve with the bursary is support his philosophy of supporting the young up and comers and the trade he believed in immensely," says MacArthur. "Heavy duty mechanics is a huge part of the prairies economy, and it's a part of our family.

"It's a little bit of how do you leave a legacy for dad and how do you give back to the community that gave a lot to our family, my dad, and his business."

When Jamie Robinson, now an instructor in Assiniboine's Heavy Equipment program, operated his own mechanics shop, he would have coffee and talk business with Arch MacArthur.

"He would share advice, information on how to be successful. He was established way before me and had a huge client base. I was just getting going, and he was supportive of the young 'trying to make ends meet' kind of guy."

Arch MacArthur's focus on guidance and mentorship in business also spilled over to his life as a family man.

"When I was in elementary school and junior high, he would leave a note for me every morning, some kind of motivational message of what I needed to accomplish that day," said MacArthur. "We used to go to Clear Lake and my buddies used to joke, we could get a ride with Arch, but it's going to be an hour lecture on some kind of philosophy

"A big part of business was obviously finding good mechanics, and he mentored and was so proud of his team. We would hear about it at the family table, not once in a while, but non-stop."

Arch was a long-time supporter of the college, working with faculty, mentoring students, donating and promoting programs. His family, through their generous donation for the Arch MacArthur Bursary, will help his personality and passion for helping those starting out in the industry live on.

"What we'd like to do is to take a little bit of financial pressure off someone to allow them to excel in something."

Photo above: Arch's grandfather started a business, which was to become Brandon Body Works after Arch's father, Jack, expanded the company to a transportation company, MacArthur and Son Ltd. Following Arch's time in Toronto with White Trucks to "learn the ropes" in 1967, Arch eventually returned to the family business in Winnipeg. In 1977, Arch moved into the service and repair business and founded MacArthur Truck and Trailer, servicing the Westman area.

Image Credit: Lawrence Stuckey collection (1-2002.3.1H21), SJ McKee Archives, Brandon University



CATCHING UP WITH... DORIS NABESS-FLETT

Meet Alumna Doris Nabess-Flett who was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal in 2012 and continues to change lives in rural Manitoba.

Name Doris Nabess-Flett

Hometown Cormorant Manitoba SNWP

What program did you take at Assiniboine? Early Childhood Education

What year did you graduate? 2003

Where are you currently employed? Camp O'Neill Youth/Kids Camp

What is your current job title? Camp Director

Briefly describe your occupation. I am responsible for the hiring and training of staff. This includes planning and implementing age appropriate activities, menu planning, safety of all and to model strong Catholic/Christian life.

Why did you choose this career path? I felt I had a lot of positive experiences as a child. Sharing these experiences could influence parents and children to make life enjoyable while doing everyday things.

How did you fund your time at Assiniboine?

I received no funding when I first applied at Assiniboine. I used a \$500 Award of Citizenship from BALC to pay the initial fee's. I began school with no text books but I had wonderful Instructors, so my notes from class helped me have good grades. My first and second year I was awarded a Business Council of Manitoba Aboriginal Education Award this enabled me to pay some fees and buy my textbooks. Today I am still grateful for the award. I could not have continued at Assiniboine without it. I received a Manitoba bursary and it paid for the remaining fees. Without the money I received from these great organizations I would not have been able to finish school.

What career related volunteer or community activities are you currently involved in? I

volunteer at our church for children's summer programs and as needed. I join in all community activities that I am able to, I volunteer to speak about my experiences every opportunity I have.

Do you have a career 'highlight' that you're most proud of? I went back to my home community and opened up a Childcare Centre that brought happiness to 17 children and their families for five years. I was presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal for my work in Early Childhood Education. I will be forever grateful to Niki Ashton and her team for supporting our community. My parents, brothers, sisters, husband and our daughters for giving everything they had to open the childcare centre.

What was your favorite learning experience? My favorite class was Aboriginal Studies, as a First Nation person it taught me so much. My favorite and most supportive Instructor was Claren Turner, he influenced me to have pride in my First Nation ancestry, this gave me courage to be the Aboriginal Student Association President.

Were you involved in any extra-curricular activities during your time at Assiniboine?
I was involved in quite a lot, ASA-President, ECE-Representative, Elders steering committee, student elections volunteer and halloween party volunteer.

What were the most important skills that you gained at Assiniboine? At Assiniboine I learned to embrace my First Nation perspective. This has led me to identify the wonderful way my family was raised and continue to raise our children. Being at Assiniboine strengthened my overall being, with my diploma I was able to get jobs that I love working in.

What advice do you have for people who may have similar interests in this field or a related one? If you are a parent or plan to become one Early Childhood Education is the field to embrace. It will train you to be a knowledgeable person and will foster continued learning in your parenting and through work as an early childhood educator.







January 22, 2020

Connect with our ag students, members of industry, government, and alumni while raising funds for students in agricultural-based programs. We are excited to announce that Shaun Haney will be our guest speaker to discuss farm labour shortages and future management. Haney started **RealAgriculture.com**, talking to farmers across Canada involved in all facets of agriculture, and providing insight into what is happening in the industry in a fun and energy-filled way.

Tickets: Phone 204.725.8739 or to email foundation@assiniboine.net

Thank you to our past event sponsors!

Assiniboine Community College is proud of its partnerships with organizations throughout Manitoba, and we thank our sponsors.

















LEGACY GALA DINNER

Date: March 19, 2020
Tickets: Phone 204.725.8739 or
Email foundation@assiniboine.net

ALUMNI ADVANCEMENT DINNER

Date: March 26, 2020 **Tickets:** Phone 204.725.8

Tickets: Phone 204.725.8739 or Email **alumni@assiniboine.net**

ASSINIBOINE LAUNCHES NEW CHILD DEVELOPMENT WORKER PROGRAM IN THREE FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES

Assiniboine Community College is partnering with three First Nations communities to deliver a newly created Child Development Worker program. More than 60 frontline professionals in Ebb and Flow, Sandy Bay, and Long Plain First Nations are enrolled in the nine-month program.

"Our college values the long-standing relationships we have with Sandy Bay, Ebb and Flow, and Long Plain First Nations, and we are thrilled to be partnering once again on a program that will develop people to help with important social services in these communities," said Assiniboine president Mark Frison.

"It's very important to have programs focusing on child development, especially young children," says Chief Wayne Desjarlais of Ebb and Flow First Nation. "We have a lot of community members who work in various organizations which support young children, and it will be really important to see their skills developed."

"The program is going to help the community as a whole. We're always trying to provide opportunities for our youth to increase their skills without leaving the community;" said Desjarlais.

The Child Development Worker program provides individuals with the knowledge, skills and abilities that are highly valued in child development programs; it focuses on providing for children's special needs and supporting their families.

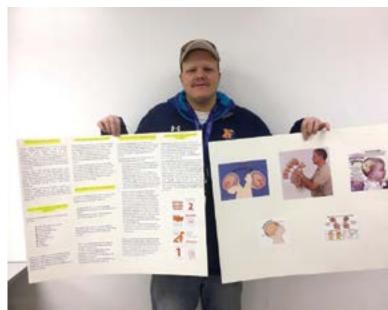
The college developed the program in response to First Nation communities expressing a need for skilled child development workers, related to the provision of Jordan's Principle programming. The Jordan's Principle is centered around a child-first and needs-based equitable approach for Indigenous children to access government services.

"It's very beneficial delivering the program in Sandy Bay. It reduces the barriers for participants to be involved and provides greater means for success," says Chief Lance Roulette of Sandy Bay First Nation.

"There's a huge combination of excitement and also increased levels of perseverance amongst our students who are taking











Assiniboine Community College recently welcomed nine high school learners to experience agriculture-related trades training and career opportunities. These students from Dauphin Regional Comprehensive Secondary School, Grandview School, Goose Lake High School (Roblin), Birtle Collegiate, and Strathclair School spent the day with current Assiniboine students and instructors discovering what a career in the mechanical trades in agriculture may look like.

"It was a very hands-on day and a fantastic way to introduce and make students aware of some of the pathways that are options for them going forward—especially in the ag industry where there's a huge need," said Kevin Poirier, Chairperson of Mechanical Trades at Assiniboine. "If you go the path of agricultural trades training, there's a good chance that you're going to get gainful employment upon graduation."

Because of the need for skilled workers in agriculture-related trades jobs and more specifically career opportunities for Agricultural Equipment Technicians (AET), Western Equipment Dealers Association (WEDA) initiated this 'trades boot camp' program where post-secondary institutes introduce high school students to the related career opportunities.

The program was originally launched in Saskatchewan as part of a broader high school distance learning course in coordination with SunWest Distance Learning Centre. The course requires high school students to complete fifty hours of online curriculum, including access to online instructors, followed by the boot camp where students experience the college environment and work alongside instructors and AET apprentices. Students complete the course with fifty hours of hands-on experience in the service shop at their local farm equipment dealership.

"We are excited to bring the program to Manitoba and to extend our partnership with Assiniboine," said Larry Hertz, Vice President – Canada for the Western Equipment Dealers Association. "We've always had a good connection to post-

"That's the beauty of this program.
We can cast a wide net to encourage students in high school to explore a career at a farm equipment dealership"

secondary and industry, but we've never had a connection to the high schools so that's the beauty of this program. We can cast a wide net to encourage students in high school to explore a career at a farm equipment dealership as an Agricultural Equipment Technician, then students come to the college for the boot camp to experience a snapshot day of what it would be like to go into the related programs."

Hertz says there are over 400 agriculture equipment dealers across Western Canada. Along with working to help fill employment needs for ag employers like these dealerships, the boot camp experience benefits high school students who are considering trades training.

"Being a part of this day helped me, because it gave me an idea of what college will be like," said Domunique Lasko, a grade 11 student from Goose Lake High School.

"It would be great to see these students come through Assiniboine's doors again in a couple years," said Poirier. "And we'd like to help more high school students find the trades path by hopefully making this an annual event."



VIRDEN WELCOMES COLLEGE FOR ACC DAY.

Assiniboine Community College staff and students hit the Trans-Canada Highway West to celebrate ACC Day in Virden this past October. The day recognized Assiniboine's partnership with the town of Virden, celebrating the community and providing opportunities for prospective students and alumni to attend fun events throughout the day.

The college welcomes students from the community of Virden each year for their studies, and many employers in the community hire Assiniboine graduates.

The team started the day off with delicious brews at Tim Horton's. Assiniboine's president, Mark Frison, met with locals as they received their morning caffeine hit and went live on Pure Country 101 radio.

The day continued as Assiniboine alumni and friends gathered at the pre-game reception before the Virden Oil Capitals hockey game against the Waywayseecappo Wolverines. A thrilling contest between Virden and Wayway saw Virden edged out 5-2 by the time the final buzzer sounded.

ASSINIBOINE ALUMNI JOIN TOGETHER TO HELP FUND FUTURES

Each fall the college's Advancement team, led by the Alumni Association, reaches out to graduates of the college to consider giving to the *Funding Futures* annual giving campaign.

The annual campaign's proceeds help support new students of the college—future alumni—in achieving their educational goals. College is a time of growth and opportunity, but for many students, financial obstacles present barriers and worries. Tuition, textbooks, rent, and family needs are some of the challenges students face while pursuing their education.

Who better to understand those challenges, than the college's alumni community? Since 2017, and including this year's campaign, alumni donors and community members have donated close to \$60,000, helping provide an average of 300 students each year with financial awards including scholarships and bursaries.

With education costs increasing each year, there is more need for financial support for post-secondary education. This campaign fulfills the desire that alumni have to donate while helping alleviate those challenges and constraints.

Thank you to all alumni (and friends!) who donated to the 2019 campaign!

To give online, go to assiniboine.net/alumnigiving or phone 204.725.8739.



Harvest on the Hill sells out for another consecutive year

Assiniboine's Harvest on the Hill is a true learn by doing event with students from five different programs at the heart of the action this past October.

Global and local cuisine and beer was highlighted for more than 200 guests by Culinary Arts and Hotel and Restaurant Management students and faculty. A new feature at this year's event, Agribusiness students shared insight about commodity production for the food guests enjoyed.

"Agribusiness students were extremely knowledgeable on various local commodities used in the dishes guests were sampling. Students were able to discuss a range of products from wheat, canola, beef and pork, as well as sharing interesting facts and answering questions about each product with guests," said Danielle Tichit, an Agribusiness instructor at Assiniboine

Joining them were students in the college's Sustainable Foods and Horticultural Production programs, showcasing applied research happening at the college's North Hill campus, including the production of microgreens in trays, hydroponic crop production system set up, interactions of beneficial soil fungus, and onion neck rot disease causing fungus and a native plant species display.

Field to fork is collection of activities at Assiniboine dedicated to strengthening the local food chain through education, applied research and outreach. Some of the ingredients at Harvest on the Hill are so local they've never left the North Hill campus, having been grown and harvested on site before making their way to the Manitoba Institute of Culinary Arts to be used in dishes.

"It is one of Brandon is highly appreciated cultural events, in which we challenged our students to incorporate and adopt the Locavore Movement by using ingredients we produced in our gardens to craft beautiful, delicious cuisine showcasing leading edge skills learned from the culinary program at the Manitoba Institute of Culinary Arts." said Bryan Hendricks, Culinary instructor at MICA.







Over 50 counsellors attended the Annual Counsellors' Day at Assiniboine on Thursday, November 14 to learn about the college's programs, the latest news and details regarding admissions and financial aid.

"It's a significant date on the calendar as it allows Assiniboine to communicate directly with the people who are in schools and other organizations helping youth and adults plan their post-secondary education," said Erin Lambert, Manager of Recruitment at Assiniboine.

"The day is full of engaging information sessions about admissions information, program developments and information, which they can take back to their students and clients to help guide them."

Chairs from Assiniboine's programs presented to the counsellors, discussing the most up to date and engaging information surrounding key changes at the college. Counsellors also attended tours at the North Hill campus to experience first-hand the impressive facilities available to students.





Cape Breton University and Assiniboine College partner to deliver the Master of Business Administration in Brandon during 2020.

Experience modern, relevant curriculum that includes business subjects found in traditional MBA programs, with an emphasis on economic development, leadership, governance, and change management.

Join us for a free program information session to learn more about the MBA program and if it's the right fit for you.

February 19

April 1

May 20

June 3

July 8

Visit assiniboine.net/mba



