



### Tanshi

### THE INDIGENOUS STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGY ACTIVITY BOOK





What do you want to be when you grow up?

At Saskatchewan Polytechnic, we want to help you make that dream come true. No matter where you come from or who you are, we work hard to ensure everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed. The Indigenous Student Success Strategy was developed to provide all Indigenous students with a student experience that incorporates Indigenous ways of learning and knowing into every aspect of your education.

Our services include:

- A summer transition program.
- Access to Indigenous students' centres.
- Indigenous student advisors.
- Financial support through a number of scholarships and bursaries.
- We also employ an Indigenous community liaison to raise awareness about Sask Polytech in Indigenous communities, both urban and rural.

If you want to make your dreams come true, we can help you make that happen. Make sure to check out all the opportunities waiting for you at Saskatchewan Polytechnic!

#### saskpolytech.ca/indigenous

"If I can go home every night knowing what I did that day helped in any way, small or big, I will be happy."

– Conner LaPointe

"The resources have helped me to become a better person, have encouraged me and taught me a lot of people are involved in my success." – Chelsea Murray

### ROLE MODELS

These Indigenous students have seen lots. Listen to them, they are wise. Who makes you proud? Why?

ōki ehiyaw kiskinwāmākanak kwayask mistahi kēkwāy kē-pēwāpātamwak, nitōtawikwāw, kwayask iyinisiwak. nitōtamwak otācimowināwāw. awina kāmamīciyisk, tanīki.



#### **CONNER LAPOINTE**

#### Hometown: Saskatoon, SK

Program: Instrumentation Engineering Technology - diploma

Before Conner started the Instrumentation Engineering Technology program, he had to complete a few prerequisites in the Adult Education program.

"It was really good for me because I could work full-time and still take classes at night. The transition to postsecondary was seamless, thanks to Sask Polytech," says Conner.

Conner, a Métis man, says one of the best parts of attending Sask Polytech is the friendships he's been able to build with his classmates.

When he reflects on his time at Sask Polytech, Conner says some of the most important lessons he's learned is to appreciate the low times as much as the high times.



#### **CHELSEA MURRAY**

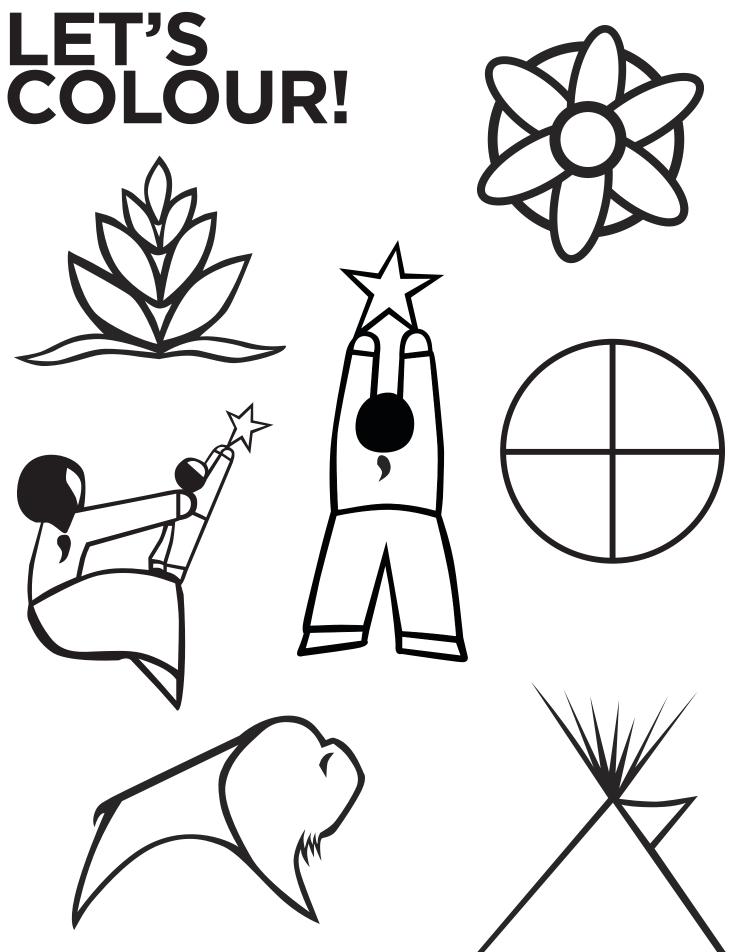
Hometown: Binscarth, MB Program: Carpentry – applied certificate

When the going gets tough, Chelsea gets going. But, she says, she can't take all the credit.

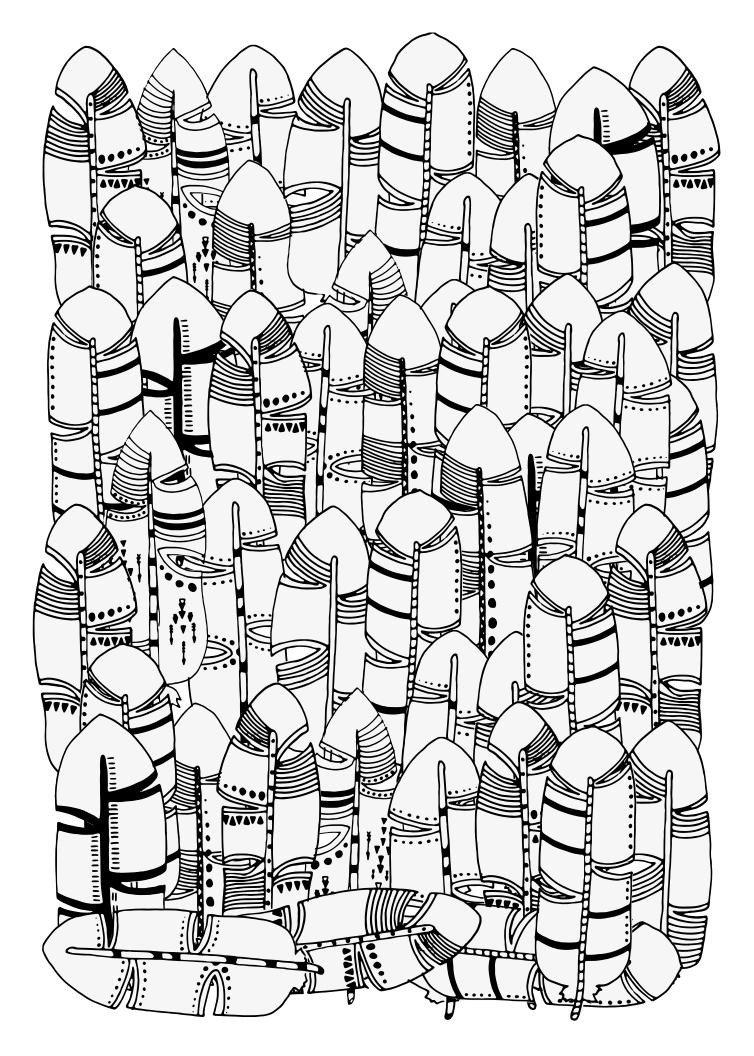
"I was scared and going through a lot of personal issues when I first started school. Everyone pulled together to help me get settled and on my way and inspired me to succeed in this program," says Chelsea, a Métis woman.

She says the support she received from her instructors and her classmates helped her find confidence to push through and achieve her goals. She also says she accessed a variety of services available to her on campus to help her overcome barriers to success.

"The resources have helped me to become a better person, have encouraged me and taught me a lot of people are involved in my success," she says.



Illustrations by Kevin Pee-ace. Kevin is a Cree artist who paints in the woodland style. www.native-art-in-canada.com/kevinpee-ace



"I made friends and am still friends with them to this day. They helped make learning so much fun." – Joelle (Joe) Nicotine

"I doubted myself from time to time, but the teachers never did. I felt empowered and I felt welcomed." – Talia Natowcappo

## ROLE MODELS

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> i kēkwāy kē-pēwāpātamwak, nitōtawikwāw, kwayask iyinisiwak. nitōtamwak otācimowināwāw. awina kāmamīciyisk, tanīki.



#### **JOELLE (JOE) NICOTINE**

Hometown/Band: Red Pheasant First Nation, SK Program: Welding apprenticeship

Joe Nicotine, a First Nations man, is a loving husband and proud father, and building a promising career to support his growing family is a big part of his dream.

His first exposure to welding actually happened while on the job, where he would watch his colleagues build things using amazing skill and precision. In 2013, Joe began his journey with Sask Polytech and after two years of hard work and dedication, he received his Red Seal in welding.

"At first, I was shy in class — being one of the few Indigenous students. As the weeks progressed, I made friends and am still friends with them to this day. They helped make learning so much fun," he says.

For Joe, the ultimate goal is to own his own mobile welding company, which would allow him to do the job he loves while still managing to spend quality time with his wife and children.



#### TALIA NATOWCAPPO

Hometown: Lestock, SK Band: Fishing Lake First Nations, SK Program: Welding apprenticeship

Talia Natowcappo believes in making a career out of what you love to do.

"I've always known I was a hands-on learner, and the Welding program is a promising program with good employment options," says Talia.

Talia, who graduated from Welding in 2016, attributes her positive experience at Saskatchewan Polytechnic to the fact that she wasn't given special treatment or treated differently from the men in the class, even though welding is a male-dominated field.

"I doubted myself from time to time, but the teachers never did," she says. "I felt important. I felt empowered and I felt welcomed. There aren't enough women in the trades these days and it makes me sad to not see my sisters."



Oh no! Our special message about where we are located is all mixed up! Can you help us sort it out?

Use the letters below each column to finish the phrase. You can only use each letter once, so once you've figured out where it belongs, cross it out.



Α	Ν	D		Т	н	Ε	Α				Ε	Ο	Α	Κ	Α	R		F	Т	Т		Ε	
Ρ	0	L	Υ	Т	R	Ε	Т	н	Υ	С	Ρ	Α	0	Ρ	L	R	0	Α	Ε	R	Н	Ε	
W	Ν	D	С	0	Ε	Ε	н	Ν	0	Μ	S	L	S	Е	D	Т	С	Н	0	Υ	Α	Ν	S

Moose Jaw campus mural, "Walking with the Spirit" by Anna Krop.



Answer to Word Waterfall: Welcome to Saskatchewan Polytechnic on Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 Territories and the homeland of the Métis people.

### **SPOT THE 10 DIFFERENCES**

10. Flower on necklace

5. Starcatcher

9. Wheel on belt

4. Flowers on sleeve



8. Buffalo on skirt

3. Smilie face emolie

7. Flower on sash

2. Laughing smile emoji

6. Teepee on skirt

ANSWERS: ]. Headband

"I'll have a career instead of a job." – Nathan Charles

"Use the right tool for the right job." – Monique Wills

### ROLE MODELS

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#### **NATHAN CHARLES**

Hometown: Clavet, SK

**Program: Instrumentation Engineering Technology diploma** If not for a helpful uncle, Nathan Charles says he might still be at the same company he started with after high school, working for what he says was lower-than-wanted pay. "I was out of school for six years at a job with no future."

His uncle suggested Instrumentation Engineering Technology at Saskatchewan Polytechnic – advice Nathan is glad he took. "I like the co-op education component, where you get employment experience for pay," he says. "I like the small class sizes and individual attention from instructors."

The Lac la Ronge First Nation student says, "My future is a lot brighter with really good job prospects and great pay. I'm happy with how my future looks – I'll have a career instead of a job."



#### **MONIQUE WILLS**

Hometown: Salmon Arm, BC Band: James Smith Cree Nation Program: Plumbing and Pipefitting applied certificate

The best advice Monique Wills received at Saskatchewan Polytechnic was from her first-year plumbing instructor: Use the right tool for the right job. "Being as he wasn't the tallest or beefiest man, he knew you have to use your brains to help you along," says Monique. "As a woman in the trades, that was the best advice ever!"

"You don't have to be a monster of a guy to do this work, you just have to think," she says.

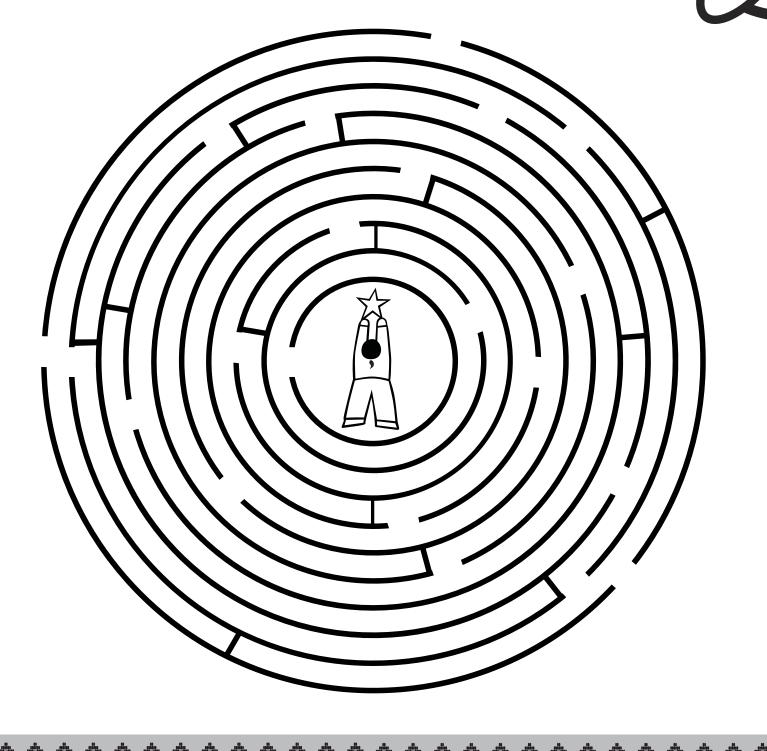
Initially, Monique whose family is from the James Smith Cree Nation, upgraded her high school marks at Sask Polytech, followed by her Process Operator ticket and then her Red Seal Plumbing ticket.

"My future is limitless, and I have a satisfying career with many challenges ahead that are good for the soul."



# SOLVE THE MAZE

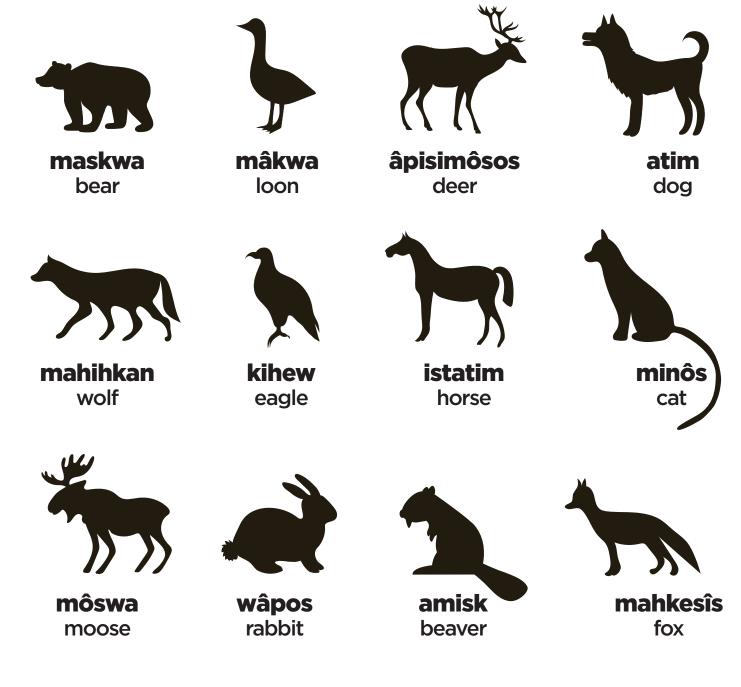
At Sask Polytech we want to help you catch your dreams and make them come true. Follow this maze to get you started on a rewarding career journey!







It is good that you are starting to speak Cree. miywâsin ka-ati-nêhiyawêyan.



# CONVERSATIONS IN CREE!

Hi, hello!
Goodbye.
Thank you.
What's your name?
My name is
Where are you from?
I am from

tānisi! kīhtwām ka-wāpamitin. kinanāskomitin. tānisi ē-isiyihkāsoyan? \_\_\_\_\_ nitisiyihkāson. tānitē ohci kiya?/tānitē ē-ohcīyan? \_\_\_\_\_ ohci niya.

### INTERNET SLANG IN CREE!

Facebook me! I will post that. My wall. Chat. Text. Friend. facebookipitamawin! ê-wî-postopitamân anima. ni wallim. mosci-pîkiskwêwin. sêwêpicikanis icwêwinisa. neechie.

### **FUN FACT!** Cree does not use capital letters.

Source: 100 Days of Cree by Neil McLeod

### ROLE MODELS

"I'll have a career instead of a job." - Darcy Fontaine

"Only you can put a limit on yourself." - Craig Jack

"We talked about school all the time." - Carmen Jack

#### These Indigenous students have seen lots. Listen to them, they are wise. Who makes you proud? Why?

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#### DARCY FONTAINE

Hometown: North Battleford, SK Program: Instrumentation and Control Technician apprenticeship

When Darcy Fontaine started at Sask Polytech, his kids were the same age as his classmates. "Ultimately, I wanted to better myself," says Fontaine, who is working towards becoming a journeyperson carpenter. "It feels good to be back in school. And my kids are real proud of me."

Darcy believes in trying hard and practicing often. It's paid off in many ways, including his ability to exclusively use right-handed tools, even though he's left handed. Fontaine still benefits from the advice of his grade 8 teacher: "Always stand back and look at what you've built." He feels those words help give him perspective as he aims to be the best version of himself every day.

"Never judge others – you never know what someone else has been through," he says. "I try to take a good attitude everywhere I go."



#### **CRAIG JACK**

Hometown: North Battleford, SK Band: Big River First Nation Program: Industrial Mechanics apprenticeship

#### **CARMEN JACK**

Hometown: Meadow Lake, SK Band: Big River First Nation Program: Hotel & Restaurant Management diploma

Craig and Carmen Jack were never study buddies at Saskatchewan Polytechnic, as their time as students didn't overlap. What the father-daughter duo does share, though, is a commitment to lifelong learning, along with optimism for a future filled with opportunity. Carmen is a food and beverage supervisor, while Craig is an industrial mechanic. Both are members of the Big River First Nation.

"I met the same people he knew at the Indigenous centre," says Carmen of her father. "We talked about school all the time – my Dad's all for school." Craig gives this advice: "A brain will never stop learning till it dies. Once you're done and get a trade, continue learning. Only you can put a limit on yourself."



## WORD SEARCH

This is a tricky one! The words may be hard to find. They go forwards, backwards and diagonal!

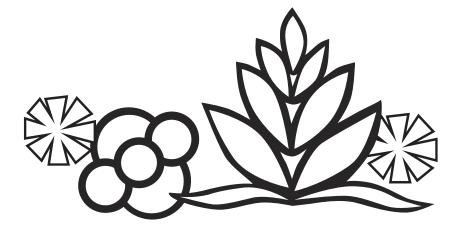
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EMPLOYMENT	D B	E	F	E N	P	з 1	L M	⊑ K	U	ĸ	E	י G	L	R	т Т
EXCELLENCE	F	A	т	E	E	Y	G	N	0	E	N	н	U	Y	
FRIENDS	S	U	С	S	0	V	G	E	Н	K	D	В	S	E	1
GRADUATE	Q	т	0	L	U	Μ	Т	R	Ν	Ρ	S	0	I	С	N
INCLUSIVE	S	J	Ρ	н	S	R	т	S	Α	0	G	U	V	Α	Α
INDIGENOUS	R	Μ	Ρ	ο	S	V	т	Q	S	D	U	R	Е	R	в
INTEGRITY	Е	X	С	Е	L	L	Е	Ν	С	Е	U	S	С	Е	1
NEIGHBOURS	Е	D	U	С	Α	т	I	0	Ν	S	R	Α	L	Е	L
PROGRESSIVENESS	Т	Ν	т	Е	G	R	Т	т	Y	I	V	G	т	R	Т
RESPECT	н	0	Y	S	Κ	I	L	L	Е	D	Μ	Ρ	0	Е	т
SAFETY	Y	В	Ν	Ν	Κ	Κ	W	В	Μ	Е	L	D	Е	R	Y
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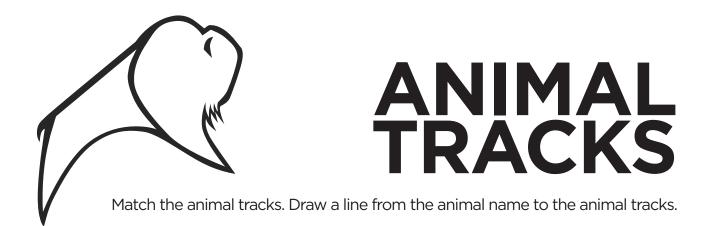
SUSTAINABILITY

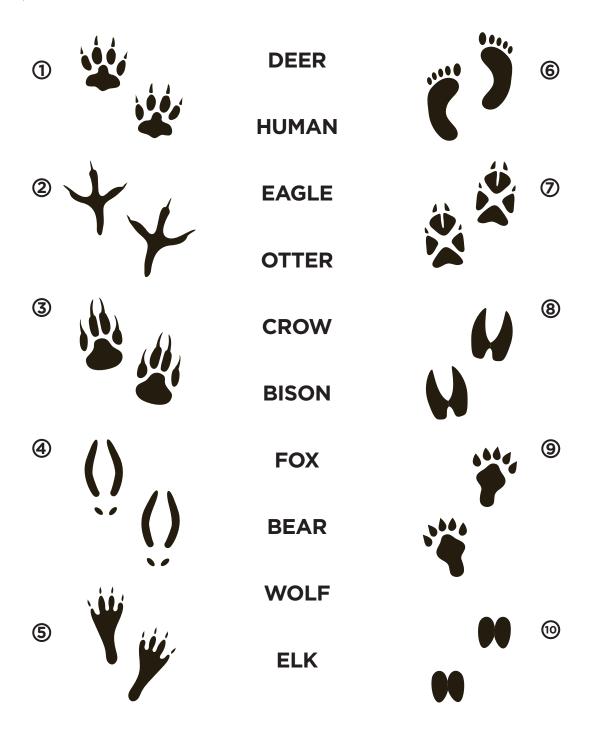
TOLKO

TRUSTED

TRUE









### WE'RE HIRING Build your future right along with your career

Tolko is three generations of integrity, commitment and success that's more than 2,500 employees strong. Tolko is also the place to build a lifelong career with the support of a team dedicated to the well-being of you, your family, and your community.

When you join Tolko, you are joining an industry leader. We provide a dynamic environment with competitive compensation where people are our most valued resource. Our structure and culture encourage inclusion, diversity, innovation, growth, and change in an open environment, and we believe in and practice environmental sustainability.

Tolko is hiring and we could be looking for you!



