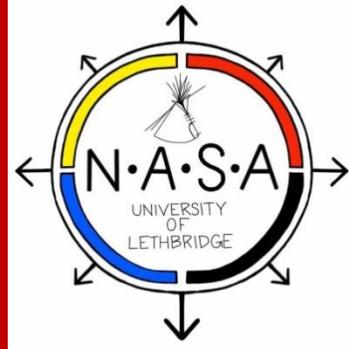


Native American Students' Association Newsletter:

Communiqué for the U of L FNMI Students
Issue 1: January 26, 2017



Welcome

That is, welcome back to the U of L for the second semester of the 2016-2017 academic year! It felt like the winter break flew by and everyone jumped into the busy class schedules. Don't let it get you down though! You are not alone, and the U of L has so many amazing student services to aide you in your academic career. Keep up the good work, we as NASA council are cheering you on!

You signed up for the Native American Students Association thinking the club would have social events where you get to know all the other First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students, right (and if you're anything like me, hoping for free food)? Guess what: these events have happened! Sometimes, though, communication gets messy in a big club. That's what this new bi-weekly newsletter will hopefully solve. The NASA Newsletter is to get out the word on what's happening within the NASA and U of L FNMI community, and answer some of the questions you might have for this mysterious club you've signed up for! Thanks for reading, and keep an eye out for the next issue.

President's Message

Hello! My name is Marshall Vielle, and I am the current president of the Native American Students Association. It is my absolute pleasure to welcome you back to another semester at the University! At this point you might be feeling overwhelmed by the start of a new term and all the extracurricular activities that you may have taken on. I just want you to remind you that you can do literally anything you set your mind to. When the going gets tough please take a moment to remind yourself of why you started your post-secondary career in the first place. It could be to acquire a broader range of knowledge and experience, or to help you become a better version of yourself. Maybe you are hoping to obtain financial stability once you leave the U of L to help take care of you and your family. Whatever it is, allow it to be your driving force and try not to stress so much. The easiest way to do this, I found, is to always return to gratitude. At the end of the day we're all just students trying to make somewhat of a difference while taking full advantage of the support system around us. So with that I'd like to wish you a happy and successful rest of your year. You got this! Stay beautiful and never stop following your dreams!

Upcoming Events

Métis Nights – TBA – An evening of mingling, learning about Métis culture, and some good ol' jigging.

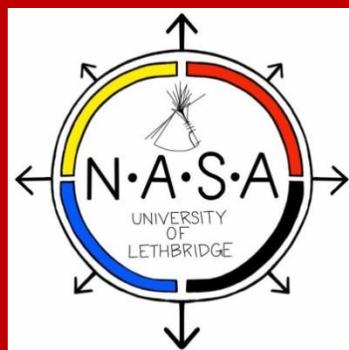
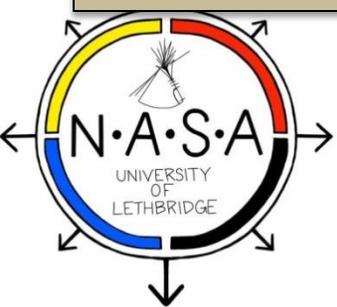
Native Awareness Week Gala – Thursday March 9 – SU Ballrooms – Enjoy a night of First Nations entertainment and mingling to celebrate Native Awareness Week, and the University's 50th Anniversary. There will be local artisans selling handmade creations, and a silent auction to fundraise for other NASA events. Tickets on sale soon. (Volunteers Needed)

Women's Needs Package Giveaway – Volunteers put together women's essentials to hand out to women in need in the City of Lethbridge – Date TBA – (Volunteers Needed)

We are always looking for volunteers. To sign up for volunteer information, email Volunteer Coordinator Kirsten First Rider at kirsten.firstrider@uleth.ca.

Raffles

DATE NIGHT theme raffle – Two champagne glasses with sparkling cider, crystal necklace, handsome tie, massage oil, and two tickets to the U of L showing of 'The Boys Own Jedi Handbook'. Help us put on an amazing Native Awareness Week 2017!



List of Current NASA Executive

President

Marsall Vielle marshall.vielle@uleth.ca

Vice President

Maya Many Grey Horses

Secretary

Kirsten First Rider kirsten.firstrider@uleth.ca

Treasurer

[open]

FNTP Rep

Reno McMaster renorain95@gmail.com

First Year Rep

Hayley Grier-Stewart hayleygs98@gmail.com

Councillors-At-Large

Teigen Robin t.robin@uleth.ca

Alana Shot Both Sides

Brandy Davis

Issue Spotlight: FNMI Student Services (FNMISS)

The FNMI student services are not as easy to navigate as one would think. Thankfully, the staff behind FNMISS are friendly and helpful, welcoming self-identifying First Nations, Metis, and Inuit students into their offices for student support. I asked the FNMISS to introduce themselves through this newsletter.

Oki. My English name is Ryan Crosschild, and my Blackfoot name is Sikapiohkiitopi (Grey Horse Rider). I am the Program Specialist with FNMI Student Services. I was born and raised in Lethbridge but spent a lot of my upbringing on the Blood Tribe. I am a member of Kainaiwa from Mamiaoyiksi (The Fish Eaters Clan) and proud to call this place my home. I am a recent graduate from the University of British Columbia earning my Bachelor of Arts with a major in Political Science and Public Policy and a minor in First Nations and Indigenous Studies. Prior to being with FNMISS I was host ambassador at the UBC First Nations House of Learning. I am happy to be home and share my knowledge and recent student experiences. During my time at UBC I was also the president of the Indigenous Students' Association and have worked with various stakeholders to develop peer supports and create networks of support for Indigenous students. I am working to do the same here at the University of Lethbridge. I am readily available to meet with students and help aid them in anyway I can on their academic journey here at the University of Lethbridge.

The FNMISS does have a website outlining our vision, goals, and scope of practice. The FNMI Student Services office is located in Ikaisskini (Low Horn) Gathering Place in Paterson Centre. We are a free confidential service for those students who self-identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuit. The primary goal of our office is to guide, encourage and empower students in the university environment. We assist students in their academic journey to ensure a successful transition to the University by helping them access the many services the university has to offer. Additionally, our office coordinates FNMI events on campus, such as Native Awareness Week, FNMI Convocation, Welcome Back BBQ, and the FNMI Orientation. We do offer smaller events like Talking Circles and Scholarship Workshops, but those events are determined based on available funding each year. We also manage the Eaglesnest List Serve as our primary form of communicating with students.

You can reach Ryan by phone at [\(403\) 332- 4455](tel:4033324455), through email at fnmiss@uleth.ca. You can also visit the FNMISS website at <http://www.uleth.ca/first-nations-metis-inuit/>.

Have any upcoming events? News? Volunteer opportunities?
Want your input on the next NASA Newsletter? Questions, concerns, or queries?
Feel free to email diandra.bruisedhead@uleth.ca

Next Issue: Thursday February 9, 2017

 Find Us on Facebook: **UofL Native American Students Association**

