

Description

This direct entry program is designed for Métis and Non-Status Aboriginal students and is offered through a collaborative partnership between the Gabriel Dumont Institute and the College of Education, University of Saskatchewan. SUNTEP offers a cross-cultural education with an emphasis on Métis and First Nations history and culture and is available to students in both Prince Albert and Saskatoon. Students have many opportunities for learning through both traditional and holistic approaches, ensuring that Aboriginal culture is present throughout their education. The primary goals of SUNTEP are (1) to ensure that people of Métis ancestry are well prepared to fill their just share of teaching positions in the province and (2) to ensure that SUNTEP graduates are educated to be sensitive to the individual educational needs of all students, and those of Métis and First Nations ancestry in particular.

Why was the program put in place?

At its inception, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) focused on education through cultural research, but it soon became apparent that the Institute would need to become more directly involved in education if it were to fully serve the multifaceted needs, including the employment needs, of Saskatchewan's Métis community, so GDI began developing Métis-specific curriculum and historical publications and to deliver programming contracted from the province's universities, colleges, and technical institutes. SUNTEP, the first and perhaps the best known of these efforts, educates Métis and First Nations teachers to meet the needs of the province's Aboriginal students in the K-12 system. SUNTEP also serves as a model for Aboriginal adult education programs across Canada. As a completely Métis-directed educational and cultural entity, GDI is unique in Canada.

Who has been served?

Aspiring Teachers

SUNTEP has helped me nurture and develop a sense of myself as a teacher through school experiences, cultural knowledge and a supportive community. SUNTEP has encouraged me to become a teacher that is proud, sensitive and respectful of the lives and experiences of each individual child that I encounter.
- Elise Hoey, SUNTEP Saskatoon student

Métis, First Nations and Non-Aboriginal Children and Families

Over 1000 SUNTEP students have graduated with B.Ed. degrees through programs offered in Prince Albert, Saskatoon & Regina.

As a participant in bridging the education gap, SUNTEP has contributed to a social benefit calculated to be in the range of \$90 billion.

Movements and great causes can only advance when they produce leaders of integrity...Teaching...the value of education and struggle, our program must always be...in close touch with...the everyday life of our people...

Jim Brady, Métis Leader



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of Native Studies and
Applied Research**

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Aboriginal Framework

