

LLRC FULL CIRCLE 2020

Denegódhé asíe ghanjł'eth ha beghonít'a

mamāhtawimihtānihk ki-toskayāmināwahk

Empowering Our Youth



Lily McKay-Carriere

Lily McKay-Carriere has served as an educator in developing communities spanning four decades. Her journey in education has provided her with opportunities to walk in different worlds, to observe various educational practices and to interact with people from diverse backgrounds. Growing up in northern Saskatchewan, Lily lived in an era where “It takes a village to raise a child” and that sense of community gave purpose to her work. As an educator with the Northern Lights School Division #113, she has worked alongside community-based partners in implementing Cree language and cultural programs within Charlebois Community School. In 1983, Lily worked with other staff members to implement a Cultural Showcase of the Cree Metis from the Cumberland Delta. In 1999, she played an essential role in implementing a K-3 Cree Bilingual program. Lily’s involvement in education has been presented with a 2005 Saskatchewan Centennial Volunteer Award, a Premier’s Award for Excellence in the Public Service in 2015 and acknowledged for Heritage in 2019. In 2007-2009, Lily invited community Elders to share lived experiences through stories. As part of her Master of Education Action Research Project, Lily worked with a team of teachers and community members to ‘Cree-atively’ turn the elder stories into Cree units of study. Lily feels that serving as an educator is honorable work that is fraught with purpose and meaning. In particular, she enjoys working with others in moving a post-colonial agenda forward to nation build with First Nations and Métis peoples. In 2019, she participated in the educational and political collaborative partnership in creating a community-based Bachelor of Education degree in Cumberland House. Known as the Cree Teacher Education Program (CTEP), where Lily currently serves as Program Coordinator and teaches Cree, CTEP incorporates elements of nation building at a community level, where Lily feels quite at home.

The Cree Teacher Education Program (CTEP) is a four year Bachelor of Education program in partnership with the University of Saskatchewan. The CTEP program is a partnership program established by Northern Lights School Division # 113, University of Saskatchewan, the Village of Cumberland House, Cumberland House Cree Nation, and the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

The CTEP program is an opportunity to preserve Cree language and culture to children and future generations. The CTEP program supports the recommendations and calls to action made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The CTEP is a long-term strategy to address recruitment and

Land, Language, Relationships and Culture