



BRANDON
UNIVERSITY



PENT Class of 2025

This Issue:

- August calendar
- Review of events - July
- Student Spotlight
- Staff Spotlight
- Upcoming events and activities
- Word of the Month





Indigenous Citizenship Substantiation Policy.

Dear Campus,

Here at Brandon University, we are committed to protecting opportunities and spaces intended for Indigenous people and Indigenous voices. To achieve this Brandon University has begun the process of drafting an Indigenous Citizenship Substantiation Policy.

This policy outlines documentation and procedures required to substantiate claims to Indigenous citizenship for individuals seeking Indigenous opportunities on campus. This policy is intended to protect Indigenous people within the institution from individuals who falsely claim Indigenous citizenship.

It is crucial that we hear from you during the development of this policy. Preliminary discussions began in the summer of 2024 with Indigenous faculty, staff, students, and Knowledge Keepers, which helped form the draft policy. We now welcome broader input from all faculty, staff, students, and community members.

We are inviting all members of our campus community to in-person or virtual meetings to share your feedback.

Next Meetings:

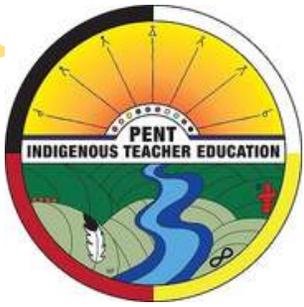
Monday, August 11 | 10:30 am to 12:00 pm – Louis Riel Room

Friday, August 15 | 2:00 to 3:30 pm – Zoom: <https://brandonu-ca.zoom.us/j/91595524898> – Meeting ID: 915 9552 4898

If you are unable to attend one of the in-person or virtual meetings, you can submit written feedback to indigenous@brandonu.ca.

Best wishes,
Dr. Kofi Campbell





PENT GRADUATION 2025



July 18, 2025



PENT GRADUATE ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: ANGELA CHRISTIAN

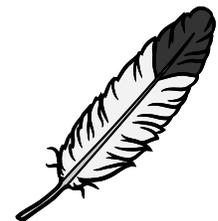


Aaniin! My name is Angela Christian, my spirit name is Night Sky Dancer, but most people just call me Ange. I'm a proud Two Spirit Anishinaabe kwe from Manigotagan and a band member of Hollow Water First Nation. I started my PENT journey five years ago, right in the thick of COVID, working from my laptop at home. It wasn't until my second year that I finally got to live and study at Brandon University, staying each spring and summer in Flora Cowan Hall.

Here at BU, I've found community in every sense of the word. From drumming and singing with the ladies from the IPC to family suppers at Nicole's house, to prairie road trips and "coffee runs" that somehow turn into retail therapy. These experiences created a home away from home. Volleyball didn't happen much this year, but in past years it was a tradition that brought us together and built so many strong connections.

The Indigenous Peoples' Centre has been a huge part of my experience. The Aunties and Kookums there are the heartbeat of BU, always ready with food, medicine, drum, song, and love. Deidre especially has offered me space to clear my head and heart, and she's even driven me out to ceremony when I had no way to get there. Kayleigh, the planning queen of PENT, always had our backs, whether organizing activities, lifting stress during grad, or just showing up with kindness. John Minshull and Bernice keep the PENT ship running smooth, and I'm so grateful for their work behind the scenes.

I've also been lucky to learn from many passionate professors who left their mark on me, even in just four weeks. Katherine McFarlane, Bonnie Kiliwnik, Candy Jones, Sandy Margetts and others from the Education department showed me what it means to teach with love. Darrell Racine from Arts department challenged me in ways that, honestly, frustrated me in the moment but looking back, I see how much stronger and more prepared I am because of it.





One thing I've learned in this program is that it's not just a single moment that lifts you it's the people. Every student in this program carries something powerful. I've watched my peers show up while their communities were evacuated, while they were grieving, while they were exhausted, and still they came. I've sat beside residential school Survivors who bravely spoke their truths in class. It's not easy to be here, especially for those of us from the North and from small communities, but we draw strength from one another. When I feel low, I think about my peers - who we are, what we've survived, and who we're becoming. That gives me the courage to keep going.

If I could offer advice to any Indigenous student reading this, it would be: Just keep pushing even when it is tough. We're living through a time of great change for our people. It's not always easy, but we carry something important, something we're meant to bring home for our children and our future. Our ancestors fought hard for us to be here, and we belong here. So, take up space. Show up and shine. Be proud of who you are and where you come from, because you are going to make a difference.

This September, I'll be heading to Berens River to teach Grade 7 and although I'll miss the heck out of this place, I'm so excited for the next chapter. Don't worry I won't be a stranger. I hear a master's degree calling my name, and you all know I love to hit the road in my Willys! So, I'll be back around. I'm rooting for each and every one of you in the PENT program. Keep on keepin' on. You've got this.

Thank you Angela for sharing your journey with us ! We wish you all the best as you turn the page to the next chapter ! You will be missed and see you soon ! :)



IPC Staff SPOTLIGHT



Tansi !

Eileen Moody nisithikason ekwa Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation ochi nitha. Apisis ninehithiwan. I enjoy drumming, singing, learning my language, attending community events, playing crib and getting to know others. I work in the Indigenous Peoples' Centre as the Indigenous Student Success Officer. My priority is to support students for success !

In the Indigenous Peoples' Centre, I plan activities, coordinate services and events for our Indigenous student community. I also meet with first-year Indigenous students to register for courses and help with any other application or registering needs they may have.

I am a BU alumni, class of 2007, Bachelor of Arts majoring in Sociology, minor in Psychology, and a Justice System Certificate. My education journey wasn't always easy. Some of the challenges were having to relocate from up north, emotionally, missing my family, and learning to make new connections. There were many times I felt like giving up because of trying to do it on my own and the stress from all types of course work. Thankfully, the support at BU helped me, such as counselors, food bank, Indigenous Peoples Centre, writing skills, math skills, tutors, library staff, as well as fellow students with whom I eventually built supportive friendships. Along my education journey, I learnt about myself and my interests, and I also had to learn to have the courage to ask for help and recognize when I needed it. Because of my experience as a student, I feel I can identify with students' struggles, working through and overcoming them.

I have three sons, one of whom currently attends BU. I'm glad I was able to model being a student to them as they grew up. I am very proud of the young men they have become, and I feel I have instilled the value of education in them. I grew up in Brandon most of my life and moved to Northern Manitoba in my teen years when my mom finished her Education degree here at BU and became a teacher in our community.

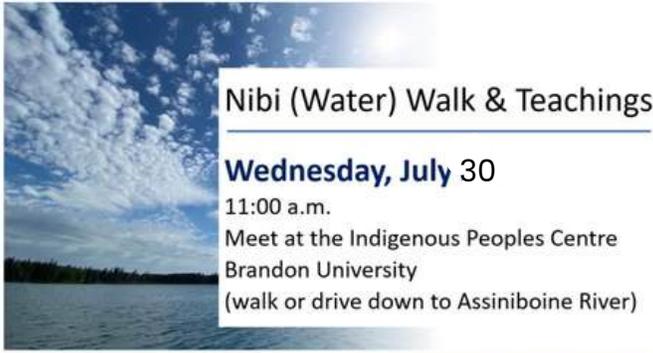
My employment background includes working as the Student Recruitment Specialist at Assiniboine College and as the Indigenous Student Recruitment and Transition Officer in Student Services at BU. Prior to this, I had the opportunity to support Indigenous youth and families during my career in Child and Family Services as a Case Worker. I look forward to continuing to meet students and learn how IPC and I can support you for success ! My door is always open to you ! If I'm not in my office I can be reached by email or phone
email: moodye@brandonu.ca phone: 204-727-7423. Come stop in to say Tansi. Ekosi, Hiyhiy !



A picture with Lorraine Pompana; Director of IPC when I was a BU student. I always enjoyed seeing her when I came into the centre. Thankful for her friendship and care today.

BU TEACHINGS HOUSE

A gathering place for the sharing of Indigenous knowledge.
A gathering place for all Nations.



Nibi (Water) Walk & Teachings

Wednesday, July 30

11:00 a.m.

Meet at the Indigenous Peoples Centre
Brandon University
(walk or drive down to Assiniboine River)

Join BU Knowledge Keeper Susie McPherson-Derendy for a water walk and teachings, honouring all Nibi (water) and reflecting on the importance of caring for the water for today and future generations.

Hosted by the Indigenous Peoples' Centre.
All are invited to attend!

An initiative of the BU Indigenous Education Senate Sub-Committee.
BU Teachings House gatherings are open invitations to students, faculty, staff, alumni & the broader community to reflect, listen and share.



About BU Teachings House



1st year Indigenous student?

NOT SURE WHAT COURSES TO CHOOSE?

Advising support is available !

Eileen Moody is our Indigenous Student Success Officer,
located in the Indigenous Peoples' Centre

If you want help looking at the registration guide to choose courses and view your degree in the undergraduate calendar stop in to see her or book an appointment by contacting her at

MoodyE@BrandonU.ca
or
204-727-7423



"The battle for Indigenous Children
will be won in the classroom,
not on the streets or on horses.

The students of today
are our Warriors of tomorrow."



-Eddie Box, Southern Ute

Drumming & Cree Language

w/ Knowledge Keeper Susie



ALL ARE
WELCOME

**Mondays
3:30-4:30 pm**

**Cree Language
5:00 pm**

in IPC



- We post everything that's happening in IPC on Facebook !
- Drumming, beading club, academic supports, writing skills, and advising take place in the IPC schedule and will begin regularly again in Sept.
- Ribbon skirt making available Thursdays w/Barb B. from 12:30-3:00 pm (upon request in advance)

AUGUST 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---|--|---|----------|--------|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 STAT CLOSED | 5 | 6 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 Drum Songs w/ Susie 3:30 pm Cree Language 5 pm Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm | 12 | 13 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 Drum Songs w/ Susie 3:30 pm Cree Language 5 pm Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm | 19 | 20 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm Pre Orientation day In-Person | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 Drum Songs w/ Susie 3:30 pm Cree Language 5 pm Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm | 26 Teachings House 11:30 am-1:00pm | 27 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm TRANSITION PROGRAM Orientation- 29th | 28 | 29 | 30 2-4:30 Stanley Park Community Drumming |
| 31 | | | | | | |



Like us on Facebook

Brandon University
Indigenous Peoples' Centre



Follow us on Instagram

BU Indigenous
Peoples' Centre



AUGUST
IPC
BEADING
with
Métis Elder Joan Church &
Métis Inclusion Coordinator Nicole Braun
MONDAYS &
WEDNESDAYS
12PM-2PM
nicole.braun@mmf.mb.ca



ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

IPC DROP INS



LIBRARY/RESEARCH HELP

- STARTING SEPTEMBER THURSDAYS 11AM-12PM

Knowledge is Power

Keep Learning

Stay focused

Practice makes PROGRESS

ACADEMIC ADVISING

- STARTING SEPTEMBER
- 1-4 PM DATES TBA



WRITING SKILLS

- STARTING SEPTEMBER WEDNESDAYS 10AM-12PM



LEARNING SKILLS

- STARTING SEPTEMBER TBA

AIM HIGHER
YOU CAN DO IT

MATH SUPPORT IN STUDENT SERVICES

$$(x^a)^b = x^{a \cdot b}$$

BUILD SKILLS



a week of education, commemoration and Indigenous celebration

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025



September 29 – October 3 at the Riverbank Discovery Centre

EVENTS HAPPENING EVERY DAY ALL ARE WELCOME

ORANGE SHIRT DAY WALK TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30



Save the Dates



Visit Here



Metis Elder-Joan



KNOWLEDGE KEEPER OFFICE HOURS

JOAN

CHURCHJ@BRANDONU.CA

Mondays 12:00 - 2:00

Wednesdays 12:00 - 2:00

SUSIE

MCPHERSON-DERENDYS@BRANDONU.CA

Mondays 3:30 - 5:30

Wednesdays 9:00 - 12:00

BARB

LINDB@BRANDONU.CA

Sept. Tuesdays 12:30 - 2:00 & 5:30 - 7:30

Wednesdays 9:00 - 2:00

Thursday 12:30-3 pm

- Available to meet by request



**Anishinaabe Elder
Barb**



Cree Elder- Susie

If you would like to meet with one of our
Elders outside of these times posted please
contact ipc@brandonu.ca



Learn
and
Grow

WORD OF THE MONTH



WATER

CREE- NIPIY
DAKOTA- MNI
MICHIF- D'LOO
ANISHINAABE-NIBI

PRESENTED BY GAKINA ABINOOJIIYAG < GAP > PROGRAMS
FOLLOW @GAPYOUTHOUTREACH FOR MORE

COMMUNITY DRUM LEARNING

WEEKLY LEARNING INDIGENOUS SONG

at STANLEY PARK (1410 Princess Ave)

Remember to dress for the weather
& bring a lawn chair or blanket

RAIN LOCATION: 24 - 6th Street

~ TWO SPIRIT WELCOME ~

MENS DRUM
TUESDAYS 6:30 - 8:30 PM

WOMENS DRUM
THURSDAYS 6 - 8 PM

WE ARE ALL LEARNING TOGETHER ~
NEW LEARNERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME
(MUST BE SOBER TO ATTEND)



100 MEN with 100 DRUMS

SUMMER GATHERING
AUGUST 23 & 24, 2025
ASSINIBOINE FOOD FOREST
(1735 ROSSER AVE. EAST)
BRANDON, MB

AUGUST 23 - 2025
9:00 AM - 11:00 PM

AUGUST 24 - 2025
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

BRING YOUR CHAIR & YOUR SWEAT LODGE
GEAR: TOWEL, TOBACCO, DRUM/RATTLE

JOIN US FOR:
SPEAKERS, DRUM MAKING WORKSHOP, CEREMONY, MEALS & BROTHERHOOD
OPEN TO MEN FROM ALL NATIONS AND ALL WALKS OF LIFE

Tents are welcome

JOIN US AS WE GATHER ON THE LAND FOR HEALING, CONNECTIONS, TEACHINGS AND IN RAISING THE WARRIOR SPIRIT

PROUD SPONSORS

ASSINIBOINE FOOD FOREST
Jacobson & Greiner
Group of Companies
ANISHINAABEK FIRST NATION
CITY OF BRANDON
Westman PROMOTIONS
Cross Country Field Services
Assiniboine College

TO REGISTER & FOR MORE INFO CONTACT JASON GOBEIL AT JAY.GOBFAM@GMAIL.COM
THIS IS A DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON SITE



Do you have
something you
would like to
share in “The Tea”
next month?
Let us know!

Contact IPC@brandonu.ca



Courtesy of...



**THANK YOU!
MIIGWECH!
WOPIDA!
MARRSII!
KINANASKIMOTIN!
NAKURMIIK!
MAŠI CHOK!**