



National Indigenous Veterans Day

November 8, 2025

This Issue:

- IPC Staff/Elders contact info
- November calendar
- Past and upcoming events and activities
- Word of the month
- Student supports and resources
- Student Spotlight- Drayden McKay



National Indigenous Veterans Day

November 8, 2025



The National Aboriginal Veterans Monument was unveiled in 2001 in Ottawa to commemorate the contributions made by Indigenous peoples in Canada during the First World War, Second World War and Korean War. The monument, a bronze statue with a granite base, was created by Indigenous artist Noel Lloyd Pinay of the Peepeekisis First Nation in Saskatchewan. It is situated in Confederation Park, directly across from the Lord Elgin Hotel. It is the first monument dedicated to Indigenous veterans in Canada.

Meaning and Symbolism

Artist Noel Lloyd Pinay created the monument using traditional symbols and values important to his Indigenous culture. For instance, the number four is prominent in the statue, representing four seasons, four directions and four stages of life. Also, four animal spirits are captured in the monument — a bear, wolf, buffalo and elk — representing traditional Indigenous animal “spirit guides.” Pinay believes that the golden eagle in the sculpture represents “the messenger between the Creator and man,” while all four animal spirits guide warriors in their pursuit of victory on the battlefield. The golden eagle also represents the thunderbird, a traditional symbol of the Creator and Creation. It sits atop the statue, uniting and guiding those below.

There are also two male and two female human figures in the sculpture, representing the many contributions of Indigenous men and women to Canada’s wartime efforts and peacekeeping operations. In their hands, they hold both symbols of war and spiritual objects, such as an eagle fan and a peace pipe, recognizing the balance between peace and war.

The inscription on the monument speaks to the dedication, bravery and sacrifice of Indigenous soldiers serving Canada since the First World War. It reads, in part:

Many thousands of Aboriginal people saw action and endured hardship in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War. They served with honour and distinction in all branches of the service and in every rank and appointment from Private to Brigadier. They fought overseas to defend the sovereignty and liberty of allied nations, in addition to supporting the cause at home. Their dedication continues in peacekeeping operations in faraway lands.

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Indigenous Contributions to Canada's Wars

Indigenous soldiers, nurses and civilians have made important contributions to Canada's war and peacekeeping efforts in the 20th and 21st centuries. Historian Timothy Winegard has revealed that more than 4,000 Status Indians, of a total 1914 population of only 103,774, served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the First World War. A further 4,250 Status Indians enlisted in the Second World War, including 72 women. Hundreds of Status Indians died on the battlefield during the two world wars, with many more seriously wounded. This includes Edwin Victor Cook of the 'Namgis First Nation, a decorated soldier killed in battle in 1918.

The above figures do not include the estimated thousands of Métis, Inuit and Non-Status Indians who volunteered and fought in Canada's wars without official recognition of their Indigenous ancestry during the 20th century. In 1916, for instance, a Winnipeg newspaper noted the enlistment of 30 Métis soldiers from Qu'Appelle (Saskatchewan) to the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Many of these soldiers sacrificed their lives in battle, including Métis sniper Henry Norwest and Inuit sniper John Shiwak.

Like their First Nations counterparts, Métis and Inuit men and women enlisted for many reasons, including loyalty to Canada and/or the British Crown, adventure, regular employment and pay mostly unavailable to Indigenous peoples, and the desire to revive the warrior traditions and glory of their ancestors. They enlisted despite facing persecution and discrimination at home, unable to vote in federal elections until the 1960s. They fought and died for Canada but did not enjoy the same privileges and rights of Canadian citizens afforded to non-Indigenous Canadian soldiers. (See also Indigenous Suffrage.)

Legacy

The National Aboriginal Veterans Monument is the first monument dedicated to Indigenous veterans who fought for Canada in wartime, in addition to those who have served in numerous peacekeeping missions. As of September 2022, there were approximately 5,500 Indigenous soldiers in Canada's armed forces, continuing a tradition of military service going back more than a century.

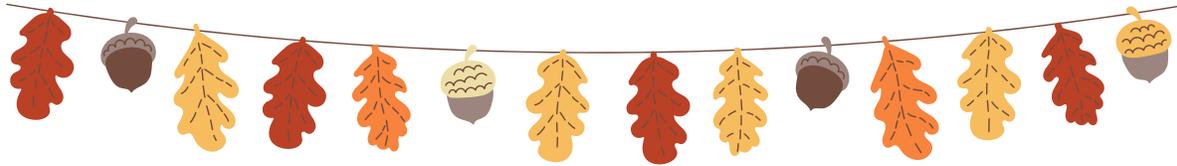
Lest We Forget our Indigenous Veterans. Thank You, Miigwech, Wopida, Marrsii, Kinanaskomitin, Nakurmiik, Masi Chok.

National Aboriginal Veterans Monument. The Canadian Encyclopedia. Retrieved November 3, 2025, from <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/national-aboriginal-veterans-monument>

Coloring Page



IPC Elders/ Knowledge Keepers



Joan C- Metis



Susie McP-D -Cree



Barb B- Anishinabbe



KNOWLEDGE KEEPER OFFICE HOURS

JOAN
CHURCHJ@BRANDONU.CA

Mon. 12:00-4:00 pm
Thurs. 9:00am-4:00 pm

Mon. 3:00- 6:00 pm
Tues. & Wed. 11:30 am- 1:00 pm
Thurs. 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Fri. 3:00 -4:30 pm

SUSIE
MCPHERSON-DERENDYS@BRANDONU.CA

Tuesdays 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Wednesdays 12:00 - 2:00 pm
BARB Thurs. 9:00 am- 12:00 pm/ 1-3:00 pm

BLINDB@BRANDONU.CA

- Available to meet by request



Student Spotlight: Drayden McKay



Hi there!



My name is Drayden McKay, and I am 22 years old in my final year of my undergrad here at Brandon University. I am an honours student within the Applied Disaster & Emergency Studies (ADES) department. Over the years here I've gotten to develop and hone my skills and knowledge in the field of emergency management. I stand as one of the top academics of my class. I have also been invited to conferences where I've presented amongst my peers and won awards. Most recently I was invited to attend and present at the Prairie Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers annual meeting and conference, where I won an award as recognition for my hard work and contributions. I also sit on the ADES Advisory Council along with the professors of the department and practitioners of the field. This is where we can develop new courses and degree programs for future students interested in the world of emergency management here at BU.

During the course of my studies, I have also been a dedicated student of Brandon University's Co-op program. Here I have been able to connect with other students and alumni on and off campus. I have been employed with Parks Canada in the Riding Mountain Field Unit for the duration of my work terms. I have worked in various roles and departments ranging from Visitor Experience to Resource Conservation. My positions over my 5 years of employment with Parks Canada include being a Heritage Presenter, the Aquatic Invasive Species Supervisor and Inspector, and the Human Wildlife Coexistence Technician. Thanks to the Co-op program I have been able to develop my skills and abilities in job interviews, resume writing, and student networking to be able to land positions such as these.

When I'm not at my desk studying or in the field working, you can usually find me at powwows, rodeos, or on the golf course. If I'm not outside then you can then find me sitting on the couch binge watching movies and tv shows, I'm huge Star Wars fan.

Student Spotlight: Drayden McKay con't

I am from Rolling River First Nation and a Treaty 4 member. Though I live in Brandon during the weekdays I make every effort to drive home on weekends to be with my parents, Koko (grandma), and brothers. Rolling River is where I truly call home. Speaking of which, I also have 2 younger brothers that are twins. They too are also BU students and are usually believed to be me as all three of us look incredibly similar with people mistaking us for triplets. So, if you think you've seen me in multiple places at once on campus, no I have not invented teleportation (yet), it was most likely one of my younger doppelgangers.

As I am in my last year of my undergrad, I have been planning on pursuing a master's degree to further my knowledge and interest in emergency management. I hope to one day work in the field of law enforcement as my parents did, but as well as work as a professor teaching the next generation of emergency managers.

That's a bit about me. If you see me on campus don't hesitate to say hi. If you have any suggestions big or small about the ADES program, as member of the ADES Advisory Council I would be happy to hear you out. Good luck with the rest of your studies!

Thank You for sharing with us Drayden, All the best in your future endeavors !!!



FOOD RESOURCES

The BUSU Campus Cupboard is an initiative started in 2024 which aims to alleviate the issue of student hunger and food insecurity. The Cupboard provides preserved, dry, fresh, and frozen foods to those in need at a much lower price than supermarkets, and even the dollar store. Several free offerings will also be available to those who most need it.

The Cupboard is located on the ground floor of the KDC building
Open 8:30am-4:30 pm Mon-Fri.

BRANDON FOOD PROGRAMS – Weekly Calendar | Updated OCT 2025

Information is subject to change.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>LUNCH Bear Clan 1:30pm – 3:00pm Downtown Mobile (no set location)</p> <p>LUNCH Love in the City Ministries 1:00-3:00pm</p> <p>LUNCH 7th Street HAC Sandwiches 11:30am – 1:00pm</p> <p>PHONE APPS FOR DISCOUNTED GROCERIES Flashfood (Superstore) Food Hero (Sobeys/Safeway)</p>	<p>BREAKFAST Women's Resource Centre 9:30am -Noon Women & children only</p> <p>BREAKFAST Men's Resource Centre 9:00-10:00 am Program Participants</p> <p>LUNCH Helping Hands 11:30am-1:00pm</p> <p>COFFEE Ask Auntie Mon-Fri 4:30pm-7:00 pm 7th St. HAC Tues & Thurs 9:00am – 11:00am BFC Drop-In Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm</p>	<p>TO-GO BAGS Women's Resource Centre 9:30am -Noon Women & children only</p> <p>LUNCH Helping Hands 11:30am – 1:00pm</p> <p>HAMPERS Samaritan House Monthly Hamper (or Weekly Kit for unhoused population) Register in person only Mon-Fri 10:00am-3:00pm Tues evening 4:00pm-5:30pm</p>	<p>BREAKFAST Women's Resource Centre 9:30am -Noon Women & children only</p> <p>BREAKFAST Men's Resource Centre 9:00-10:00 am Program Participants</p> <p>LUNCH Helping Hands 11:30am – 1:00pm</p> <p>HAMPERS St. Augustine's Church Monthly Drop Drop in basis. East door. 204-727-4728 Salvation Army Monthly on Wed. Call Tues to book 204-727-4334</p>	<p>TO-GO BAGS Women's Resource Centre 9:30am -Noon Women & children only</p> <p>LUNCH Helping Hands 11:30am – 1:00pm</p> <p>GROCERIES Food Rescue Grocery Store Wed & Thurs 12:00-6:00pm Fri 1:00-6:00pm Sat 10:00-4:00pm Closed Sun-Tues</p> <p>LIGHT MEAL Bear Clan - Mobile Thurs. & Fri. 7:00pm – 9:00pm</p>	<p>BREAKFAST Women's Resource Centre 9:30am -Noon Women & children only</p> <p>BREAKFAST Men's Resource Centre 9:00-10:00 am Program Participants</p> <p>LUNCH Helping Hands 11:30am – 1pm</p> <p>LIGHT MEAL Bear Clan - Mobile Thurs. & Fri. 7:00pm – 9:00pm</p> 	<p>LUNCH 7th Street HAC Sandwiches 11:30am – 1:00pm</p> <p>DINNER Salvation Army Princess Park 4:30pm</p> <p>OUTDOOR WATER BOTTLE REFILL STATIONS Closed for the season until the Spring</p>  <p>Community Wellness Collaborative</p>

Contact Information:

Brandon Bear Clan: 603 Princess Ave 431-720-2327
 Brandon Friendship Centre (BFC): 603 Princess Ave 204-727-1407
 Ask Auntie (new location): 24-6th St 204-901-4049
 Food Rescue Grocery Store: Town Centre parkade 204-727-1696
 Helping Hands Soup Kitchen: 111 7th Street 204-727-4635
 Love in the City Ministries: 302 8th Street 204-717-7744

Samaritan House: 820 Pacific Avenue 204-726-0758
 The Women's Resource Centre: 1233 Rosser Ave 204-726-8632
 Salvation Army: 9 Princess Avenue East 204-727-4334
 (Food Truck location – Princess Park)
 St. Augustine's Church: 327 4th Street 204-727-4728
 7th Street Health Access Centre: 20 – 7th Street 204-578-4800

Find the most up-to-date Brandon Food Calendar

SCAN for weblink



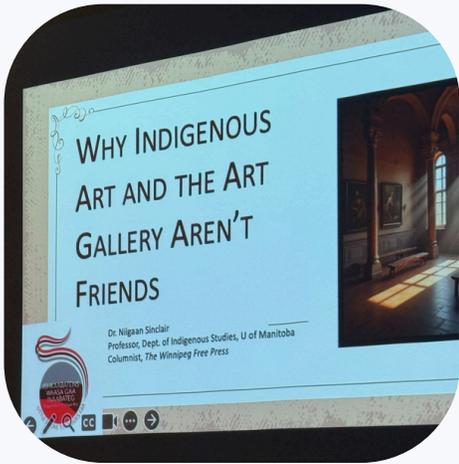
SOCIAL MEDIA @CWCBRANDON CWCBRANDON.CA



Work for Students on Campus (PSAC)

- Go to our website www.BrandonU.ca
- Search for Employment Opportunities
- View current openings under "Student Positions" or Scan Here





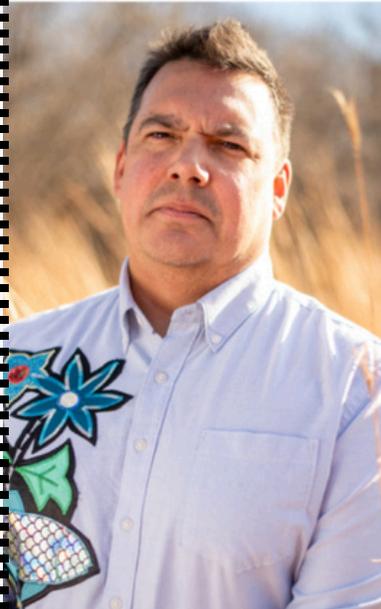
Monday November 3, 2025 we had the honour of listening to Special Guest: Dr. Niigaan Sinclair share his knowledge on "Why Indigenous Art and the Art Gallery aren't friends"



**ISHKAABATENS
WAASA GAA
INAABATEG**
Department of Visual Art
Speaker Series

NIIGAAN SINCLAIR
"Why Indigenous Art and the Art Gallery Aren't Friends"

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD
11:30AM - 12:30PM IN CHO 206



Niigaan Sinclair is Anishinaabe from Peguis First Nation. He is an award-winning writer, editor and professor of Indigenous Studies at the University of Manitoba who was named by Maclean's magazine in 2022 as one of the most influential people in Canada. Niigaan is a multiple nominee of Canadian columnist of the year (winning in 2018) and his commentary appears weekly on multiple platforms across Canada – from the pages of The Winnipeg Free Press to TV shows on CBC, APTN and on his co-hosted podcast Niigaan and the Lone Ranger.

His first book *Winipèk: Visions of Canada* from an Indigenous Centre (McClelland & Stewart, 2024) was a national bestseller that won the 2024 Governor General Award for Non-fiction. He is a former secondary school teacher who won the 2019 Peace Educator of the Year from the Peace and Justice Studies Association based at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.



Mondays

Drumming & Cree Language w/ Knowledge Keeper Susie



Mondays
3:30-4:30 pm

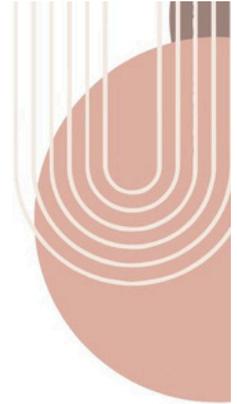
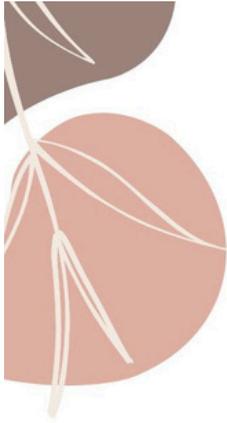
Cree Language
5:00 pm

in IPC

ALL ARE
WELCOME



Tuesdays



BEADING BABES



Tuesdays

5:30 pm

All students, faculty and staff welcome
Beginners and experienced beaders
welcome
Supplies provided in IPC



Mondays & Thursdays Beading



NOVEMBER BEADING

with
Métis Elder Joan Church &
Métis Inclusion Coordinator Nicole Braun

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS

12PM-2PM

METIS ROOM - 202 CLARK HALL

Work on current projects, start a
Christmas themed project or learn a
new technique!

****ALL MATERIALS
PROVIDED BY MMF****
For More Info Contact:
nicole.braun@mmf.mb.ca



Beaded Poppy Sale

Honoring Indigenous
Veterans Day 

Friday Nov. 7, 2025
11:45 am
at
Indigenous Peoples'
Centre



Brought to you
by the
Beading Babes



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

NOVEMBER

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	Nigaan Sinclair 11:30am- 12:30 pm Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm Drum Songs w/ Susie 3:30 pm Cree Language 5 pm	3 4 Beading w/Barb B. 5:30 pm Full Moon Ceremony East Site with Deb. T Chris Leforte 10am-1 pm	5	6 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm Coyote Fur Mitt workshop	7 Beaded Poppy Sale 11:45 pm	8
9 Reading Week -----	10	11	12	13 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm Coyote Fur Mitt workshop	14 Returning to Spirit 9am-4 pm	15 Returning to Spirit 9 am-4pm
16	17 Drum Songs w/ Susie 3:30 pm Cree Language 5 pm Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm	18 Beading w/Barb B. 5:30 pm Jigging 12:30-1:30pm	19 Voluntary Withdrawl LNAP-Late Nite Against Procrastination 7pm-2 am	20 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm Coyote Fur Mitt workshop	21	22
23	24 Drum Songs w/ Susie 3:30 pm Cree Language 5 pm Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm	25 Beading w/Barb B. 5:30 pm Budgeting and Finances 12:30-1:30 pm	26 Teachings House -Grief & Healing 11:30 am-1pm	27 Beading w/Joan 12-2 pm Coyote Fur Mitt workshop	28 Returning to Spirit 9am-4 pm Birthday Cake and Basket Draw	29 Returning to Spirit 9am- 4 pm
30						



Like us on Facebook

Brandon University
Indigenous Peoples' Centre



Follow us on Instagram



BU Indigenous
Peoples' Centre

STAY 
INFORMED



CRIB NIGHT

WEDNESDAY

26 NOVEMBER 2025

5PM-7PM

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' CENTRE



- standard crib rules apply
- count your own points
- refreshments served
- open to bu students



nicole.braun@mmf.mb.ca



BU TEACHINGS HOUSE

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

Grief & Healing

Join us November 26th, 2025

11:30 am-1:00 pm

**in the Ceremony Room of the
Health Studies Building**



Indigenous Peoples' Centre

SHARING CIRCLES

With Deidre & IPC Knowledge Keepers

September 23

Indigenous Wellness

October 21

Medicine Wheel

November 18

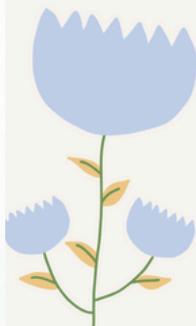
Recovery & Self Care

December 16

Home for the Holidays

Health Studies Ceremony Room

Open to current BU students





ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

IPC DROP INS



Rainer

LIBRARY/RESEARCH HELP

THURSDAYS

11AM-12PM

Knowledge is Power

Stay focused

Practice makes PROGRESS

Keep learning



Alex B

ACADEMIC ADVISING

CONNOR - TUESDAY 1-3 PM

ALEX - WED. 10 AM-12 PM



Connor T

WRITING SKILLS

WEDNESDAYS

10AM-12PM



Joan G



LEARNING SKILLS

THURSDAYS

10:30AM-12:30 PM

MATH SUPPORT IN STUDENT SERVICES

AIM HIGHER
YOU CAN DO IT

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

BUILD SKILLS



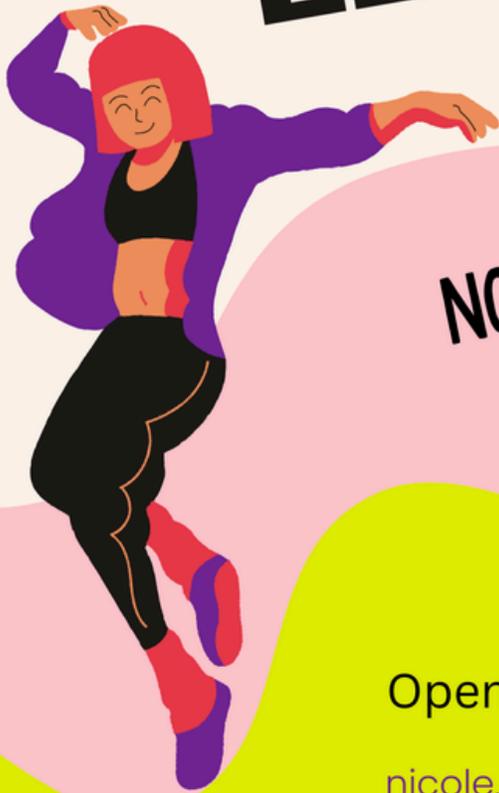
Jaime T





WANT TO LEARN HOW TO JIG?

JIGGING LESSONS



TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

EVANS THEATRE

12:30-1:30

Open to BU Students

nicole.braun@mmf.mb.ca



WORD OF THE MONTH

It is Windy

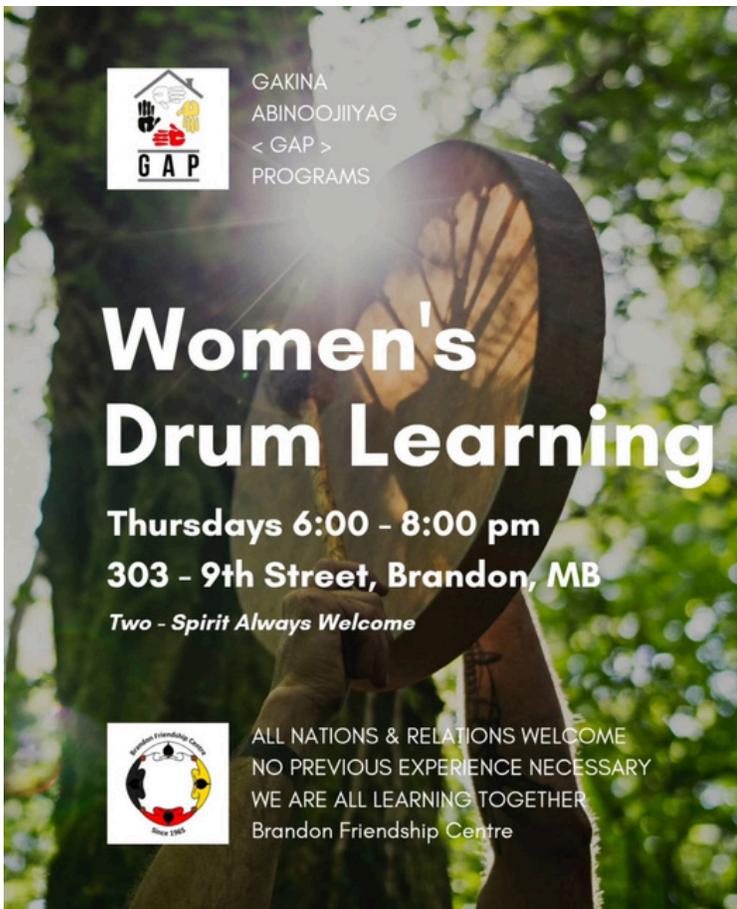
CREE- Nohtin

DAKOTA-Thateyanpa

MICHIF- Yootin

ANISHINAABE- Noodin

*Learn
and
Grow*



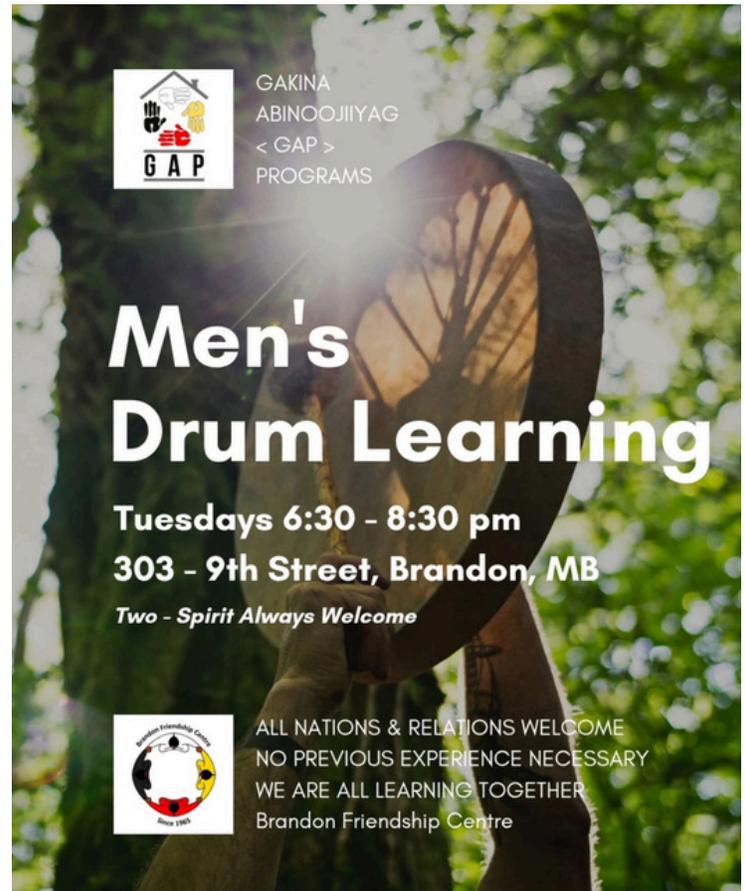
 GAKINA
ABINOOJIIYAG
< GAP >
PROGRAMS

Women's Drum Learning

Thursdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm
303 - 9th Street, Brandon, MB
Two - Spirit Always Welcome



ALL NATIONS & RELATIONS WELCOME
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
WE ARE ALL LEARNING TOGETHER
Brandon Friendship Centre



 GAKINA
ABINOOJIIYAG
< GAP >
PROGRAMS

Men's Drum Learning

Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm
303 - 9th Street, Brandon, MB
Two - Spirit Always Welcome



ALL NATIONS & RELATIONS WELCOME
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
WE ARE ALL LEARNING TOGETHER
Brandon Friendship Centre



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!**