## Weaving Indigenous Knowledge with Mainstream Science using Canada's Synchrotron

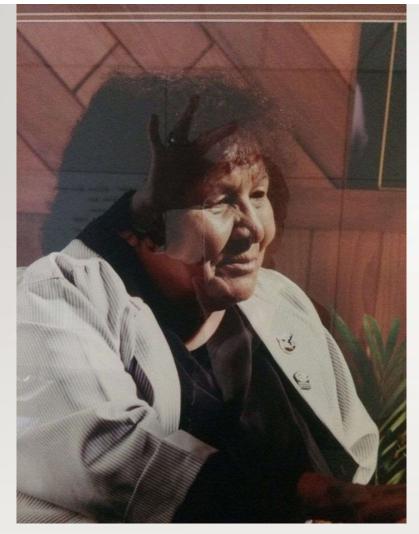




## Introduction- Dallas Pelly- Education Specialist - Indigenous Relations at CLS







### **Late Elder Pauline Pelly**

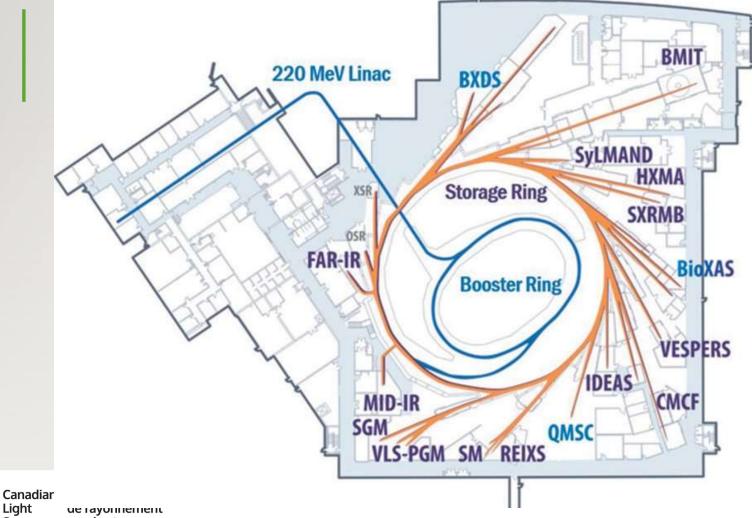
Education is vital to teach our young people to be professionals and to enable them to continue negotiating for our rights. This will be the basis of our future and our survival as First Nations people.



# The Canadian Light Source at a glance



## **The Canadian Light Source**

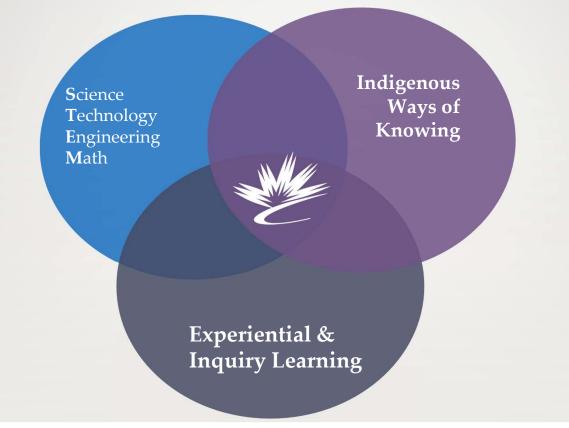


Source

synchrotron



# **CLS Education Overview**





## Why do this work?

Primer | June 2020



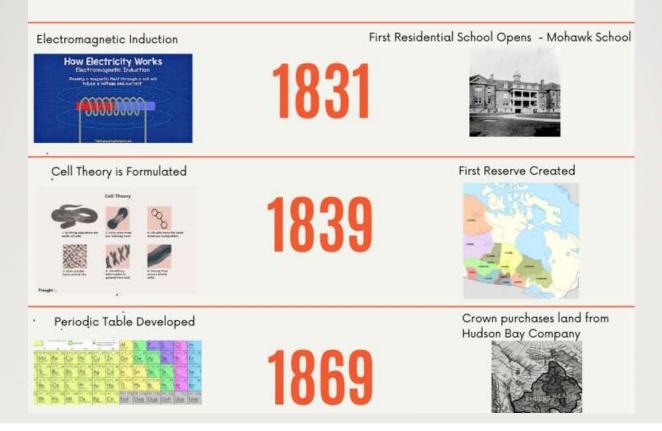
Indigenous people make up 4 per cent of adults in Canada. But less than 2 per cent of people working in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) occupations are Indigenous (Statistics Canada 2016 Census).

And people in STEM occupations—such as engineers, doctors, and scientists—have political as well as economic influence, and can play strong leadership roles.

If we are going to address the current issues and crises in the world, we need strong leaders with varied perspectives.



### Mainstream Science Timeline & Indigenous Contributions











Canada's only Synchrotron Concept Born







Canada's last Residential Schools close 1996-7

Discovery, Trust & Reconciliation



Discovery, Trust & Reconciliation



# Indigenous Programming at CLS

 Goal of the programs: Expose Indigenous students to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) research careers with Canada's only synchrotron.

### Paskwâwimostos - <<sup>∩</sup>b·∆·J<sup>∩</sup>⊃<sup>∩</sup>

High School, Adult Basic Education, or
Post-Secondary

Flexible Timeframes

**Q** Virtual and/or On-site



48 High School, Adult Basic Education, or Post-Secondary

Flexible Timeframes
Virtual and/or On-site

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Nation, Métis,

and Tradition.



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 High School, Adult Basic Education, or Post-Secondary
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**Q** Virtual and/or On-site



The Arctic Fox Project is a science adventure that engages teachers, students, and Indigenous communities by creating a unique opportunity to integrate hunting and trapping skills, synchrotron science, mainstream Science principles, and Traditional Knowledge. This project combines Traditional Knowledge and synchrotron light to allow the Arctic animals to teach us more about them.

More on the Arctic Fox Project



# Paskwâwimostos - <^ib·∆·」^⊃^ -The Bison Project

 The Bison Project integrates Traditional Knowledge (TK) and mainstream Science in an experience that engages First Nation, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) teachers, students, and communities. The Bison Project creates a unique opportunity to incorporate land-based hunting and herd management, synchrotron science, mainstream science principles and TK.



C Li S







### Carry the Kettle First Nation Community involvement with Elders, Teachers, and Students







### Traditional Cultural Expressions (Janice Osecap)



### I was fortunate to be surrounded by a supportive community that invited me into absolutely anything I found an interest in. My learning experience included a wide variety of hands- on as well as virtual experiences. I had an opportunity to shadow and participate in a variety of mediums, in person as well as on-line presentations.

- Sample prep
- How to read XRF data
- The effort that goes into workshops
- · How to maintain focus
- Editing skills
- What teamwork looks like
- · Hands-on crystalizes knowledge
- Importance of community

I was challenged to quit validating why Indigenous perspectives should be included.

Acknowledgements: The Education Team At CLS for continued support and guidance throughout my summer experience. Tracy Walker, Bernie Petit, student in Amanda Pfeiffer, Noah Dyck, training David Muir, and Robert Blythe.





- Created resources that educators use to can present the periodic table that students connect with
- Assisted in LISSE dissemination at 2 of the local high schools

encourages me to continue to focus my work while at the CLS to gravitate around creating resources for students that are

meaningful, Resources that stem from the Saskatchewan Science

Curriculum and are compatible with my ancestors as a way of

The biggest challenge was rewiring my automated response of

seeking validation for my work. As a student of science in the

1990's and again in 2017, with the addition of psychology, I was

able to understand how the history of my ancestors has affected

outcomes of your work experience/challenges:

me and this understanding is what fuels my ambitions to

integrating our science in a culturally safe way.

represent our Indigenous perspectives.



Acknowledgements: The Elders/ancestors that continuously guide me through my journey to reculturize our youth.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

#### Introduction of Self

Niva-nitsikason Janice Osecap ekwa Niva ohci Moosomin First Nation. I recently convocated from the Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP) at the College Education, here on Treaty Six territory the University of Saskatchewan occupies.

The concentration of my studies while in University have circulated around becoming competent in science, as well as psychology so I can understand and contribute by making meaningful resources for educators who want to engage in Indigenous sciences. This summer I was fortunate enough to secure a summer internship with the Canadian Light Source education team that had a coinciding goal of normalizing the presence of Indigenous inclusion in science.

While many may not understand the importance of this and how it relates to the science community, it is an effort that focuses on student confidence rather than student competency. Participating in science is a difficult task within itself which can be magnified when feeling displaced in a secular community that removes culture, race, and spiritualism. My projects focused on supporting educators in terms of resources they may be able to use in their respective classrooms





### **Traditional Cultural Expressions (Janice Osecap)**



Language Ties:

pipikwahcaw pee-peek-wah-tso (Cree/Neheyawak): Soil/dirt

Creation Story/Story/History: Creation Story : Legend of Turtle Island This story takes us back to how the world was rebuilt, when a slew of courageous animals dove to get the one thing needed; earth/soil

Connection(s):

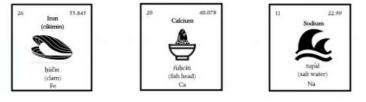
Traditional Medicine: Eating dirt was associated with building up immunity.

Ceremonial: Soil/dirt is an important part of our ceremonies in many ways, but one example is that when we are picking our medicines, the soil is representative of our Mother Nature.

Potassium is an essential nutrient for most living things and is abundant in rocks and soil.



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Images and translations provided by Anne Mack & Brittany Morgan

## Mila Kuppenbender

Weaving Indigenous Knowledge with the Periodic Table





## **New Focus: Providing Professional Development** for Teachers across Canada





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Light Source

## Indigenous Perspectives in Chemistry and Physics

A Virtual Professional Development Opportunity

Explore Indigenous knowledge systems in chemistry and physics! Join this professional development to learn about Indigenous contributions, culturally responsive teaching strategies, and advice from an expert panel!

When: August 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> Where: Virtual - Zoom Who's Invited: All Educators

 Anyone who is interested in broadening their understanding in creating space for Indigenous perspectives in chemistry and physics

Cost: Free Have questions? Contact us at <u>education@lightsource.ca</u>



### Indigenous Perspectives in Chemistry and Physics-August 8th, 15th, and 22nd at 5pm CST!

Receive **resources** with each session that supplement the discussions and could be used in your classroom.

Get a chance to **network** with like-minded educators.

Each session can be attended on its own but the most learning will come from attending all 3 sessions!

Experience a discussion with our <u>expert panel</u> that include scientists, educators, and an Elder!

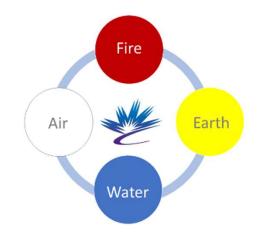
Gain unique **insights and strategies** that help make chemistry and physics more welcoming.

Join us in the comfort of your own home.

Be entered into a **Prize Draw** and get a **Certificate** if you attend all 3 sessions.



## **Indigenous Educational Resources**



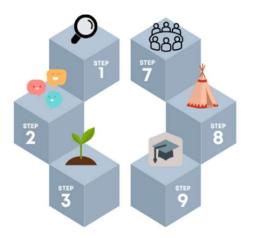
### Science of Bannock

Making bannock is more than chemistry. Take a look at how chemistry, physics, and Traditional Knowledge come to play!



### **TREE Program**

Our TREE program offers the opportunity for a class to connect to the land and investigate the stories from trembling aspen trees.



### Indigenous Engagement Tips

This resource helps supports students and teachers wishing to engage with Indigenous groups in their science projects or classes!



### Where to Start with Indigenous Engagement

Nearest First Nations Reserve, Inuit, or Métis Community Discover what is the nearest indigenous community in your region. What nations are in your sample area? If unsure, a good place to start is see the Native Land map resource below (ensure you have the "freaties" option selected.

#### Contact Band Office, Metis Local, or Inuit Cultural Center Each nature will have either elected officials or employed individuals that have an Education portfolio. Some examples are Education Councilor, Education Directors, Post-Secondary Coordinators. These individuals are the best starting point to get you in contact with the appropriate person/s for their Nation.

#### Lands Department - Duty to Consult Coordinators Many First Nations and Métis organizations employ Lands Directors. These

Many First Nations and Metis organizations employ Lands Directors. These individuals will oversee information such as Land-Use plans, Soil Analysis, and natural resources associated with their Nation. We encourage you to connect if you are sampling from the land.

### Urban & Indian Métis Friendship or Cultural Centers

Friendship centers employ a variety of Indigenous Eiders, Traditional Knowledge Keepers (TKR), and individuals that carry a wealth of knowledge. These individuals can help expand a timeline to predate colonial contact. Metts Nations also have Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (URP) Coordinates that provide urban supports.

### Indigenous Teachers' Education Programs

Indigenous Education Programs at a university near you can help connect to likeminded individuals that are trying to develop new ways of teaching and incorporating Traditional Knowledge.

School Division Indigenous Engagement Coordinators/Consultants

Many school divisions now employ consultants to assist in incorporating Traditional Knowledge and building community engagement within the region. Contact your Education Superintendent/School Administration to inquire what your school division has to offer.

#### Tribal Councils - Treaty Territory Education Aggregate Many First Nations, Inuit, or Métis Locals join together to form Education Authority,

Tribal Councils, or networks that govern Education within Canada. These organizations would employ consultants, Elders, Traditional Knowledge Keepers that are education-focused and excellent contacts to connect with.

#### First Nations University or College

Many First Nation's, Metis, and Inuit post-secondary institutions employ STEM coordinators, science outreach, and Land-Based education staff that can provide connections to a variety of aspects on your project.

#### Post Secondary Student Services Centers

Many Universities have an Indigenous Student Services Center. Elders and TiXK are usually an integral part of the education process and might be found here. Elders and TiXK have dedicated their lives to teaching others about the land, traditions, and cultural connections.

#### Federations/Confederacy/Unions of Provincial Indigenous Groups

Each province in Canada has a collective of all First Nations that advocate for changes, influence, and carry the voice of the provincial Chiefs in regards to education and STEM. Elders and TKX are employed and can provide access to diverse contacts that can assist with your project.

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### **CLS Resources Document**



### Thank you Elders Advisory Council

Elders Advisory Council Norman Fleury, Tim Eyashappie, Kathy Wapehpah, Cecile Smith





# Thank you

Thank you to our government, academic and corporate funding partners for their investment in Canadian science & discovery.





Thank you and Questions

Dallas Pelly

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Website: lightsource.ca
o Find us under public

Google CLS Virtual Classroom

- Facebook.com/EducationCL S
- CLS YouTube

