



# Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre



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## Learning Pathways

Education at Sandy-Saulteaux is centered in Indigenous community, language, culture, and land –and fosters the flourishing of each of these. With an eye to visions of decolonization, our Keepers of Learning help hold courageous and safe space, amid on-going colonial harm, for each student to follow their own unique learning pathway, both to ordination or commissioning, and to their own personal reconciliation and healing.

Your support means Indigenous students, seeking to nurture their gifts for leadership in church and community, have the support of two Keepers of Learning. Rev. Bruce Neal Kakakaway has joined our team as the Keeper of Learning Pathways. He sat down for a conversation with Marcus Rempel.

On his goals: Helping the ministers who are in school here, when they graduate, to be really good ministers. Not only in the way the western world sees it, but also being able to guide and help them with Native spirituality.

On carrying forward the vision of Dr. Jessie Saulteaux and Francis Sandy: We do need to train our own ministers in our own communities. At first it's hard on some Native communities when a minister comes along. They expect Sunday services and all the Christian protocols and they don't want it. There's also some people who are Christian, who don't have much in traditional ways. It's kind of a balancing act when you go in there as a minister. Thank goodness Sandy-Saulteaux teaches that balance. You want to go traditional? Let's do it. I've got experience in that. You want to go Christian? Let's do it. You want to mix them? I'm not afraid.

On journeying with communities: When I go to some communities, people want to know: what will I expect from this person? A Native minister? What does that mean? After, when they get to know me, and others with our training, I think that's a beautiful thing, what they see. I remember when ministers used to come to our reserve. They didn't have no jokes. Then we come in. When someone jokes, we laugh with them. And we cry with them too.

*Thank you for being part of the circle that marks a student's learning pathway with care, discovery, celebration and support! Together we are journeying to reconciliation and healing, for individuals and communities.*

*Welcome to our new Keeper of Learning Pathways, Rev. Bruce Neal Kakakaway!*





## Along the Learning Pathway

*The Learning Circle in June explored the Gospels and Mino-pimatisiwin (The Good Life).*



## Celebrating the Next Generation

Your support accompanies Indigenous leaders on their pathways to helping and healing roles in church and community – and shows the way for the next generation.

Rev. Deb Anderson-Pratt (SSSC grad 2017) baptized her grandson AJ in February. About the learning pathway that brought her to SSSC, Deb said "Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre gave me the ability to carry my traditional and Christian teachings as one. I am so grateful that Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre had a huge role in my training as a minister. It taught me to hold up and share our way of life and our traditional spiritual life."

We celebrate when little ones like AJ can begin their path in life surrounded by the traditions of their culture!

*Boozhool! Christy Anderson indizhinikaaz, nin Pinaymootang indoojii, nin Ma'iingan indoodem.*

*Greetings/Hello! My name is Christy Anderson, I am from Pinaymootang First Nation (Treaty 2), and I belong to the wolf clan.*

## Keeping the Circle

Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre is pleased to present our next Keeper of the Circle. Christy Anderson is a proud Anishinaabekwe (Ojibwa Woman) on her ancestral paternal side and her maternal lineage is Mennonite (settler).

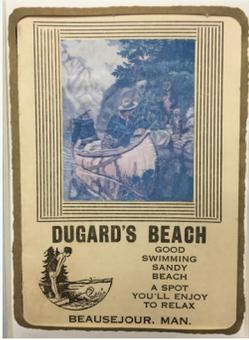
Starting in September, Christy will be sharing her time between Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre and her doctoral studies in Indigenous Studies at the University of Saskatchewan. In the spirit of the Canadian Mennonite University and Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre bundle exchange, Christy will be teaching a course at CMU and working with their Indigenous Initiatives Advisory Committee.

We will be saying farewell to Adrian Jacobs, our Keeper of the Circle for ten years, as he moves on to the position of Senior Leader for Indigenous Justice and Reconciliation with the Christian Reformed Church.





## Water is Life by Marus Rempel



In the staff bathroom of SSSC is a historic ad for “DUGARD’S BEACH”. A romantic painting depicts two adventurers in a canoe, paddling past an upright Grizzly Bear and cub. It doesn’t look anything like the landscape here, but at 29 Dugard Road, this ad is for our address. Before there were paved highways running from Winnipeg to Grand Beach and the Whiteshell, there were a few decades when our riverbend at Sandy-Saulteaux boasted a commercial beach that attracted crowds of Winnipeggers looking to beat the summer heat. My mom is pretty sure that Dugard’s Beach is where she learned to swim.

Today the mound of sand is grassed over, and you have to find a path through the willows to get to the water’s edge, but the refreshment of the water is still

there. These recently reunited kids couldn’t resist wading in to splash around and play with their mom and dad. “We haven’t gone swimming for a long time,” they told me. “With our big family, it’s really expensive.”



In traditional life, access to water was just part of daily life along the lakes, rivers and shores of Turtle Island for many Indigenous peoples. Today, water is something you need money to access. You need a car plus a cottage, or at least a park pass. Or, lacking that, you need bus fare and pool passes for you and all your children.

Chi Miigwetch to all our supporters who make it possible for families to have a place to connect with the land, the water and each other, on their healing pathways!

*Marcus Rempel is Team Leader of the Return of the Buffalo Indigenous Family Wellbeing Initiative.*



With your support, parents working to be reunited with their kids get to spend time together, on the land and in the water, at our Return of the Buffalo retreats.

# Graduation & Honoured Elders Celebration & Powwow

An important step on any journey is to celebrate and give thanks. On June 4, grateful to be able to gather with our circle in person after two years, we celebrated our 2020 graduates: Bruce Kakakaway, Murray Pruden, Sam Ross, John Snow and Elenor Thompson. We celebrated the ways each of these five, now ministers, are serving their communities. We celebrated the examples our elders Mary Courtenay and Jacob Keno set for us. We celebrated the beauty of our cultures with a powwow.

Thank you for your support that helps make a celebration like this possible!





# Learning Circles Lift Up Indigenous Cultures

A highlight of our Ministry Training Learning Circles in April was making traditional hand drums with Knowledge Keeper Rey Anderson.



*Student Robert Patton assembles the materials for a drum.*



*Elder Elenor Thompson measures out the sinew for lacing a drum.*



*Rey Anderson shows student Brian Harper how to lace a drum.*



*Student Joyce Johnston admires an almost completed drum.*

## New Keepers of the Vision

Your Centre is guided by a board of caring, experienced and dedicated individuals, including Kelly Selkirk, Eileen Antone, Joyce Johnston and Ken Thomas. This year we welcomed the following new members:



*Elenor Thompson is a SSSC graduate, elder and ordained minister in her home community of Oxford House.*



*Deanna Zantingh is a former Keeper of the Learning Circle and now PhD student at the University of Toronto.*



*Mary Courtenay is a former Keeper of the Learning Circle and now Honoured Elder.*



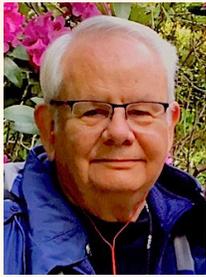
*Grant Queskekapow of Norway House is a member of the UCC National Indigenous Elders Council.*

## Are you a member?

Our Annual General Meeting is on September 24 at 2:00 pm Central. If you have donated money to SSSC, you are a member of the corporation and have a vote!

Register to attend in person or by Zoom by emailing [connect@sandysaulteaux.ca](mailto:connect@sandysaulteaux.ca)

# Donor Connections: Lee Claus



The Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre has been on my heart since the amalgamation of the Francis Sandy Theological Centre (FSTC) and the Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Resource Centre in 2011. Since then, I've participated as a Keeper of the Vision (Director), then Co-chair, and now as a member of the Finance Committee. A little further back in my life, after Ordination, I was a 'Vision Keeper' (Student Supervisor), and before then, a student of the Francis Sandy Theological Centre. I have deep roots in this organization.

It all began in 1981 when I first felt a call into Ministry. I successfully fought off that call. But Creator/God was persistent. Following two more calls, I finally received the 'Call to Ministry' on June 6, 1996, at the age of 55. I was introduced to the FSTC by a student minister. I attended

a couple of class sessions and found that the school suited my learning style.

That was the beginning of my education as to who I was as an Indigenous person. Years earlier, as I lived off-reserve, I was ashamed to acknowledge or even mention my heritage as a Onkwehon:we. Creator/God's call to me, was to find out who I was, and to cry out about the injustices perpetrated by our church and society. Though we cannot change the wrongs of the past; we can change the future for generations to come. Right Relations is a good path for us to follow to eventually make a difference, even if it takes seven generations. This is Salvation living...

*Will you join Lee so the next generation of Indigenous leaders can answer the call to learn who they are and lead us along the path to Right Relations? Give today by mailing in the form on the last page of this newsletter or visit [sandysaulteaux.ca/donate](http://sandysaulteaux.ca/donate) to make an easy online gift.*

## Thank you to everyone who's made a gift to Sandy-Saulteaux since our last newsletter!

Your generosity nurtures Indigenous leadership, helps families find wholeness and move us all along a path to reconciliation.

Atlantic-Garden City United Church	Judy & Harry Delorme	Carmen Lansdowne	Murray Pruden	Susan Sorensen
Laura Balas	Dohoku Christian Centre, Dohoku Sub-District	John & Heather Lea	Doris Quinn	Lynne Strome
Brenda L. Batzel	Caryn Douglas & Peter Kidd	Rosalie Loeppky	Irene Rainey & Tim Sale	Bri-anne Swan
Dan & Angelina Beveridge	Alf Dumont	Sandy MacGean	Valerie Regehr	Pamela Thomas
Ms. Patricia Beyer	Rudolph & E. Ruth Friesen	MacGregor United Church	Ruby Reske-Naurocki	John & Elenor Thompson
Janice Boneham	Tina Gilbert	Twila MacNair	Rev. Vernon Grieves Memorial United Church	United Church Women of Port Hope
Carolynn Branton	David Gilchrist	Shelly & Richard Manley-Tannis	Evelyn Russell	Aileen Urquhart
Christine Bridgett & Donna Fossay	Robert Gillingham	Reg McQuaid	St. Andrew's College	Jan Van Aertselaer
Charleswood United Church	Adrian Jacobs	Lynette Miller	St. Williams U.C.W.	Wawanesa United Church
Janet Clarke	Bruce Neal Kakakaway	Richard Miller	Heather Sandilands	Connie Weenusk
Lee & Julia Claus	Lorraine Kakegamic	Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Molinski	Beatrix Schirner	Westworth United Church
Eli Colon & James Colon	Mary Kalberg	Rev. Lawrence Moore	Pat Seale	Rev. Mary J White
Adel Compton	Killarney U.C.W.	Jessie Morrison	Selkirk United Church	Steve Willey & Carol Hancock
Mary Courtenay	Joan King	Neepawa U.C.W.	Joyce A. Seng	Don Winstone
Brenda Curtis	Janet & Tim Kroeker	Robert Patton	Betty-Lou Skogen	Erica Young
	Jane Lancaster	Sandy Popham	Rob & Deb Smith	and 7 anonymous givers
			Vincent Solomon	

Along with these individuals and communities of faith, Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre is supported by our major funder, The United Church of Canada, through Mission and Service.

*Thank you to Ray Jones for sharing this prayer in the Eastern Gitksan dialect.*

### Gwin Ee'esxw (The Lord's Prayer)

'Wii Nigwoodi'm, luu t'aat ts'im lax hagi,  
Halbax hootxum hli wan.  
Dim ii t'ip aat'ixshl hli Kingdom ahl lax hanii jok  
Andahl wilt ahl ts'im laxhagi,  
Mi ii gi'namhl anaax loo'm 'mahla k'i'y sa,  
Mii ii saa lim lim gihl hla hadi t'akxu'm.  
Handahl win as dip 'nidiit an hlibalt wiltxu'm.  
Ha'w mi ji dix dee'ntxwi'm ahl ts'im ans balt gootxw.  
Mi dim gay xsi haldim daxdogo'm ahl sbagayt hat'akxw.  
A wil 'niinhl wilt ahl kingdom ganhl daxgyat ganhl anhlo'omsxw.  
li k'ap nee dim dii saa baxhl  
k'ay gyadim gan di dilst.  
'Nit dim gan wilt.

### Nehl algyax'n Gitsanmx'na? Kih-ininanamowin nah?

We want to include stories in our newsletter in our languages! Help us celebrate Indigenous languages. Let us know if you speak a language you'd like to see shared in the pages of this newsletter.



Return Undeliverable  
Canadian Address to:

**Sandy - Saulteaux Spiritual  
Centre**

Box 210  
Beausejour, MB  
R0E 0C0

**Yes, I support the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre!**

With a gift of:  \$35     \$75     \$150     \$300     Other \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make my gift monthly! Please contact me to set this up.

My gift is in honour of \_\_\_\_\_  
*(we will acknowledge this gift with the honouree or family if you provide contact information.)*

This is an unrestricted gift to the Centre or I wish to designate this gift to:

- Return of the Buffalo - fostering family well being
- Legacy Fund - an endowment to provide long-term support
- General Student Bursary - scholarships for students
- Dorothy McKay Memorial Fund - scholarships for Manitoba students

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque made out to Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre.  
I will donate by:  Visa     Mastercard

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

- I have included a gift to Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in my will.
- I am considering including Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in my will. Please contact me.
- I offer prayers for the ministry.



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You can now sign up to get our newsletter and other announcements from SSSC delivered to you by email.

Sign up at [sandysaulteaux.ca](http://sandysaulteaux.ca).

To donate online visit [www.sandysaulteaux.ca/donate](http://www.sandysaulteaux.ca/donate)

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**Thank you for your generosity**