

Indigenous Foundations Program



Admission Requirements

Have you considered going to university but don't have the grades or meet the traditional admission requirements?

The Indigenous Foundations Program welcomes applications from students with Indigenous ancestry who would like additional supports for their transition to university.

Our students are:

- Recent high school graduates
- Recent college graduates and transfer students
- Mature Students
- Those missing some of the traditional admission requirements



Program Highlights

The Indigenous Foundations Program:

- Is a full-time university transition program
- Uses a **sweetgrass holistic approach to support**
- Offers regular support through check-ins with faculty, Indigenous knowledge holders, and a Student Success Coordinator
- Students will earn a full course load of first-year university credits

Sweetgrass Holistic Approach to Indigenous Student Support



Orientation

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Orientation is essential to starting your year off in a good way.

As part of orientation you will:

- Become familiar with the university support network, both on-campus and online
- Take a virtual tour of the campus
- Meet staff and faculty of Nipissing University
- Register for courses and explore Nipissing's online systems (i.e. Blackboard, Teams)
- Participate in team-building workshops, designed to help introduce you to your fellow IFP students and build meaningful relationships



Sample Fall Schedule

Fall 2020	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00-10:30	ACAD 1501 FAB99 R. Don		ACAD 1501 FAB99 R. Don	INDG 1507 FAB99 J.Pitt Asynchronous Course Work	
10:30-11:00		IFP Skill Development Workshops			
11:00-11:30		Blackboard Collaborate			
11:30-12:00					
12:00-12:30					
12:30-1:00	GENG 1006 FA899 E. Dokis	INDG 1506 FAB99 J.Pitt Asynchronous Course Work	Weekly Student Check-ins Microsoft Teams		
1:00-1:30					
1:30-2:00		IFP Group Circles			
2:00-2:30		Blackboard Collaborate			
2:30-3:00					
3:00-3:30		INDG 1506 FAB99 J.Pitt Synchronous Live Teaching		INDG 1507 FAB99 J.Pitt Synchronous Live Teaching	
3:30-4:00					
4:00-4:30					

ACAD 1501: Preparation for Academic Writing

GENG 1006: Gender Studies - Gender, Power, and Justice

INDG 1506: Indigenous Studies - On the Land/From the Land

INDG 1507: Indigenous Studies - Critical Learning Skills





ACAD 1501: Academic Writing

Section FA099 - Mondays and Wednesdays from 10-11:20 a.m. in R306

Faculty of Arts and Science – Fall 2019

Course Description:

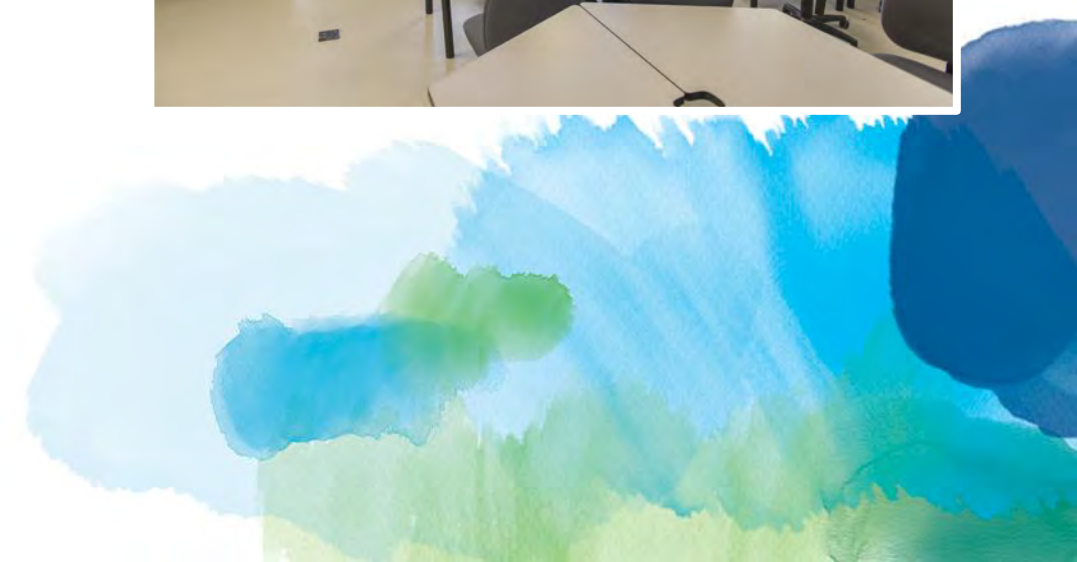
[ACAD 1501](#) provides an overview of basic sentence, paragraph, and essay development in preparation for academic and public writing at the introductory level. Reading assignments direct students from basic comprehension to basic critical discernment and writing assignments will direct students from summary and report to introductory analysis and argument.

Course Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date	Value
Weekly Journal	Weekly	20%
Grammar Test	October 2	10%
Personal Essay	October 21	10%
Cultural Journalism Essay	November 6	10%
Memoir and Memory Essay	November 25	10%
Participation and Preparedness	Ongoing	10%
Writing Portfolio	TBA	30%

Sample Course Syllabus

Preparation for Academic Writing ACAD 1501



Types of Support

Academic Supports

- Skills Development Workshops
- Academic Support Groups
- Peer Mentors
- Academic Advising Workshops
- Library Tours

Personal Supports

- One-on-one meetings with Student Success Coordinator
- Peer Mentors
- Dibaadan Counsellor and Student Development Services

Cultural Supports

- Sharing circles
- Indigenous knowledge holder workshops
- Art series workshops
- Round dance socials
- Visiting Elder program

Student Testimonials



"I have always dreamt of attending university but never thought I was smart enough! The Indigenous Foundation Program helped me transition into university with no problem. Now, I'm off to my second year of University and aiming for a double major. Despite COVID and being online, some of our assignments involved us being outdoors. How neat is that? The Office of Indigenous Initiatives was always a call away if I needed any questions answered and even helped me with setting up more time on tests when needed. The smaller class size allowed my classmates and I to form a close knit family bond. Not to mention, the professors are the most understanding and patient teachers I have ever had. Even if English isn't your first language, or you have trouble in school, I'm positive you'll still be successful in this course because of the amazing help you can receive. Biggest advice for my fellow Indigenous people wanting to make change in their communities? Enroll in the Indigenous Foundations Program! You won't regret it."

Angel, 1st year University student

Hometown: Nipissing First Nation, ON

"I did not meet the admission requirements to apply directly to a degree. The Indigenous Foundations Program allowed me to take my first step into academia and meet some really great people along the way. Trust me you will not regret applying."

Keithen, Masters of Environmental Studies,
Hometown: Kashechewan, ON



What Can You Expect to Gain



The Indigenous Foundations Program will set you up for success as you progress into your degree program of choice in many different ways:

- strengthening of core academic skills such as writing and reading
- connections made with students and faculty that will continue to grow over your academic career
- a strong knowledge of the university resources available to you
- confidence to pursue your education goals

Need more information?

Please feel free to email us. We are happy to answer all of your questions about the program and how to apply.

Carly Renaud

**Indigenous Foundations Program,
Student Success & Development
Coordinator**

Email: indigenousprograms@nipissingu.ca



Summer Indigenous Institute



Program Overview

- **Transition program offered to** Indigenous students
 - **entering their first year of studies at one of the** northern universities **this fall**
- **Transferrable credits in courses exploring Indigenous ways of learning**
- **Schedule of academic/personal/cultural supports**
- **Upper year Indigenous students at Nipissing University will serve as peer mentors**



Remote Learning Environment

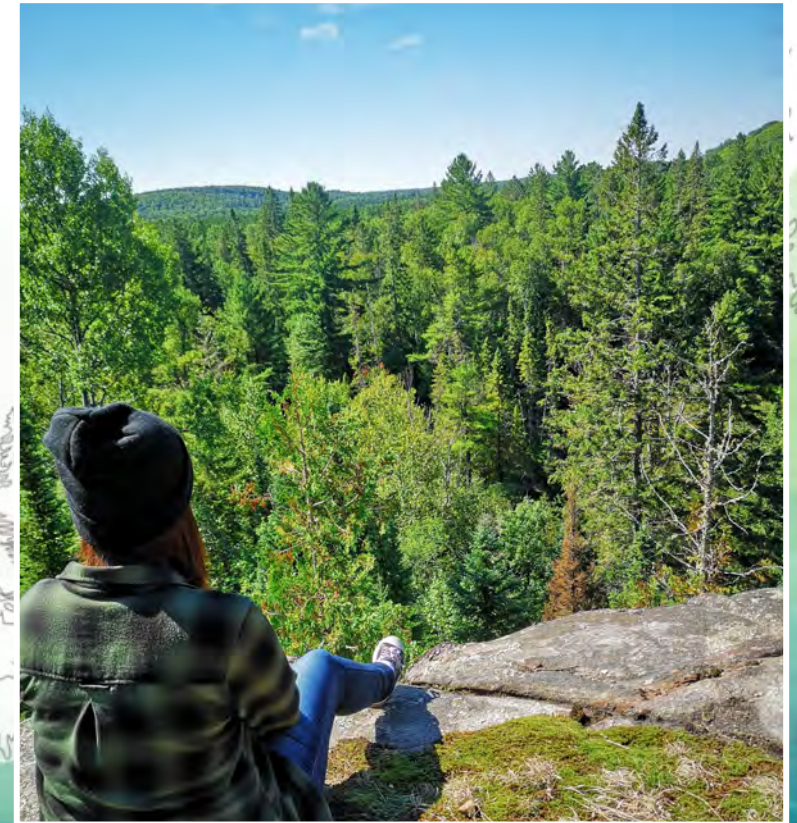
Participating students will take part in

- **Live Online Lectures & Class Discussions**
- **Connect with faculty, peers and support staff using easy to use online learning platforms (voice, video and text through Blackboard, Zoom, MS Teams)**
- **Experiential & Cultural Learning Opportunities**



Coursework

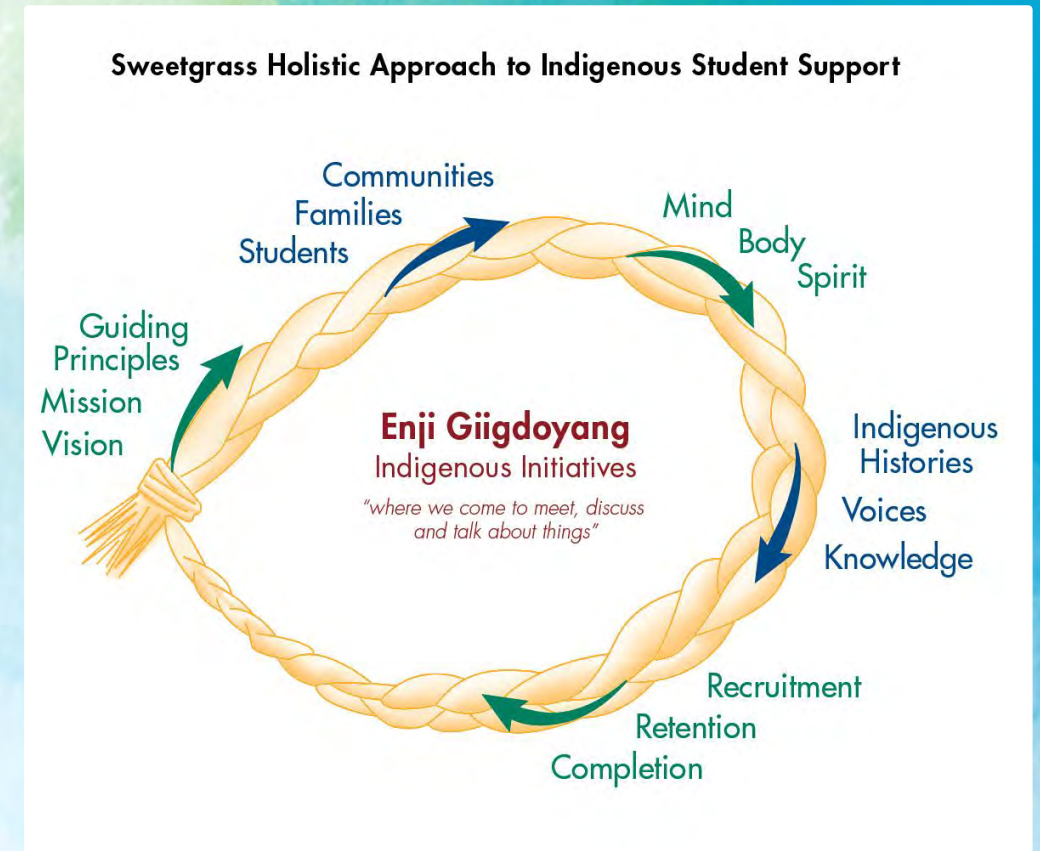
- **INDG 1506** *“On the Land / From the Land: Indigenous Worldviews”*.
 - **Students explore forms of Indigenous knowledge and expression through dynamic and interactive land and community-based activities.**
 - **3 Credits**



Holistic Support Activities

Focused on transition, the SII program
Uses a **sweetgrass holistic approach to support**

- Offers academic support through a series of academic workshops and writing labs
- Peer tutoring through 1-on-1 and group sessions
- Check-ins with faculty, Indigenous knowledge holders, and a Student Success Coordinator
- Connect with Indigenous student mentors



Indigenous Student Mentorship

- **Upper year Indigenous student mentors connect with students to share their experiences and best practices for success**
- **Connect with students both one on one and in small groups**
- **Lead academic tutoring activities and skill development workshops**
- **Lead social and cultural activities**



Sample Daily Schedule (2020)

Time	Daily
Mornings	Classes & Coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lectures & discussion• Online blackboard discussion• Connecting with Faculty• Land- based activities
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual & Group Tutoring Support• Academic Workshops• Social & Cultural Activities• Weekly Sharing Circles

Admission Requirements

The program welcomes applications from the following students who are entering or considering university in the future:

- **Students who have accepted offers from Nipissing University, Algoma University, Lakehead University or Laurentian University**
- **College and mature students considering university in the future**
- **One page application, 2 references, 1 page statement of intent (why you want to take the program)**



The graphic features a yellow header with the text 'Summer Indigenous Institute' in blue. Below this is a dark blue banner with white cursive text: 'A transition program for Indigenous students entering university'. The main body is green and contains the text 'HOSTED BY NIPISSING UNIVERSITY' and 'IN PARTNERSHIP WITH' followed by logos for Algoma University, Lakehead University, and Laurentian University. On the right side, there is a photograph of a group of diverse students walking in a hallway.

 **Summer Indigenous Institute**

*A transition program for
Indigenous students entering university*

HOSTED BY
NIPISSING
UNIVERSITY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

 **Algoma**
UNIVERSITY

 **Lakehead**
UNIVERSITY

 **Laurentian University**
Université Laurentienne

Need more information?

Please feel free to email us. We are happy to answer all of your questions about the program and how to apply.

Email: indigenousprograms@nipissingu.ca

Web: www.nipissingu.ca/sii



Biidaaban Community Service-Learning



Biidaaban Community Service-Learning



Biidaaban Community Service-Learning (BCSL)

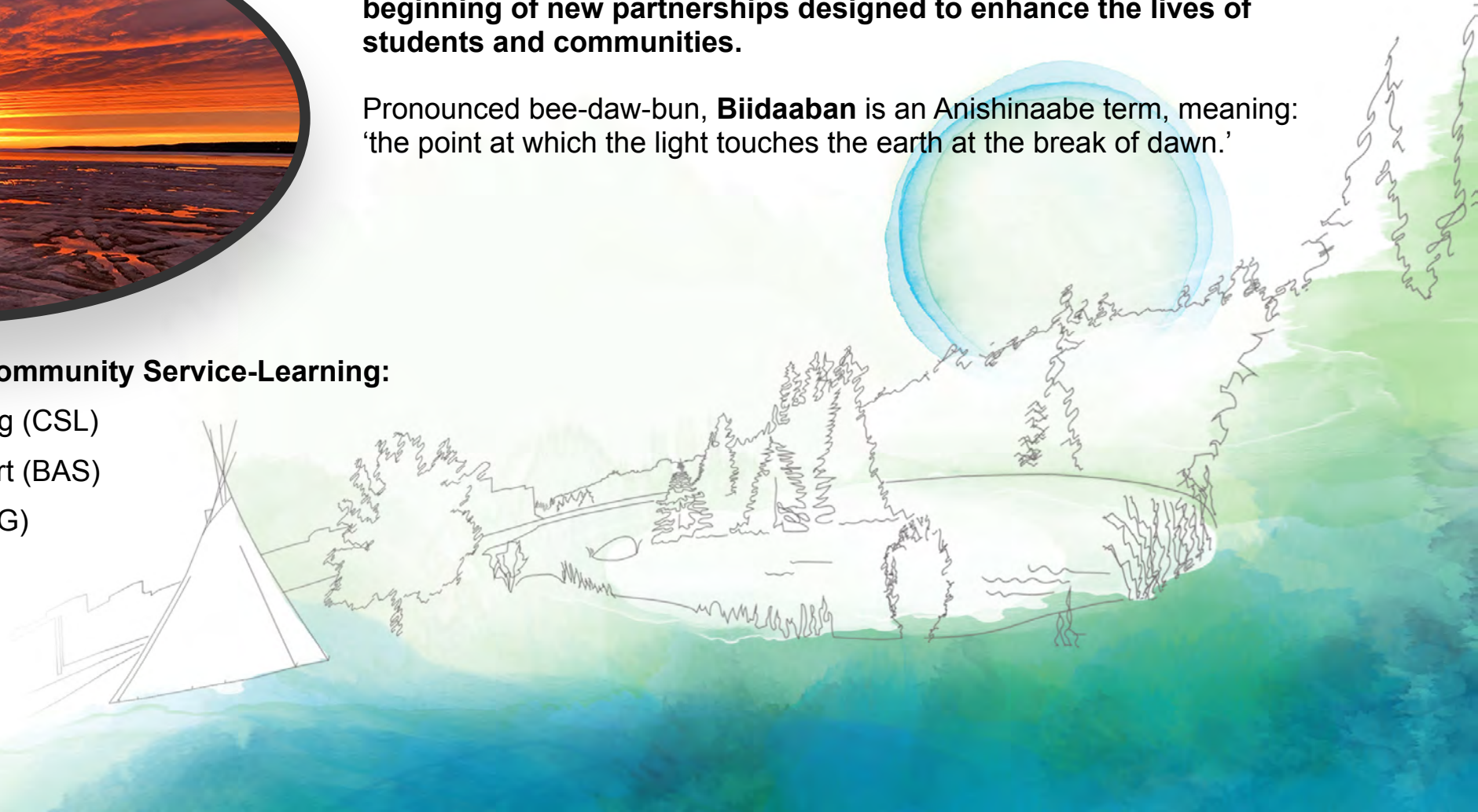


Biidaaban Community Service-Learning (BCSL) symbolizes the beginning of new partnerships designed to enhance the lives of students and communities.

Pronounced bee-daw-bun, **Biidaaban** is an Anishinaabe term, meaning: 'the point at which the light touches the earth at the break of dawn.'

Programs under Biidaaban Community Service-Learning:

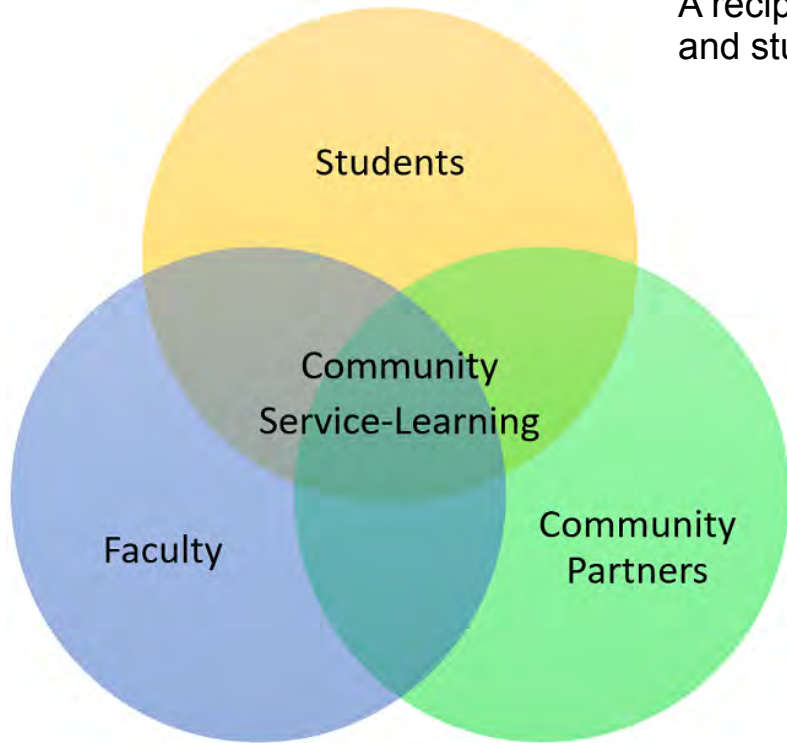
- Community Service Learning (CSL)
- Biidaaban Academic Support (BAS)
- Biidaaban Youth Group (BYG)



Community Service-Learning (CSL)

Community Service-Learning (CSL) is a form of experiential learning that addresses community needs. Faculty incorporate CSL opportunities in their courses for students to support community organizations in many ways. This interactive, reciprocal and community-engaged approach to education is followed by meaningful reflection to help consolidate notions learned in class and in community.

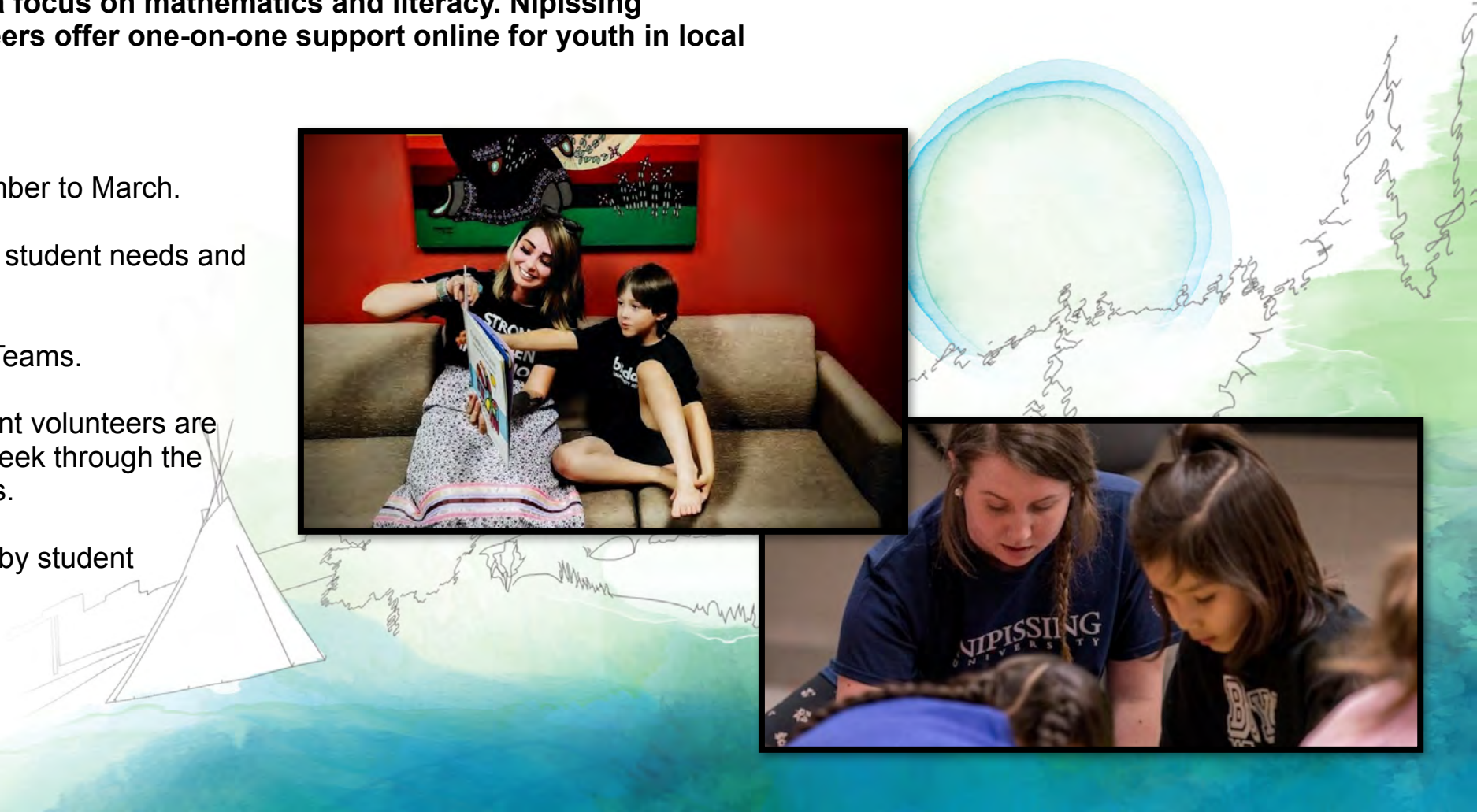
A reciprocal relationship between faculty, community partners and students is central to CSL.



Biidaaban Academic Support (BAS)

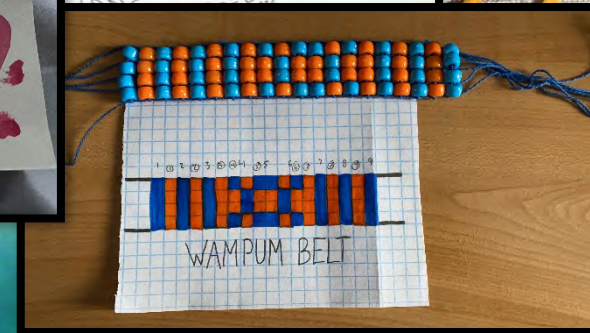
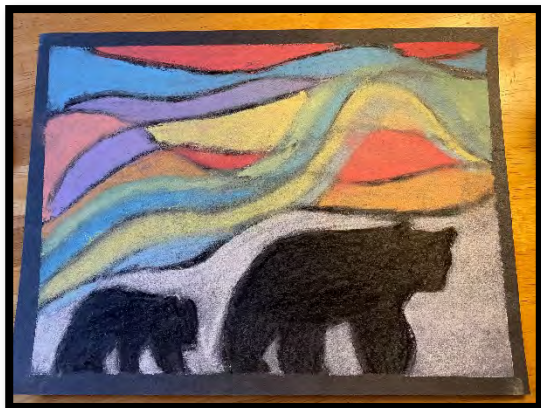
Biidaaban Academic Support (BAS) is a tutoring program for Indigenous youth in grades 6, 7 and 8, with a focus on mathematics and literacy. Nipissing University student volunteers offer one-on-one support online for youth in local schools.

- Program runs from November to March.
- Schedules are adapted to student needs and tutor availability.
- Delivered online through Teams.
- Nipissing University student volunteers are provided training over a week through the Biidaaban Learning Series.
- Tutor Report's completed by student volunteers.



Biidaaban Youth Group (BYG)

Biidaaban Youth Group (BYG) is an online, after school program for Indigenous youth in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6. Nipissing University student employees host 1 hour of cultural, social and artistic activities between November and March.

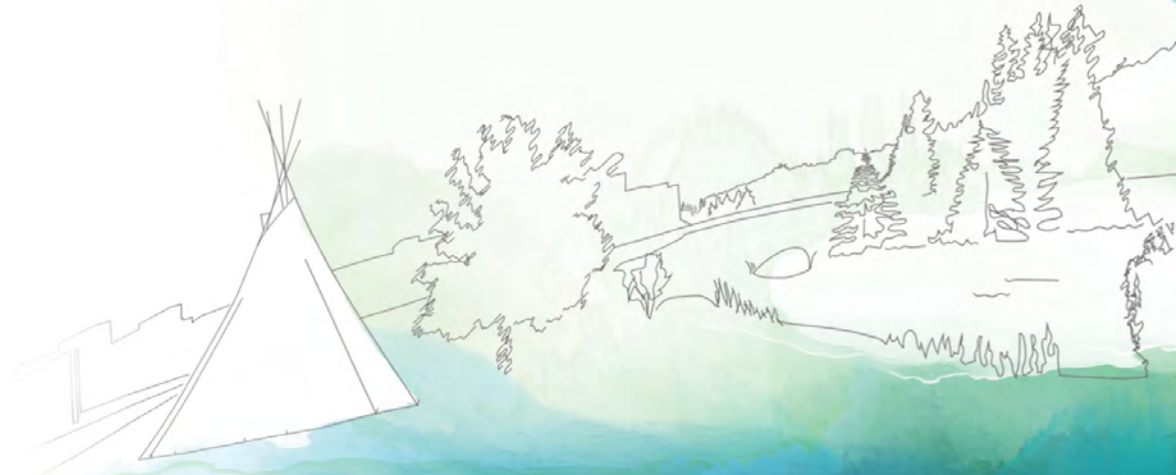


Niminowaazmin

Niminowaazmin is an Anishinaabe word that means "we are celebrating".



Niminowaazmin is the Office of Indigenous Initiatives' year-end celebration for Biidaaban Youth Group and Biidaaban Academic Support, honouring the successes of participating youth, their families, as well as our partners, tutors, student volunteers and employees.



How to Access Programs

- For Biidaaban Academic Support
 - Teachers and parents can work together to identify student needs
 - Contact Makayla Nowee for information on how to register
- For Biidaaban Youth Group
 - Visit our site for a registration form; [Biidaaban Youth Group](#)
 - Or Contact Carrie Demers for a registration form



For any questions, please contact;

Makayla Nowee, Community Service-Learning Officer, makaylan@nipissingu.ca

Carrie Demers, Student Placement Coordinator, carriede@nipissingu.ca



Wiidooktaadwin Indigenous Mentorship



Meeting in General

2021-06-15 19:08 LITC

Hosted by
Alison Jackson

Organized by
Alison Jackson

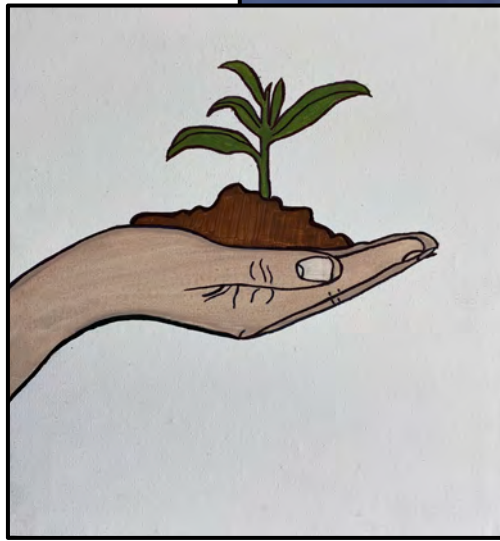
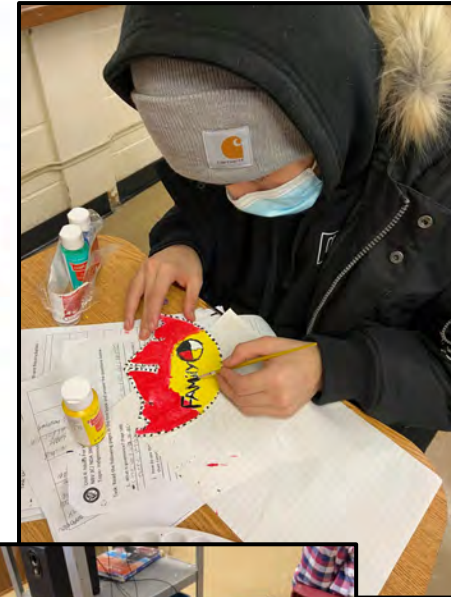
Event
General

Microsoft Teams

Wiidooktaadwin mentorship – ‘helping one another’

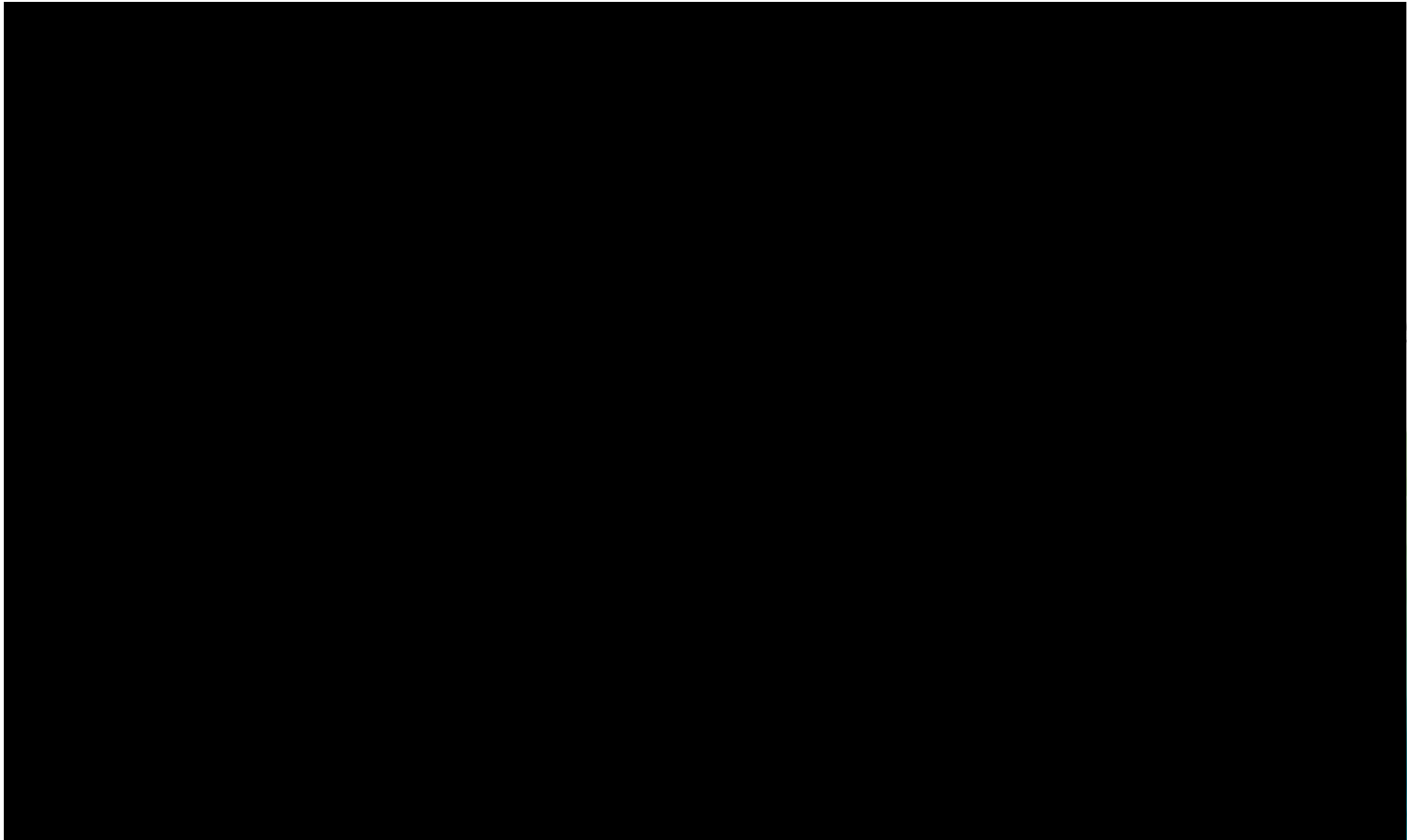


Wiidooktaadwin – Who can join?



Wiidooktaadwin - Opportunities





Handwritten notes in the right margin, including a vertical list of items and a small diagram or sketch.



Miigwech!

For more information please contact:

Indigenous Mentorship Coordinator Alison Jackson alisonj@nipissingu.ca

Student Placement Coordinator Carrie Demers carried@nipissingu.ca

