



WAHKOHTOWIN LAW AND GOVERNANCE LODGE

Law 589: Wahkohtowin Intensive: Miyo-wichêtowin Principles and Practices

Contributed by Dr. Hadley Friedland

Summer 2026

This summer, once again, students from the Faculty of Law and other faculties at the University of Alberta came up to Susa Creek to learn from community instructors in the field school portion of Law 589: Wahkohtowin Intensive: Miyo-wichêtowin Principles and Practices, a for-credit law school course. This course was a vision of my late mother-in-law, Adelaide McDonald, and her family (siblings and children) continue to co-teach it. This is the 5th year the course has run. I am so grateful to my in-laws, Susa Creek and Aseniwuche Winewak Nation, the Faculty of Law, the Wahkohtowin Law and Governance Lodge team, and the Alberta Law Foundation, for making Adelaide's dream a continuing reality.

The law students learn how to home tan a moose hide, but are also learning so much more. Instead of just learning from books and lectures in a classroom, they are learning by listening, observing, and hands on practice, outside down at the creek. Instead of just learning from professors, they are learning from incredibly skilled and knowledgeable Elders and community members. The law students also learn from our children and youth – both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students are always amazed at how much knowledge Susa Creek children and youth have about plants, animals and the land around them. Some of the other things law students tell us they learn from working on the hides down at the creek:

Photos by: Jacquie Paige



- That making hides is incredibly hard and skilled work, and the expertise in the community is humbling and inspiring.
 - The importance of cooperation – being part of a team working on a common goal, rather than competing to get the best mark.
 - How easy it is to make mistakes when learning, and how important it is to repair mistakes as much as possible. They often comment on the kindness and patience shown to them when they make inevitable mistakes in the hide-making process.
 - How good warmth, welcome and generosity feel – Indigenous and non-Indigenous law students coming from the city are always overwhelmed with how welcomed and comfortable they feel the moment they step into the community.
 - The sound of the Cree language in use – some Cree law students tell us this is the first time in their lives they have heard people speak Cree conversationally, rather than just in a classroom or a ceremony. Even if they don't understand it all, the words wash over them and move them deeply.
- Finally, the law students learn wahkohtowin, on many levels, as they realize how everyone is literally related to one another, from community instructors to visitors.

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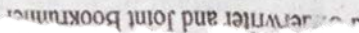
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The relationships, knowledge and know-how in our communities are a richness that is easy to take for granted in our daily lives. Welcoming in university students helps us see these gifts through fresh eyes. For the law students, the immense privilege of being welcomed into the community and learning from community instructors is so much more than just a course – it is healing and transformative. It is for me too.



Photos by: Jacquie Paige





To book or learn more, reach out to Stephanie at stephanie@aseniwuche.com.

CARIBOU PATROL

The Caribou

Contributed by Stephanie Leonard

While we still get the occasional sighting, most of our caribou are currently keeping their distance from Highway 40. If you spend time in the backcountry this summer, though, you may well cross paths with them. Our Little Smoky herd is the exception. Since they don't migrate, they remain visible between Grande Cache and Fox Creek throughout the season. The A La Pêche herd does have a habit of surprising us, popping back up on Highway 40 when we least expect it, so please keep watching for them out there.

Spotted some? Let us know.

Every report helps us get our crew to where they're needed most. If you see caribou while you're out, please reach out — your eyes on the ground make a real difference for these animals.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Most caribou hoodie orders have been sent out, however a few colours and sizes were backordered. If you haven't received your order, we are hoping it will be in shortly so we can send it out to you.

Missed the pre-order? No worries — we've restocked our online store so you can still grab one, though in limited colours and styles.

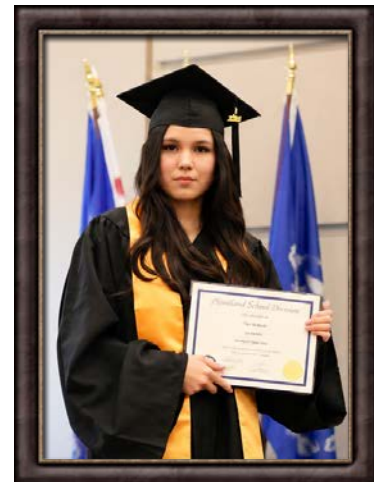
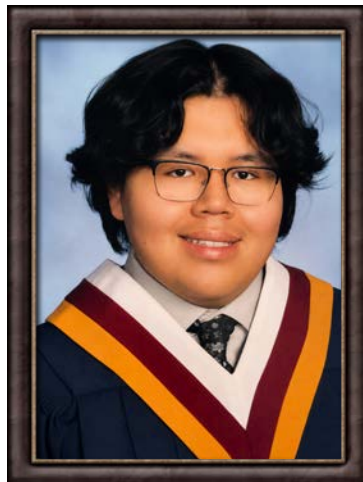
2026 GRADUATES

This year, we proudly celebrate:

- 🎓 Savannah Kakekayash
- 🎓 Mikaden Moberly
- 🎓 Joshua McKenzie
- 🎓 Olivia Wanyandie

Graduation marks the end of one chapter and the exciting beginning of another. Your hard work, determination, and perseverance have brought you to this important milestone, and we couldn't be prouder of all that you have accomplished.

Congratulations once again, Class of 2026! We are excited to see all that the future holds for you.



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MENTAL HEALTH



STAT
Office Closed
Civic Holiday



**WOMEN'S WELLNESS
SUPPORT CIRCLE**
1:00 PM–2:30 PM



MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION
DROP IN DAY
 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
NA GROUP 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
CLERC 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM



WOMEN'S RETREAT
TLU



FRIDAY FUNDRAISER
11:30 AM–1:00 PM
RECOVERY GROUP
3:00 PM–4:00 PM



FASD/PCAP PROGRAM
2:30 PM



**AUGUST 1, 2, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16,
20, 22, 23, 24, 27, 29, 30, 31**



FOOD BANK
1:00 PM–3:00 PM



RECOVERY GROUP
3:00 PM–4:00 PM



ELDERS AFTERNOON
1:30 PM



OFFICE CLOSED
STAFF TRAINING



RECOVERY GROUP
3:00 PM–4:00 PM



NA GROUP
2:00 PM–3:00 PM



For more information,
contact the Tawow
Community Centre.



Congratulations to Jaely Moberly on earning her driver's licence!

Congratulations again, Jaely! We wish you many safe travels and all the best as you hit the road. Remember, the road is full of adventures, and every journey is a chance to explore and discover. Keep your eyes on the road, embrace the freedom, and make wonderful memories with each drive. Your community is cheering you on as you embark on this thrilling new chapter.

