

January 14, 2016

To all who have a vested interest in our First Nations post-secondary education. You are invited to attend “Manitoba First Nations Post-Secondary Education Gathering” scheduled for February 17th and 18th 2016. The venue will be located at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The gathering will provide an opportunity to share your knowledge, experience, best practices, concerns and issues. This will also allow for an opportunity to collaborate on developing solutions and strategies in providing a better First Nation post-secondary system for our students.

We are going to have Talking Circle discussions that we can exchange of ideas and strategies on “Closing the Gap” between secondary graduation and entrance to post-secondary. We need to discuss and develop a strategic plan of action.

Our First Nation leadership must be informed so that they can support us as we go forward. We want to present a collective statement at their next “Assembly of Manitoba (AMC) Chiefs Assembly” on March 2016. Further to this, information from this gathering may guide the discussions at the next national gathering at the “Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Education Directors” meeting in Ottawa, on February 23rd and 24th, 2016.

Some Topics Include

- What would your organization do to develop and deliver a post-secondary program of excellence?
- Post-secondary funding, more funding to sponsor more students and raise student allowance rates.
- Response to the TRC 94 Recommendations—Call to Action. What role can First Nations Post-Secondary Education play in the healing and wellness of our people?
- What can the post-secondary institutes do better? How they can better accommodate our students?
- Are you supportive of having our own Indigenous Post-Secondary Institute?

Conference Highlights Include

- Guest Speakers
- Crafters and business displays
- Banquet and Entertainment

There is a registration fee of \$150.00 per participant. The registration fee will help cover the costs of the Gathering. Participants are responsible for their own travel, meals and accommodations costs.

Hotel Accommodations: If delegates plan to stay at the Victoria Inn, please contact the hotel directly at 1-204-786-4801 to book accommodations and quote “Manitoba First Nations Post-Secondary Education Gathering” to get the group block rate of \$119.00 plus taxes/night.

Registration: Please fax completed form to Wayne Mason at (204) 942-2490 by February 15, 2016. For more info contact Wayne Mason directly at (204) 223-5695 and/or via email at a.wayne.mason@gmail.com

We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Wayne Mason