

Northern Lakes College

Education as a Vehicle for Empowerment and Sovereignty

Janine Nanimahoo is a member of the Bigstone Cree Nation and alumni of the Aboriginal Teacher Education Program. Janine chose to study at Northern Lakes College for its proximity to home. “Being able to study close to home gives students that sense of family and security. We need to be able to travel home from school that same day to care for those who depend on us. Many of our people don’t want to leave the reserve, but education is part of moving a person forward. It helps you further yourself, and then you bring that education back to your people.”

After five years in the classroom, Janine pursued a Master in Education specializing in Indigenous Peoples Education from the University of Alberta, graduating in 2016. “Education helps you grow as a person. It instills pride. It instills that ‘Hey, I can do this,’ belief, and NLC supports that attitude. And we can do this! Our people should be running, operating, and doing everything within our Nation. NLC supports us in that effort – or at least it gives people a little push towards a fuller life.”

Janine taught elementary school in Enoch Cree Nation and is enrolled in the University of Alberta Juris Doctor Program. “My heart is in protecting our treaties. For centuries, First Nations people have been mistreated by the Canadian government. First Nations people are becoming educated and are rising to be situated in high power roles such as lawyers, doctors, and scientists. We are starting to make big decisions in this system for the betterment of our people. We have to stay grounded in our roots and remember our Ancestors who came before us. Let’s incorporate our Cree laws, the laws of the land, and our original ways of knowing and being which are embedded within our language.”

Northern Lakes College offers a variety of partnership degrees, including the Community-Based Bachelor of Education with the Werklund School of Education.



**WE'RE
UNIQUE**



Northern Lakes College provides a Supported Distance Learning (SDL) environment, offering a guided learning setting that supports students to succeed.

- Instructor-led, online learning environments that allow students to interact live with other students.
- Classes are recorded so students can watch them anytime that works for them!

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WE COUNT OUR SUCCESS ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.

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