

kehokatowin Project

kehokatowin:
visiting together to be
well

This word was chosen
for the project by
Liz Durocher and TJ Roy.

What is the kehokatowin Project?

The kehokatowin project
explores **place- and
strength-based** aspirations
and experiences of **being
well over a lifetime** for
northern Saskatchewan
Métis living in multiple
locations (Île-à-la-Crosse,
ancestral lands, and
Saskatoon).

A specific interest of the
team and partners is to
better understand how Métis
adults and youth primarily
located in Saskatoon
support those that do not
already have strong and
meaningful connections
established in Saskatoon.

Reciprocally, we would like
to understand how people
primarily located in the north
support those mainly
located in Saskatoon to
preserve connection to
northern family, ancestral
land, language, and culture.



Tea and Bannock Newsletter

Fall 2025

LE TEA EKWA LA GALET ACIMOWIN

At a Glance – What have we been up to?

May 2: kehokatowin gathering at Saskatoon Wildlife Federation with community partners and project co-leads. We spent time by the fire, sharing food, and planning for kehokatowin. For details of what was discussed, please see attached summary.

May 12 – 16: Visiting at Sakitawak/Île-à-la-Crosse - Members of the research team were welcomed at the Elder's Lodge to share food and visit. We also met with Ms. Krissy Bouvier-Lemaigre, the principal at Rossignol Elementary School and chatted with some students and staff from Rossignol High School at Amiskowîsti, the outdoor learning site where students were attending spring wilderness camp.

June 3 – July 8 - Ongoing relationship building and planning/visioning with:

- Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools (June 3)
- Leah Dorian, Métis artist from Prince Albert (June 18)
- Saskatoon Public Schools (June 20)
- Saskatoon Indian and Metis Friendship Centre (June 30)
- TJ Roy, Métis cultural advisor and Project Co-lead (July 8)

July 17 – 20: Back to Batoche – The team attended with their families and spent time engaging together with community members and experiencing Métis culture.

July 25: Visioning with SPSD – Co-created the research plan for SPSD sites

Early August: Visiting with Île-à-la-Crosse fire evacuees in Saskatoon.

August 11 – 12: CUMFI Michif Camp - The team was grateful to be invited to share language and land knowledge at Batoche and spend time with educators and community members.

August 26: School tour with Kelley Cardinal and Ashley Petite - The team took an incredible tour of awâsisak kâ-nîmîhtocik St. Francis School (Cree bilingual). Many highlights and exclamations and stories throughout the tour. Sarah was ready to move into the sewing lab!

Where in SK is Sarah playing fiddle?



Left: Sarah and
Leah Dorian
adventure in PA.

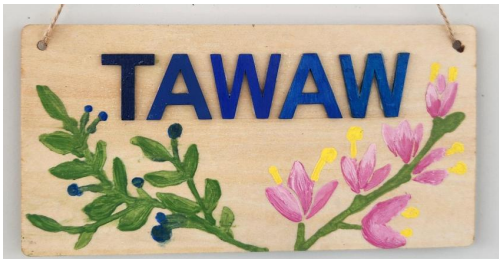
Right: TJ Roy and
Sarah Oosman



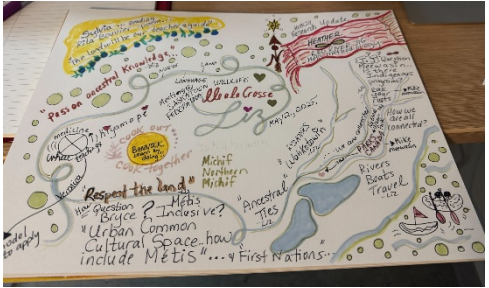
Métis Advisory Council for kehokatownin

The Métis Advisory Council (MAC) will work with researchers to guide decisions and research. Feedback gathered from our May 2 meeting determined that the group should include diversity of gender, age and Métis background (ie. Urban/Rural, Raised with language and culture/Learning language and culture). We are now working to compile a list of Elders, Knowledge Holders and youth for consideration – if you have any suggestions, please reach out to Tamra at tamra.knaus@usask.ca.

Pictured: The storyboard created by Leah Dorion from the May 2nd Gathering. Storyboards are one way we record and share stories, ideas and conversations.



Tawaw (Welcome) sign created by Lynette at Vanessa Gardiner's activity booth, Back to Batoche.



Northern Michif Greetings and Introductions

Here are some greetings and phrases we learned at the CUMFI Michif Camp with GSCS & SPSPD partners. Spellings and translations from Greater Saskatoon Catholic School resources presented at Michif Camp 2025.

Tan'si _____ **nisihkâson.**



Hello, my name is _____.

Tan'si kiya



Hello, how are you?

Nimiyohtin



I'm happy.

Kiya Maka



What about you?

Miyo Kisikan'si



Have a good day.

What's happening next with kehokatownin?

Metis Advisory Council (MAC): We are identifying individuals for possible involvement in the MAC, and plan to start inviting people to meet in winter 2025.

Schools update: We are in planning stages with Saskatoon Public Schools, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools and Ile-a-la Crosse School Division.

Regular partner meetings: Regular planning meetings to collaborate with partners and project co-leads will begin in Fall 2025 – stay tuned for details!

First large kehokatownin Gathering - We are currently planning for spring 2026.

Introducing... Dr. Sarah Oosman's newly named research group!



Bridges Research Collective is a community of people committed to health equity in Indigenous communities. The Collective aims to center community voices, foster interdisciplinary collaborations and mentor new generations of researchers and practitioners in Indigenous health. The Bridges Research Collective includes researchers, students and team members involved with the kehokatownin project. To see what we are up to, please follow us on Instagram and Facebook [@bridgesresearchcollective](#)

