

Together We're Building an Inclusive Community



City Council

Both Report to
Planning & Operations

Cultural Diversity &
Race Relations Office
(*is a permanent full
time position)

Cultural Diversity & Race
Relations Committee
(*acts in an advisory
capacity to City Council)

Cultural Diversity & Race Relations Committee 2005 Appointments

- Mr. Andrew Mason (chair), (Public at Large)
- Mr. Cort Dogniez (Public Board of Education)
- Ms. Mariah Sinclair (Saskatoon Health Region)
- Ms. Patricia Mcneill McCrea (Public at Large)
- Mr. Jim Balfour (Dept. of Corrections & Public Safety)
- Councillor M. Neault (City Council)
- Councillor E. Hnatyshyn (City Council)
- Police Chief Sabo (Saskatoon Police Services)
- Mr. Nesar Rajput (Public at Large)
- Mr. David Simpson (Public at Large)
- Ms. Anna-Leah King (Catholic Board of Education)
- Ms. Paulette Traynor (Public at Large)
- Dr. Shakeel Akhtar (Saskatchewan Intercultural Assoc.)
- Mr. Gatdeet Wakou (Public at Large)
- Ms. Tasha Hubbard (Public - First Nations Representative)
- Ms. Cathy Nilson (Public - Metis Representative)

*This Pamphlet is intended to build Harmony &
Understanding amongst all Saskatoon Citizens.*

Published in Partnership with:
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
(Saskatchewan Region)

Interprovincial Association on Native
Employment (Saskatoon Chapter)

Saskatoon Catholic Schools

Saskatoon Public School Division

For more information contact:
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Race Relations Coordinator @ 975-7826

or

Andrew Mason, Chairperson -
Cultural Diversity &
Race Relations Committee

Sources:
City of Saskatoon
Department of Community Resources &
Employment
Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies
Saskatchewan Urban Native Teachers
Education Program
Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
Saskatoon Tribal Council

BUILDING BRIDGES

with

The
Aboriginal Community



KNOWING YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Aboriginal people do pay income tax

Most Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) people pay the same taxes as everyone else. Status First Nations people working for the City of Saskatoon, a school division, a bank or any company or institution that is not located on a First Nations reserve pay the same taxes as everyone else. In fact, income tax paid by Saskatchewan Urban Native Teachers alone exceeds \$6 million annually. The only exception occurs when a Status person is working on a reserve.

How sales tax applies to Aboriginal people

Status First Nations people who make purchases from any business located in Saskatoon pay all taxes, unless the purchase is delivered on reserve land. Status First Nations people who make purchases at businesses located on reserve are also exempted from paying the GST & PST. Métis, Inuit, or non-status Indians pay all taxes and receive no exemptions.

Property taxes for urban reserves

First Nations who own urban reserves pay a fee for service to the City of Saskatoon which is the exact same amount that they would pay in property taxes, if the land was not reserve land. As an example, the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation paid the City of Saskatoon \$120,631.57 for delivery of services for the year 2005.

When urban land is acquired to become reserve status the First Nation must negotiate a servicing agreement with the municipality and a financial agreement with the school boards prior to receiving reserve status.

Qualified Aboriginal people for hire

There have been many Institutions in our community such as the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT), Gabriel Dumont Institute, First Nations University of Canada, Saskatchewan Urban Native Teachers Education Program (SUNTEP), and others that have been established to provide culturally relevant educational programming designed to increase the qualifications of Aboriginal people.

In fact:

- From **1984-2003**, there were 739 SUNTEP Bachelor of Education graduates

- From **1999-2005**, there were 2,742 SIIT graduates from various technical programs offered throughout Saskatchewan. This number included the 12 graduates from the Women in Trades program that was delivered in Saskatoon.

Aboriginal employment rates on the rise

While Aboriginal employment rates have increased over the past few years, welfare numbers have been on the decline. Between 1998 and 2003, welfare caseloads in northern Saskatchewan have decreased by 45%. Saskatoon based mining companies such as CAMECO & COGEMA have contributed to this positive turn around.

Elsewhere in Saskatchewan, welfare numbers have declined by 38% since 1998. Employment equity, education equity, and the provincial government's representative workforce strategy have combined to create increased employment opportunities for Aboriginal people. Creating employment opportunities significantly reduces welfare rates.

The City of Saskatoon is committed to providing local Government through leadership, teamwork, partnership and dedication to the community. Our Employment Equity Program strives to assist in supporting that mission in ensuring all members of society have fair and equal access to employment opportunities. Employment Equity enhances traditional policies for recruiting, hiring, training and promoting employees. Our goal is to have our workforce reflect the representation of the community including the designated groups recognized by the Human Rights Commission. For more information regarding the Employment Equity Program, please contact (306) 975-2661.