

Canadian SEM Summit

Halifax, Nova Scotia

The Aboriginal Student Experience

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The Aboriginal Student Experience Agenda

- Setting the Context
- UCN's Strategy: Synopsis
- Discussion



Vision and Mission Statements



- *The mission of the University College of the North is to ensure northern communities and people will have opportunities, knowledge and skills to contribute to an economically, environmentally, and culturally healthy society inclusive and respectful of diverse northern and Aboriginal values and beliefs.*



University College of the North

- Became a degree granting institution in July 2004
- Instituted a tricameral governance structure
- Two main campuses, and 12 regional centres



UCN Delivery Area



Statistics for 2008/2009

- Total Enrolment: 2,345
- Full-time: 973 Part-time: 137
- Aboriginal: 1,468 or 63 %
- Regional Centres: 30 % of student population
- Average 64 % Aboriginal students (2004-2008)



UCN Recruitment Strategies

- New logo campaign
- Addition of a second recruitment officer
- Presentations to high school graduates
- UCN advisors establishing relationships with high school guidance counsellors
- Student and instructor attendance at career fairs



UCN Retention Strategies

- UCN STARS strategy
(Student Tracking Alert Retention System)
- Summer Orientation
- Aboriginal program content/ways of knowing implemented – Kenanow model B.Ed.
- Aboriginal student centres
- three- and four-bedroom family housing units
- Representative Workforce initiative
- Daycares at main campuses



UCN Retention Strategies

- One-stop shop - renovation and expansion of The Pas campus
- New campus in Thompson for 2013



Discussion Questions

- What do you have in place for Aboriginal students? How can you improve?

Discussion Questions cont.

- What do you think about when you hear the word “decolonization?”