



A Historical Look Back - A Visit to Maskwacîs

Facilitator(s):	Jerry Saddleback, Jo-Ann Saddleback
Date:	August 17, 2017
Time:	9:00 am – 2:30 pm
Cost:	\$50.00 (includes an authentic Cree meal for lunch)
Location:	Maskwacîs (Maskwacîs Cultural College) 2 Saddleback Road N
Session Code:	17-AB-366



Target Audience

Grades K-12 Teachers, Lead Teachers, Administrators, Learning Coaches

You are responsible for your own transportation to and from Maskwacîs (a 45-minute drive south of Edmonton). Please bring a lawn chair and wear weather-appropriate clothing with comfortable shoes.

About this Learning Opportunity

The day will start with a hands-on experience in raising a tipi. You will be invited to create a photojournal to document the process and capture the tipi teachings so it can be shared with staff and students. Enjoy an authentic Cree meal before heading off to a guided tour of the Maskwacîs museum and a visit to Maskwacîs College. You will explore cultural artifacts up close, delve into the history of Residential Schools (Ermineskin Indian Residential School operated in this area from 1916 - 1973) and identify ways to support Reconciliation. It will be a rare chance to spend the day with an elder extending your knowledge of First Nations and Métis culture and histories and leaving with rich new understandings and experiences to bring back to your classroom.

About the Facilitator(s)

Elder Jerry Saddleback Sr. is from Samson Cree Nation in Maskwacîs, AB. He is one of a handful of people who can recite the History of Creation Story and one of fewer people who knows the true history of the Origins of Cree Syllabics. His profound knowledge about Cree history and traditions conveys a powerful sense of intellectual and Spiritual insights into Cree Culture. Elder Jerry Saddleback is in high demand as a speaker and travels all over North America as requested by communities, educational institutions and other organizations such as Truth and Reconciliation. He is a dynamic Storyteller and compassionate Teacher. Mr. Saddleback is currently the Elder-In-Residence and Dean of Cultural Studies at the Maskwacîs Cultural College in Maskwacîs.

Jo-Ann Saddleback is a passionate advocate of Aboriginal cultural. She worked as a Policy Analyst/Researcher for women's organizations and Executive Director for Metis Settlements General Council heading up Legal and Governmental Affairs. She also worked as a community developer for several years, travelling across North America developing and delivering workshops on Culture, Health, Roles and Rights of Aboriginal Women and cross-cultural workshops for RCMP, Corrections Canada, Alberta Health, Healthcare workers, Alberta Justice judges and crown prosecutors. She spent years visiting Old People in the First Nations and Metis communities in which she was delivering workshops and remains grateful they have entrusted her to continue to work in communities sharing their wisdom. She taught Cree Studies 101 and 121 about Culture, traditions



and Family and Identity at Maskwacis Cultural College while
Coordinator of Student Services.

This learning opportunity is being provided through funding from Alberta Education.