

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

PRESENTED BY: Kevin Flynn; Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: December 17, 2015

SUBJECT: **Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Certificate (“Let us take care of the Land”) program changes**

COUNCIL ACTION: For information only

SUMMARY:

The Indigenous Peoples Resources Management Certificate (IPRM) has been in place since 2006 and has been very successful. The IPRM program was originally designed specifically to train land managers from First Nations that were entering the Regional Land Environment and Management Program. Though it started as a full-funded program, based on a commitment from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC), that funding commitment was ended in 2013. Changes in the funding model and the certifications requirements put in place by AANDC initiated a re-evaluation of the IPRM Certificate.

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources identified a need to enhance and strengthen Traditional Knowledge in the certificate program, and so have added INDG 107.3 as a requirement of the certificate program. The Department of Indigenous Studies has agreed to develop a condensed version of the course to fit the delivery model of the certificate.

Along with the addition of INDG 107.3, the College of Agriculture and Bioresources renamed the certificate program to reflect the goals and aspirations of the college. The Cree name Kanawayihetaytan Askiy means “Let us take care of the Land,” which reflects the coming together of Aboriginal communities and the University of Saskatchewan in their shared responsibility to take care of the land.

The name change to the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Certificate (“Let us take care of the Land”) was approved by the Academic Programs Committee at its meeting on November 25, 2015.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Program Changes and Request for Name Change

Rationale for Program and Name Change from the Indigenous Peoples Resource Management Program to the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Certificate

In 2006, the Indigenous Peoples Resource Management (IPRM) Program was approved as a full-cost recovery program, based on a commitment from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) that funding would be provided for an initial five-year period. The IPRM program was originally designed specifically to train land managers from First Nations that were entering the Regional Land Environment and Management Program (RLEMP). With regard to admission to the IPRM program, the number of students was restricted to students funded by AANDC. At that time, AANDC required First Nations entering into the RLEMP land regime to have a certified land manager in place. The objective of certifying land managers was to promote professional accountability and to identify to the public and professional peers that these land managers met specific professional standards. In 2013, AANDC removed this certification requirement, and opted for a training requirement that is defined in a less rigorous manner. This change in policy by AANDC resulted in their decision to discontinue funding to the University of Saskatchewan for the delivery of the IPRM program.

Within a similar timeframe, the need to re-evaluate AgBio's Aboriginal programming was identified in the college's Third Integrated Plan as follows: "AgBio will consult extensively with Indigenous communities to ascertain their interests and needs for undergraduate level programs in AgBio discipline areas. We will develop effective partnerships and design and initiate appropriate programs". Based on this commitment, the College of AgBio developed and implemented an Aboriginal Engagement Strategy in 2012. College staff met with First Nation communities across Saskatchewan to assess their needs regarding post-secondary education. Murray Drew (Associate Dean (Academic)), Candice Pete (Coordinator, Aboriginal Programs), and Sheryl Mills from the Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness attended the meetings. Overall, a total of 75 Aboriginal community members from 23 First Nation and Metis organizations contributed to these consultations. Additionally, an Aboriginal Program Advisory Group was established to provide input and feedback regarding proposed curricular changes. Based on these consultations, and discussions with the Aboriginal Program Advisory Group, it was clear that the need for the IPRM certificate program remained strong, irrespective of the AANDC change in policy. The demand for graduates from the IPRM program remains high and nearly all IPRM graduates have current employment or confirmed employment as land managers.

Additionally, consultations identified content within the program that needed to be enhanced and strengthened. Specifically, Traditional Knowledge was identified as an area to be strengthened. A need to provide students with a foundational background to provide context for contemporary Aboriginal issues and events also was identified. Ultimately, INDG 107.3 was identified as an appropriate course to provide this content and was added to the certificate. The department of Indigenous Studies has agreed to develop a condensed delivery version of INDG 107.3 to be offered in tandem with the ASKI 101.3 (currently IPRM 103.3).

Along with the changes in the curriculum, there was a desire to change the name of the program to better reflect the current goals and aspirations. The new name, Kanawayihetaytan Askiy is Cree and translates to “Let Us Take Care of the Land”. The reference to “us” acknowledges the coming together of Aboriginal communities and the University of Saskatchewan in a shared responsibility to take care of the land, and honours existing and future collaborations. This is not a program developed in isolation at the U of S, but rather is a program that has been shaped by a shared understanding of the needs and the wishes of Aboriginal land managers and the communities that they serve.

Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Certificate, “Let us Take Care of the Land”

Courses for this certificate program are delivered in an alternate format of three sessions that begin in April and end the following March, with two courses each session. Each session will begin with two weeks of intensive face to face instruction, field trips and laboratory work, with students meeting during the evening and weekend. Following the on campus period, students will return home for 7 to ten weeks of off-campus study, and participation in class chat sessions.

The Certificate is comprised of the following courses (21 credit units):

- ASKI 101.3
- ASKI 102.3
- ASKI 103.3
- ASKI 104.3
- ASKI 105.3
- ASKI 201.3
- INDG 107.3

Course Revisions:

ASKI 101.3 —

Field Studies in the Environment

This course introduces students to environmental science with emphasis on sustainable development of land, water and forests. Students will become familiar with the basic components of soil and will be able to recognize factors affecting productivity and land value as well as important environmental issues associated with managing a large land base. The basic components of surface and subsurface water will be investigated with the view of understanding and protecting both water quality and quantity. Students will gain an appreciation of the forest environment by investigating principles of forest ecology and sustainable forest management. Emphasis will be placed on methods of gathering information in addition to laboratory exercises and field trips

Note: Course instruction is blended with face-to-face instruction including laboratory and field trip experience, and web supported home study. Students with credit for IPRM 103 will not receive credit for this course. There are additional non-refundable costs in addition to tuition fees.

ASKI 102.3 —

Introduction to Legal Concepts in Resource Management

A study of the land systems used in Canada historically, currently and comparatively, as well as a look at the development and impact of legislation on Aboriginal people in Canada and recognition of traditional law. This course is designed to introduce students to various legal systems, international, national and local. Students will learn the basics of legal systems and structures and how jurisdiction and consultation have emerged as legal doctrines in Canada as well as how they impact on decisions and processes used by Aboriginal land and resource managers.

Note: Course instruction is blended with face-to-face lecture and web supported home study. Students with credit for IPRM 100 will not receive credit for this course. There are additional non-refundable costs in addition to tuition fees.

ASKI 103.3 —

Legal Process and Instruments in Resource Management

This course will introduce students to the study of legal instruments and process in resource management in Canada. The students will explore legal instruments in detail including ways of holding property, property transfer, property rights, business operations in First Nations communities, the taxation issues facing the business operations as well as a look at the development and impact of current legislation on lands and resources of the First Nation sector.

Note: Course instruction is blended with face-to-face lecture and web supported home study. Students with credit for IPRM 200 will not receive credit for this course. There are additional non-refundable costs in addition to tuition fees.

ASKI 104.3 —

Introduction to Management Issues

This course introduces students to the fundamental management principles of planning, organizing, leadership and control, and presents management tools and techniques for making informed decisions. Students are exposed to contemporary management issues facing Aboriginal communities such as economic development, corporate partnerships, land management, financial management and stakeholder consultation. The course combines management skills and issues related to leadership, community management, project planning,

implementation and assessment, stakeholder analysis, communications and change management.

Note: This course is a web-based distance course delivered on-line. Students with credit for IPRM 101 will not receive credit for this course.

ASKI 105.3 —

Economics and Planning

Natural resource management and land use planning requires an understanding of the biophysical characteristics of the resource. It is also important to understand the role that humans have in changing natural resource quantity and quality. This course introduces the basic social science concepts and theory underlying environmental land use planning and natural resource management. In particular the course will focus on understanding what motivates and/or controls how people use natural resources.

Note Course instruction is blended with face-to-face lecture and web supported home study. Students with credit for IPRM 102 will not receive credit for this course.

ASKI 201.3 —

Resource Management Project Assessment

Incorporates learning from previous courses in the Kanawayihetaytan Certificate. Students will identify an applied community-based research project and evaluate and assess the proposed project: legally, economically, and environmentally. Students will research land, history, market and impact of the proposal to determine pros and cons of the proposal. Written and oral presentations are required. This is an independently directed research course in which the student complete a specific resource management related project. This course aims to develop critical research skills and competencies for communicating research results effectively to leadership and community members.

Restriction(s): Only open to students in the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy program.

Prerequisite(s): ASKI 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, INDG 107 or permission of the department

Note: Course instruction is blended with face-to-face instruction and web supported home study. Students with credit for IPRM 210 will not receive credit for this course.



**UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN**

Request for Change of Name

This Request form and attachments will be the basis for decision-making about this change.

Submitted by: Fran Walley, Associate Dean (Academic) Date: October 28, 2015

College: Agriculture and Bioresources

College approval date: May 6, 2015

Proposed effective date of the change: January 1, 2015

1. Proposed change of name

	From:	To:
College		
Department		
Program name	Indigenous Peoples Resource Management Certificate Program	Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Certificate
Degree name		
Name of Field of Specialization (major, minor, concentration, etc)		
Course label (alphabetic)	IPRM 103 Field Studies in the Environment IPRM 100 Introduction to Legal Concepts in Resource Management IPRM 200 Legal Process and Instruments in Resource Management IPRM 101 Introduction to Management Issues IPRM 102 Economics and	ASKI 101 ASKI 102 ASKI 103 ASKI 104 ASKI 105

	Planning IPRM 210 Resource Management Project Assessment	ASKI 201
Building		
Street		
Other		

2. Documentation

Rationale

Provide a rationale for the change and describe the background leading to this decision.

In 2006, the Indigenous Peoples Resource Management (IPRM) Program was approved as a full-cost recovery program, based on a commitment from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) that funding would be provided for an initial five-year period. The IPRM program was originally designed specifically to train land managers from First Nations that were entering the Regional Land Environment and Management Program (RLEMP). With regard to admission, the number of students was restricted to students that were being funded by AANDC. At that time, the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Affairs Canada required First Nations entering into the RLEMP land regime to have a certified land manager in place. The objective of certification of First Nation Land Managers was to promote professional accountability and to identify to the public and professional peers that these land managers met specific professional standards. In 2013, AANDC removed this certification requirement, and have opted for a training requirement that is defined in a less rigorous manner. This change in policy by AANDC resulted in their decision to discontinue funding to the University of Saskatchewan for the delivery of the IPRM program. Based on Aboriginal Community consultation following this change, it was clear that the need for the program remains strong, irrespective of funding changes.

The College of Agriculture and Bioresources made a commitment to reevaluate Aboriginal programming in AgBio in the College's Third Integrated Plan, as follows: "AgBio will consult extensively with Indigenous communities to ascertain their interests and needs for undergraduate level programs in AgBio discipline areas. We will develop effective partnerships and design and initiate appropriate programs". As a consequence of the ensuing consultations with Aboriginal communities, and the College of AgBio Aboriginal Programs Advisory Group, revisions to the existing Indigenous Peoples Resource Management Certificate program were proposed. Along with the changes in the curriculum, there was a desire to change the name of the program to better reflect the goals and aspirations of the program. The new name, Kanawayihetaytan Askiy is Cree and translates to "Let Us Take Care of the Land". The reference to "us" acknowledges the coming together of Aboriginal communities and the University of Saskatchewan in a shared responsibility to take care of the land, and honours existing and future collaborations. This is not a program developed in isolation at the U of S, but rather is a program that has been shaped by a shared understanding of the needs and the wishes of the Aboriginal Land Managers and the communities that are served.

Impact of the change

Please describe any potential impact of this change, including any of the following areas if relevant:

- impact on students
- impact on faculty
- impact on staff
- impact on alumni
- affect on other programs, departments, colleges, centres
- impact on university-wide systems (e.g. SiRIUS, UniFi, PAWS, U-Friend, Library, About US, etc.)
- resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology
- external impact (e.g. reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organizations, professional bodies).

Please attach any statements or opinions received about this change.

Introduction of the new name for the program will have minimal impact on students, faculty and staff, and, according to consultation with the Registrar's Office, acceptable impact on university-wide systems.

Alumni of the program will be advised of the change, and we will continue to recognize alumni of the IPRM certificate in all communications to alumni following the name change. With 2016 being the 10th anniversary of the IPRM program, an "Aboriginal Programming 10th Year Celebration" for Aboriginal land managers nationwide is being planned for the spring of 2016, in which former alumni of the IPRM will be recognized, and the new Kanawayihetaytan Askiy certificate will be introduced, to signal the transition to the new program name.

The name was put forward by the College of Agriculture and Bioresources Aboriginal Program Advisory Group, and reflects the outcomes of many consultations with Aboriginal communities regarding the need for an enhanced certificate in Aboriginal land management. According to our consultations with Aboriginal communities, and the advice and guidance of the Aboriginal Program Advisory Group, a shared responsibility and commitment to taking care of the land represents a step forward in engaging meaningfully with Aboriginal communities, and sends a clear signal to Aboriginal students and their communities that this is a shared endeavor. The faculty of the College of AgBio were fully supportive of the name change and approved the proposed changes at a faculty meeting in May 6, 2015.

We are confident that the external impact of the change will be positive. We work closely with the National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association and they have been fully supportive of the proposed changes to the IPRM program, including the name change. Leona Irons, the Executive Director of NALMA, has participated in meetings with the College of AgBio Aboriginal Programs Advisory Group, and has contributed to discussions regarding the proposed program and name change.

Costs

Please describe whether this change will result in any additional costs for the university (ie, repainting signs, technical changes in SiRIUS, PAWS, financial services, etc.)

This name change is not anticipated to result in significant extraordinary costs to the university.

Consultation

Please describe any consultation undertaken with other university offices, such as Student and Enrolment Services, Institutional Strategy and Analytics, Institutional Planning and Assessment, Financial Services, Facilities Management, Office of the University Secretary, Information Technology Services, etc. Please attach any memos or emails received about this consultation

We have consulted with the Registrar, and a meeting was held to further discuss the IPRM revisions with representatives of Student and Enrolment Services. The proposed revisions have been discussed with representatives of the College of Arts and Science (Gordon DesBrisay) and the Department of Indigenous Studies. The college (Dan Pennock, Acting Associate Dean Academic) presented a Notice of Intent for this program, including the name change, to the Planning and Priorities of Council on March 18, 2015. The letter from Dr. Lisa Kalynchuk stated "In summary, the committee is very supportive of the new direction you are taking with these programs."
