

THE POWER OF  
**CONNECTION,  
CULTURE &  
COMMUNITY**

**fpcc.edu**

WOLF POINT & POPLAR, MONTANA

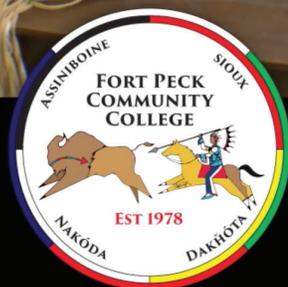
# Annual Report 2020



# Our Mission

FPCC serves the people of the Fort Peck Reservation and Northeast Montana by providing quality academic, vocational, and community based programs, empowering the next generation of workers, leaders and citizens while being entrusted with the preservation and promotion of Assiniboine and Sioux Culture.

The Power of Connection, Culture, and Community

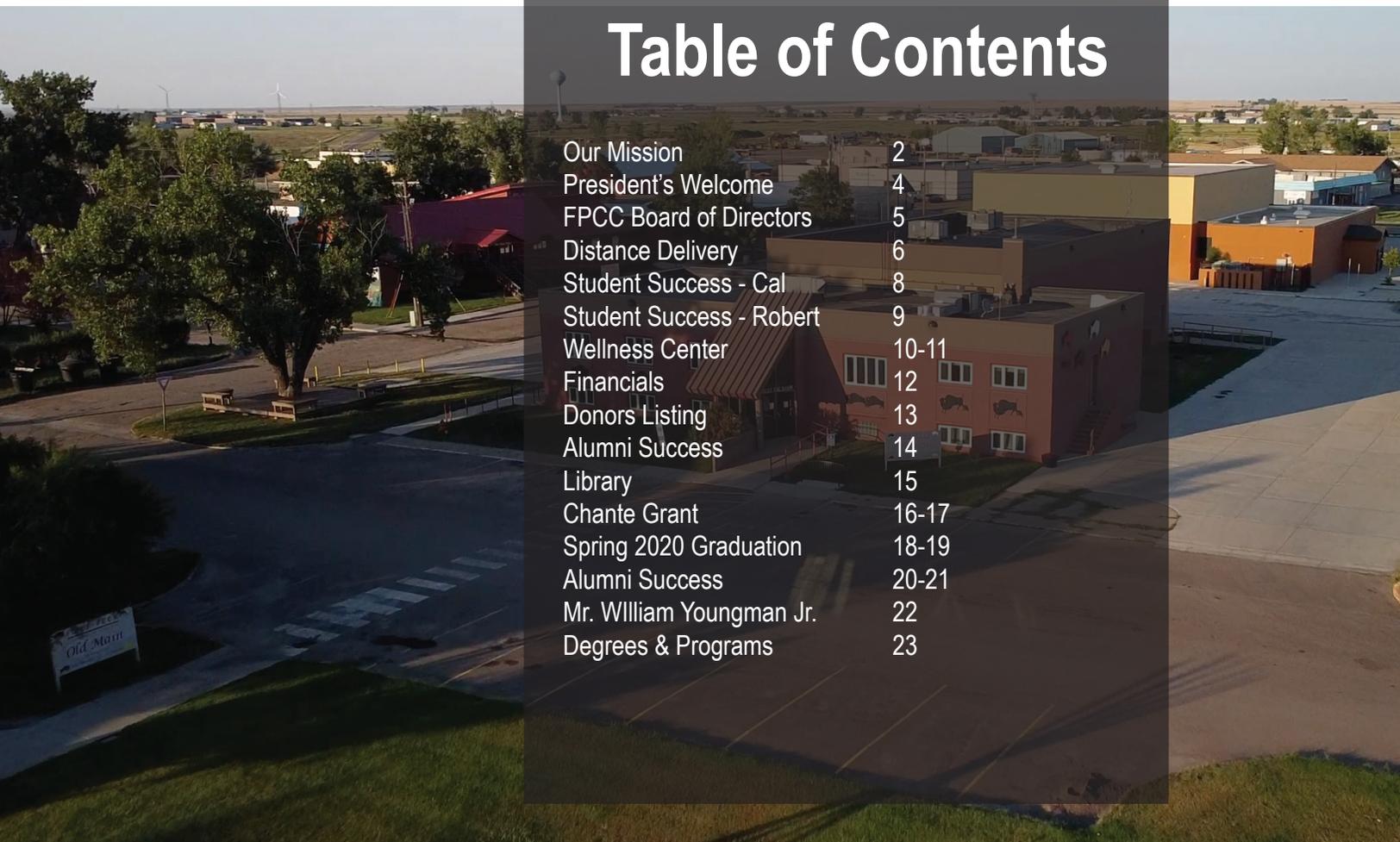


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**Welcome to Fort Peck Community College,**

your college. FPCC changed my life forever and I hope we can change yours too. FPCC is a place where you will form lasting relationships with a diverse group of individuals who share your interest in learning.

Dating back to 1978, Fort Peck Community College has established a strong tradition of providing high-quality, affordable education for learners who seek to achieve their full potential and enrich their lives through personalized and relevant education in a culturally supportive environment.

At FPCC, we are committed to providing a welcoming environment for people with a “Student Success” philosophy and a commitment to accessible, affordable, high quality academics. Many of our employees come from our alumni and many of our local success stories began with an FPCC education. FPCC is committed to meeting your needs and exceeding your expectations.



FPCC has enjoyed a history of growth as we evolve with the changing world around us. The growing diversity of our surrounding communities enriches our college community, enhancing campus life and classroom discussions and strengthening our capacity to serve as a vital resource in the economic health and well-being of our local communities. While academic attainment continues to be critically relevant to career and life success, we also seek to do our part to ensure that every individual has a genuine opportunity for inclusive engagement in the workforce and community life beyond our campus boundaries.

Like the rest of our nation, FPCC continues to be challenged by the COVID-19 crisis. We are actively monitoring and responding to the uncertain and changing conditions around us, keeping the health and safety of our college community as our top priority while continuing to meet the needs of our students to ensure their success. For Spring Semester, we will offer our full array of courses through a combination of some select face-to-face instruction on our two campuses, with many of our courses delivered fully online or through a blended/hybrid combination of on-campus, remote and online instruction. We are ready to assist students with any resource or connectivity issues that may challenge their ability to effectively engage in distance learning, as needed, and I assure you that we are committed to providing our students with a high-quality education and a rich learning experience.

We will make it through this crisis together – at FPCC. We are Buffalo Chasers!

Haven Gourneau  
Blowing Prayer Cloth Woman  
President  
Fort Peck Community College

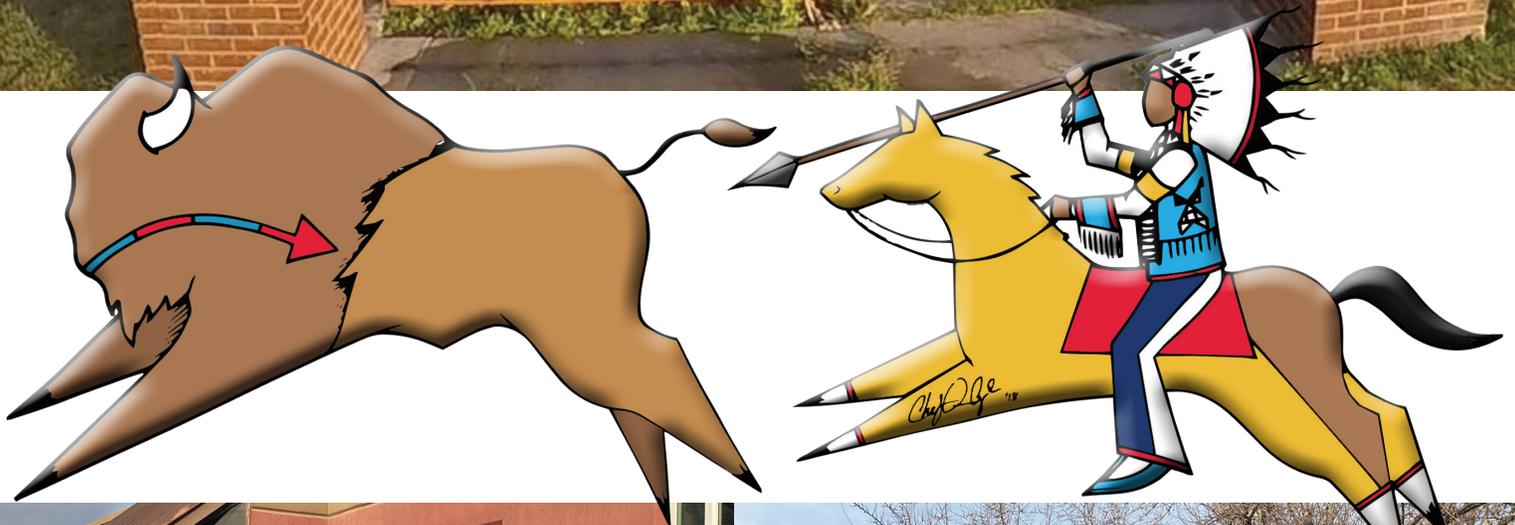
# Fort Peck Community College Board of Directors Academic Year 2019-2020

Chairman: Robert McAnally – Community Member  
Vice Chairman: Dana Buckles – Tribal Council Member  
Secretary: Jackie Weeks – Community Member  
Treasurer: Anna Eder – Community Member

## Board Members

Jestin Dupree – Tribal Council Member  
Peter Dupree – Community Member  
Leslie Gourneau – Community Member  
Kaci Walette – Tribal Council Member  
Callyn Gourneau - Student Representative

FORT PECK  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE





## COVID-19 FPCC MEETS COVID-19 CHALLENGE ONLINE-HYBRID

FPCC STUDENTS WILL HAVE EVERY TOOL THEY NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN AN ONLINE & HYBRID ENVIRONMENT

### Fort Peck Community College approved for Distance Delivery Education

COVID-19 impacted FPCC and the traditional in-person instruction at FPCC. Early on in the pandemic, Fort Peck Community College was granted temporary approval to distance delivery education. This approval was only granted until December 31, 2020. After a lot of discussions related to the current trends and COVID cases and research of online platforms at other Tribal Colleges, FPCC determined it was in the best interest to continue with online delivery of programs for students' safety, staff, faculty, and the community.

In June 2020, FPCC purchased Canvas. Canvas is a Learner Management System (LMS) utilized in Higher Education to deliver academic programs online. Faculty and staff participated in CANVAS training for course delivery and classes.

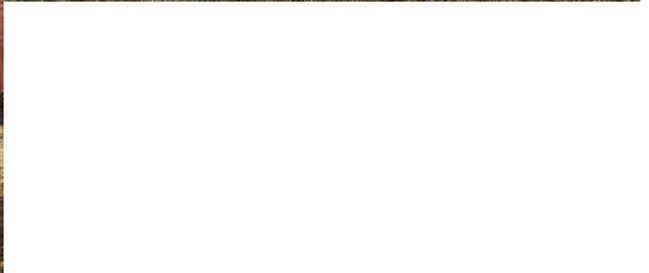
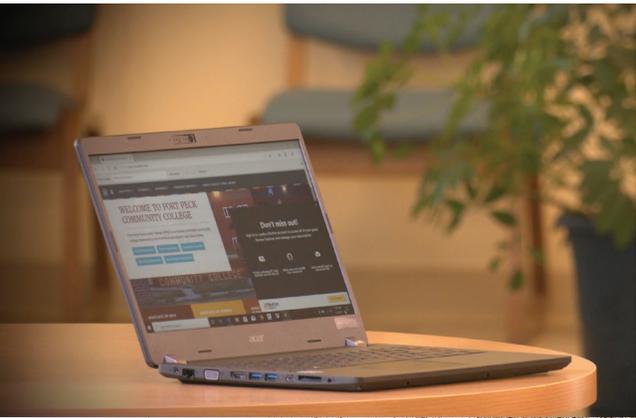
In November, FPCC applied to Make Programs Available via Distance Delivery. Approval for Distance Delivery programs was a two-step process. The first step of institutional authorization determines if FPCC has the resources and capacity to offer effective instruction via distance education. On November 16, 2020, Fort Peck Community College (FPCC) was authorized for Distance Education.

Interim vice president for Academic and Vocational Education, Carrie Schumacher, indicated approval for distance education is an exciting area for FPCC. Over the last decade, FPCC has discussed the potential to deliver academic programs online, but opportunity and financial support were not justifiable. On December 4, 2020, FPCC was granted the following programs to offer distance education programs.

- ▶ Associate of Arts programs approved include: Business Administration, Education, General Studies, Native American Studies, Tribal Governance, and Administration;
- ▶ Associate of Applied Science Programs include: Business Technology, Communication Technology, and Information Technology, Social Work, Chemical Addiction Studies, and Psychology.
- ▶ Associated Of Science Programs include Biomedical Science Environmental Science, General Studies, and Pre-Health Pre Nursing
- ▶ Certificate programs include Accounting Technician, Business Assistant, Information Technology, Lay Advocate/Paralegal, and Media Technology.

The administration and board of directors at FPCC are excited about the new opportunity. This will allow students to live off and on the reservation, and non-enrolled members who want to obtain a higher education degree at Fort Peck Community College.

As FPCC continues to move into 2021, FPCC will continue to provide information to the public regarding registration steps and participating in class utilizing Canvas.





**M**y name is Cal Christian. I was born in Wolf Point, Montana in 1998 and I am currently 22 years old. Throughout my childhood and early school years I was raised by my mother Calinda Duquette in Leask, Saskatchewan, Canada and in my high school years I made the choice to live here in Poplar, MT with my father Tommy Christian. I graduated from Poplar High School in 2016 as the valedictorian of my class. Immediately following high school, I had little direction with what I wanted to pursue as far as my educational career goes. I spent 2 years looking for direction while trying to live a healthier life both physically and mentally. Once I had enough of a lifestyle with little ambition I chose to enroll at the Fort Peck Community College for the fall semester of 2018. The staff was welcoming and I saw a lot of familiar faces which made the initial transitional period to the student life exceedingly easier. And after 2 years of schooling I was able to graduate with the class of 2020 with my AA and AS in General Studies.

I am now working with the college and serving as the office assistant for the Chanté Project. After being approached by the team in the spring of 2020 I was offered the position and took it. I am so glad that I took the job because I love knowing that I am taking part in making a difference to the marginalized youth of our reservation. With the Covid-19 pandemic in full swing there has had to have been a lot of ingenuity and adaptation in following through with our grant objectives and I am proud of our team in doing what we have done so far. I appreciate each one of them in giving me the opportunities to gain experience in a professional setting that I can use to bolster my skills and take part in making a change in my home community.

I look back on the person that I was before I started school and it just goes to show how much support and care that the college can offer somebody. I've changed a lot and I like to think that none of that change was for the worse. There were a lot of challenges and hardships I had to go through in order to complete my schooling here at the college. In the spring of 2019 I lost many close friends and family members which took a huge toll on my wellbeing. In particular, the loss of my older brother James Christian to suicide, sent me into a deep downward mental spiral. I isolated myself and my feelings and the ambition that I did have was torn away from me by the grief. However, through the heartfelt understanding carried by the staff of the college I was still able to complete my schooling for the semester which had offered me a break to recuperate and find myself again over the summer. In the fall I made the choice to return and finish my final year of school that I needed to complete in order to graduate. If I didn't have the support and compassion from the members of the college I wouldn't have been able to do it. I hold everybody that was there for me in my times of need in such a high regard and FPCC has done so much for me. With the little opportunities there are here on the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux reservation FPCC offers an opportunity of hope and ambition for a marginalized population. I couldn't be happier with the relationships and friendships that I have made in my time here. I look forward to what the future holds and I know if the college wasn't here to acclimate me to a life of purpose I wouldn't look towards the future in the same way.



**M**y name is Robert Smith, I am a current student and graduate of Fort Peck Community College. I am not a traditional student, which has made going to school a challenge and easier. I was not a model student in high school. My high school career can be summed up like this, easy classes and average grades. I did not have the toolbox for continuing my education. My generation was the first in the family to be expected to attend college. Not only was I not prepared for college, but my parents did not know what I needed to succeed at college. My parents did not know what to expect of me or my education. I was actively recruited to join the wrestling team at Montana State University, not knowing what was in store for me academically I enrolled at MSU, I attended 2 quarters of school at MSU and was promptly put-on academic suspension.

The one thing I learned in college is that I was not ready for college. A year later, I was in the Navy. If I can give any advice, it would be this. Recruiters are used-car salesmen who do not have your best interest at heart. Recruiters are there to sell you a job you have no idea what the job is. If that is a path you find yourself on someday, do yourself a favor and research everything. I am not going to run down the military I had a great time. I excelled at the job I landed in and advanced quickly, and

to the highest rank I could obtain in 4 years. The Navy gave me many experiences and the opportunity to see a lot of the countries on the Atlantic Ocean.

After I served my time in the Navy, I joined the workforce. I moved to Connecticut and took a job as a machinist. After a year of working as a machinist, I decided to go back to school. I attended a trade school. This time I knew what I wanted, and I knew what I would have to do to obtain my degree. For the next two years, I studied hard, worked full time, and went to school full time. Right on the two-year mark, I received my certificate as a Mechanical Designer.

I had always known I would move back to North East Montana. It was the only place I had ever been that felt like home. One day I gave my two weeks' notice at work, packed my car, and headed west. I came home to the farm and worked there for 30 years. Moving home has afforded me a great life, I have the most amazing wife and three great kids. I am very proud of my sons they have developed into great citizens and that is all a person can hope for in their children. Farming was fun initially, and it was an excellent way to raise my children; farming gave me the flexibility to be there with my kids through almost all their functions. Towards the end of my children's time in college. I started to get the itch to go back to school and pick up where I left off at MSU years before. Farming was no longer any fun. My wife is so amazing and patient, when a person should in earnest start preparing for retirement, I embarked on a new career path. I started taking classes at Fort Peck Community College. When times have been tough, and homework was piled high, my wife has been a great support and awesome source of encouragement.

My time at FPCC was and is very challenging and rewarding. FPCC gave me the valuable tools to continue with my Elementary Education degree at Montana State University Northern. I am currently on the MSUN honor roll. I am still taking classes from FPCC, working towards a psychology minor, and carrying an A in my one class. During these times of covid, classes can be challenging, especially when trying to communicate with instructors. You must be very determined and a great self-starter. When I started this journey, a friend asked me if "I thought I was just wasting my time at a community college?" I told him recently that "without a doubt that you get out of the class what you put into it, I worked up to the expectations of my instructors, and that prepared me for any university."

# WELLNESS CENTERS

## THE COVID-19 EFFECT

As one member stated, “I love the concept of staying healthy during these difficult times. May we rise and continue with good health.” Beginning in March 2020, the Poplar Wellness Centers immediately enacted safe sanitation practices to ensure the gym could stay. We felt a responsibility to the community to maintain a safe, clean space to exercise, considering the positive effects of physical activity on a healthy, uncompromised immune system.

Some of these practices included: Contact tracing forms; mandated temperature checks and hand sanitizing; added sanitation/wipe stations; equipment reorganization to promote socially-distanced cardio; frequent equipment sanitizing by gym staff; and occasional closures for cleaning.

We have undergone three different stints of gym closure lasting over one month each. To compensate our members, we have halted membership fees until we can rest assured that COVID-19 will not threaten the gym to close again. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we navigate this along with you all.

## 100-Mile Club Finishers

The chance to complete the 100-mile challenge is not over! Come to the Wolf Point or Poplar gyms to pick up an activity log form. Log miles you walk or run. Anyone who reaches 100 miles earns an exclusive “100-Mile Club Finisher” T-shirt! No time limit. Many of the finishers listed below ran well over 100 miles. Great work everyone! Stay active!

Alex Granbois  
 Harry Three Stars  
 David Grainger  
 Stan Moran  
 Megan Gourneau  
 Jonnie Huerta  
 Jeanette Piper  
 Maria Youpee

Donovan “Beef” Archambault  
 Petmore Ahubarrazea  
 Steve Harada  
 Tara Fox  
 Pat Will

Mary Damon  
 Yvette Kawasaki  
 Jay Whitehead  
 Stacey Summers  
 Nick Kulesa  
 Peyton Summers  
 Judy Ogle  
 Arnie Bighorn

## GYM USAGE SNAPSHOT (Wolf Point + Poplar)

<b>Days Closed due to COVID-19</b>	<b>93 days</b>
<b>% of Year Closed due to COVID-19</b>	<b>25.4%</b>
<b>Average # of Sign-Ins per Month (2019)</b>	<b>1,028/mo</b>
<b>Average # of Sign-Ins per Month (2020)</b>	<b>940*/mo</b>
*Decrease from 2019 due to 3-months of COVID-related closures	
<b>Adjusted Average # Sign-Ins Per Month (2020)</b>	<b>1,253/mo</b>
Average sign-ins per month when not counting COVID-closure months	
<b>Free 1-Month COVID Memberships Given</b>	<b>20</b>
Ongoing, number calculated as of December 2020	

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Organizations with Gym Memberships for Employees

- Fort Peck Tribes Minerals Department\*
- Fort Peck Tribes Office of Environmental Protection\*
- Fort Peck Tribes Law & Justice Department\*
- Fort Peck Tribal Health Diabetes Program (Employees & Patients)\*\*
- Fort Peck Tribes Adult & Youth Corrections\*
- Fort Peck Tribal Health Department\*\*
- Spotted Bull Recovery Resource Center
- Riverside Family Clinic
- Northeast Montana Health Services\*

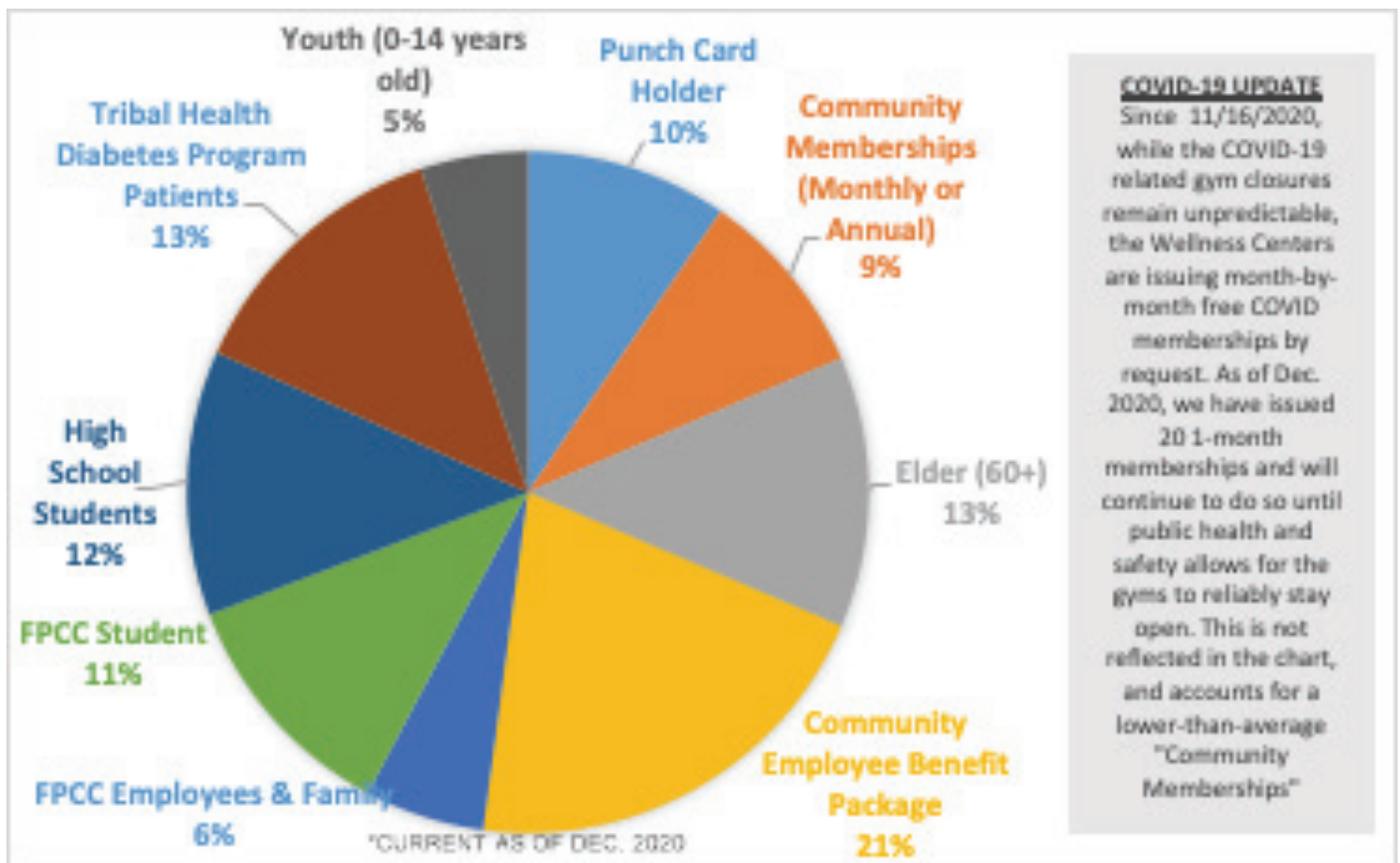
\*Provided memberships to employees for 2+ consecutive years

\*\*Provided \$9,000 or more in sponsorship funds to aid gym equipment and staffing needs.



Many thanks to all employee supporters, sponsors, and partners!

## WHO ARE OUR MEMBERS?



Follow our Facebook page for the most updated information about gym closures/reopenings, virtual walking & running events, new classes, new equipment, and health tips! @FPCCWellnessCenter

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019**

	Major Funds		Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	General	Endowment		
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Federal grants	\$2,153,898	\$-	\$4,911,573	\$7,065,471
State grants	204,408	-	60,191	264,599
Private foundation grants	-	-	823,630	823,630
Tuition and fees	555,825	-	-	555,825
Charges for goods and services	136,317	-	-	136,317
Investment earnings	50,640	152,527	-	203,167
Miscellaneous	192,282	-	-	192,282
Indirect cost recovery	<u>409,372</u>	-	-	<u>409,372</u>
Total revenues	<u>3,702,742</u>	<u>152,527</u>	<u>5,795,394</u>	<u>9,650,663</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
Administration:				
Program expense	552,274	675	38,937	591,886
Indirect cost expense	-	-	1,365	1,365
Institutional support:				
Program expense	835,489	-	-	835,489
Academic:				
Program expense	726,240	-	1,957,622	2,683,862
Indirect cost expense	-	-	122,441	122,441
Vocational:				
Program expense	-	-	475,172	475,172
Indirect cost expense	-	-	40,089	40,089
Student services:				
Program expense	281,554	-	250,547	532,101
Indirect cost expense	-	-	17,110	17,110
Financial aid:				
Program expense	80,266	-	698,542	778,808
Community services:				
Program expense	8,487	-	1,616,566	1,625,053
Indirect cost expense	-	-	193,315	193,315
Library:				
Program expense	113,887	-	48,066	161,953
Indirect cost expense	-	-	2,005	2,005
Information technology:				
Program expense	93,811	-	-	93,811
Wellness center:				
Program expense	13,957	-	-	13,957
Research:				
Program expense	-	-	140,952	140,952
Indirect cost expense	-	-	33,047	33,047
Facilities and services:				
Program expense	513,839	-	9,746	523,585
Dormitory:				
Program expense	30,870	-	-	30,870
Debt service:				
Principal	83,089	-	-	83,089
Interest	24,210	-	-	24,210
Capital outlay	<u>65,433</u>	-	<u>166,138</u>	<u>231,571</u>
Total expenditures	<u>3,423,406</u>	<u>675</u>	<u>5,811,660</u>	<u>9,235,741</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>279,336</u>	<u>151,852</u>	<u>(16,266)</u>	<u>414,922</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfers in	-	-	16,266	16,266
Transfers out	<u>(16,266)</u>	-	-	<u>(16,266)</u>
Total other financing sources	<u>(16,266)</u>	-	<u>16,266</u>	-
Net change in fund balances	263,070	151,852	-	414,922
Fund balances - beginning	<u>3,858,959</u>	<u>3,013,401</u>	-	<u>6,872,360</u>
Fund balances - ending	<u>\$4,122,029</u>	<u>\$3,165,253</u>	<u>\$-</u>	<u>\$7,287,282</u>

# Donors

## Silver, Gold and Platinum Sponsors

Fox Ford

Buckhorn Café

Fort Peck Indian Rodeo Association

Nemont

RJS and Associates

United Insurance

NEMHS

Western Bank

TJ's Quik Stop

Bryan's

West Electronics

Harry's Night Club

Lee Insurance Agency

Fort Peck Tribes

MDU

Boss Office Products

BCS Consulting

AD Creative

## State and Federal

AIHEC

Department of Education

USDA

Carl Perkins

Department of Labor

National Institute of Health

Institute of Museum & Library

AICF

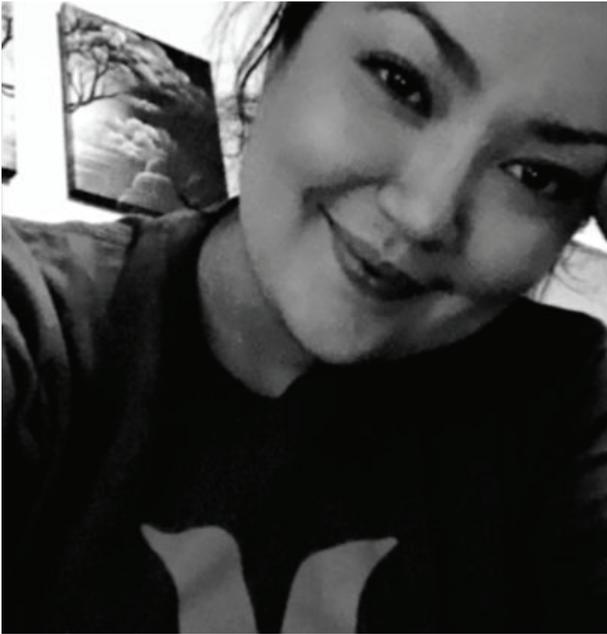
Montana Department of Transportation

Montana State University

Roosevelt County Library



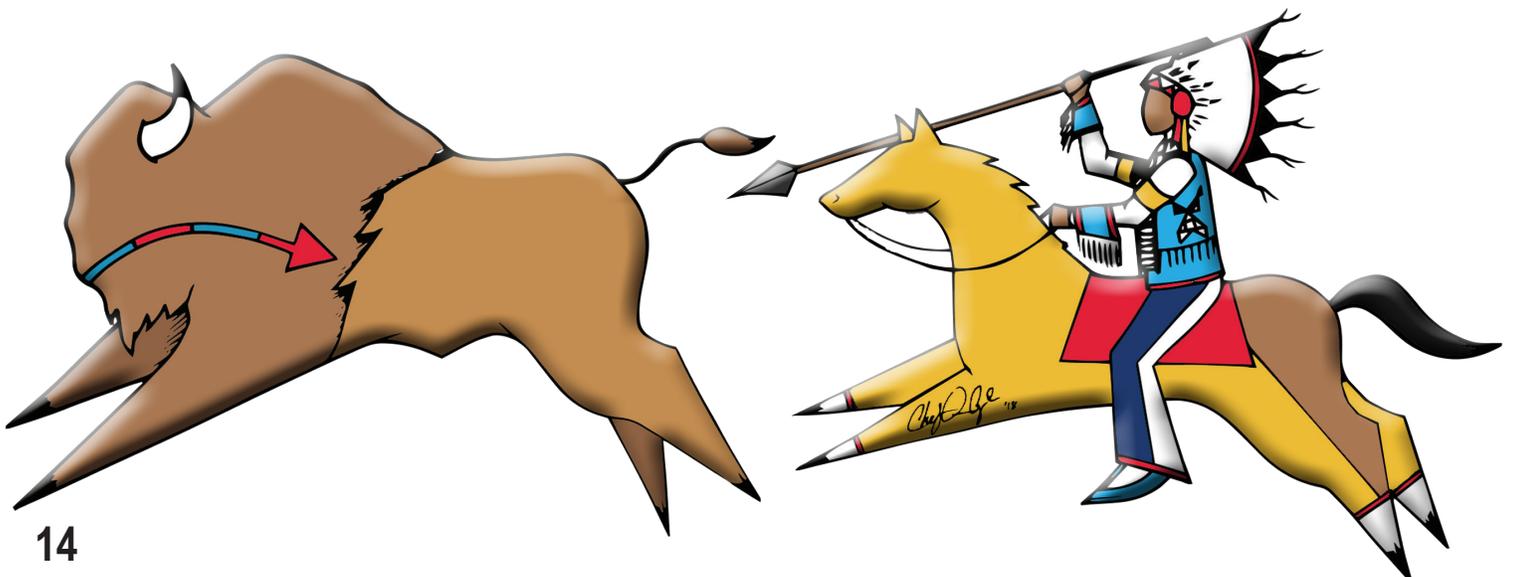
# Alumni Success



**H**ello, I am Kylee Elizabeth Sears, an enrolled member of the Fort Peck and Assiniboine Tribes born in Poplar, MT to Mike and Shelley Sears. I grew up in Fairview and Sidney, MT, but have spent the last 14 years here in Poplar. My family moved back to the area the summer before my senior year of High School and I graduated in 2007. I was hesitant to leave my friends behind, unable to imagine not graduating along with them, but I pushed through that fear of the unknown and made new friendships fairly quickly.

After High School, I was a little lost on what I wanted to do with the rest of my life. I decided to get a job, as I had always done, and just take a break from school. With that break came my son, Maddox (Maddy), in March of 2009. When he was two years old, I decided I needed to start somewhere and enrolled here at FPCC. This was one of the best decisions of my life so far. I had a wonderful instructors, advisors, mentors and so many others supporting me in my pursuit of an education. Life got in the way so I took a two year break between semesters, but I graduated in May of 2015 with my AAS in Business Technology.

I have been employed as the Human Resources/Payroll Manager in the Business Office at FPCC for the last 4 years. This position came at a time where I needed something new. I knew if I were positive about my situation of being a single mother with a not so great job, but an education, I could do anything. With that, I am proud to say I am a part of something big that benefits everyone in not only our community, but in those surrounding as well. I have made lifelong friends along the way, and I hope to continue to better myself in this place that started it all for a lot of people. If I could give anyone advice it would be to take this life day by day and remember, better late than never!



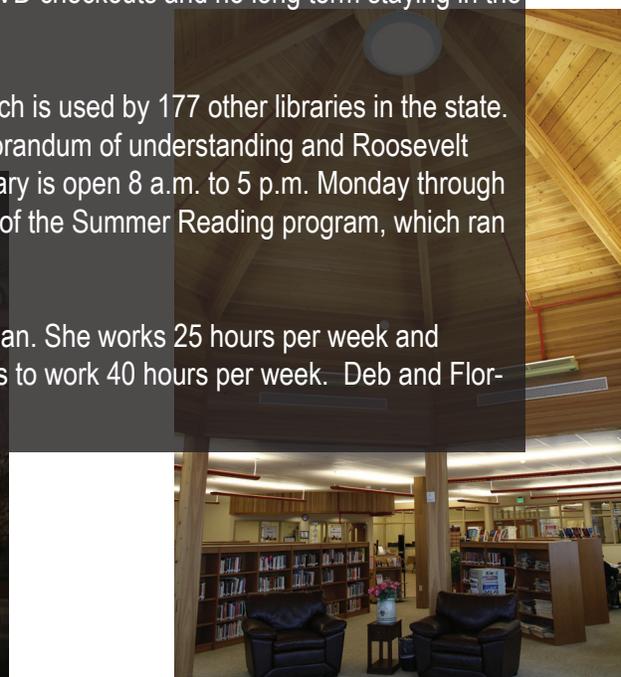
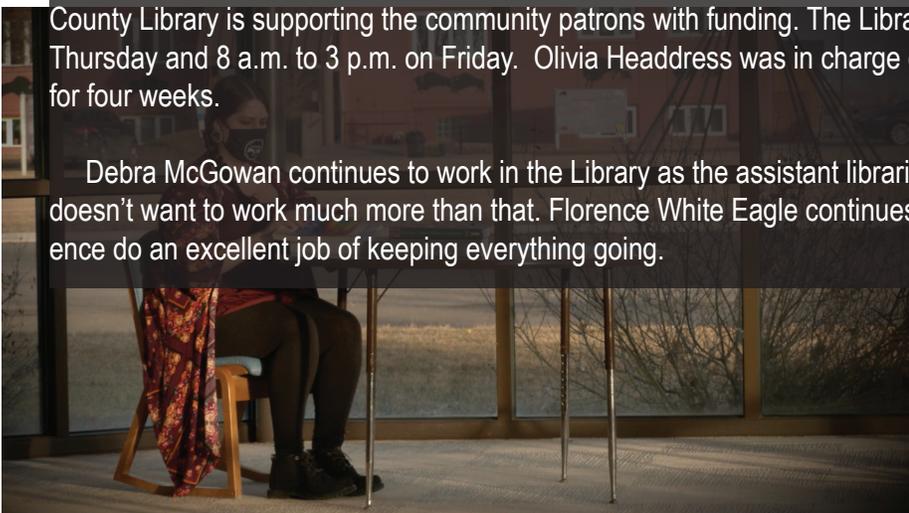


The Library is usually a bright active place. The COVID-19 pandemic has really affected the Library statistics and patron use. There was an average of 42 or more items checked out each day. The total items checked out in 2020 was 4,897 items. The Library was open 116.5 days in 2020. Normally we are open around 220 days a year. The Library added 219 new materials and 44 new patrons. The largest number of items checked out is DVD. The second largest are the computers. Many community members come into the Library to use the computers. Our study rooms have been used by community groups, college groups for meetings and students for studying. There was an increased use of study rooms by students this past year. The computer lab is being used for programs, workshops, Hi-Set testing, scheduled classes and everyday public computer use.

The COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected the Library services from March 16 on. The Library was closed from March 19 until May 26. The Library was open for limited service with no DVD checkouts and no long term staying in the Library as of the end of the year.

The Library uses Montana Shared Catalog as its circulation system which is used by 177 other libraries in the state. Roosevelt County Library and Fort Peck Community College have a memorandum of understanding and Roosevelt County Library is supporting the community patrons with funding. The Library is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday. Olivia Headdress was in charge of the Summer Reading program, which ran for four weeks.

Debra McGowan continues to work in the Library as the assistant librarian. She works 25 hours per week and doesn't want to work much more than that. Florence White Eagle continues to work 40 hours per week. Deb and Florence do an excellent job of keeping everything going.





**F**ort Peck Community College was awarded an Indian Demonstration Grant from the Department of Education in 2018. The main objectives of the Chante Project include planning and carrying out after-school activities, parent and family engagement, these activities promote protective factors and noncognitive skills development. Initially, we placed a lot of emphasis in developing relationships in team development utilizing Zaretta Hammond's book "Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain" who writes about the connection between the heart and the brain. The book describes how the brain works, and the importance of understanding the culture of the students to be successful at being a "Culturally Responsive Teacher."

The Chante team consists of an administrative team, project director, Marty Reum, two school engagement coordinators, Roxann Smith, Ed Bauer, and part-time assistant, Cal Christian. We also have coordinators in each school. Coordinating in the schools are Rhonda Sorensen-Brockton, Ron Martin-Frazer, Molly Redpath-Poplar and Janaeya Sutherland-Wolf Point. Carly Hosford-Israel was our initial project director, she left us to teach English in Brockton.

The first year included a whirlwind of jam-packed activities which included recruitment of after school program group leaders who facilitated a variety of engaging activities. Some of the types of events included: cultural workshops, peer-mentor tutoring, cooking, sewing, traveling to visit our local tribal college, MSU-Northern and a college in San Francisco, California. The 2019 summer camp at Fort Peck Community College included barn painting, Bob Ross oil painting, mural painting, ribbon skirt sewing class, as well as a camping trip to Teddy Roosevelt National Park. The Chante team engaged the communities by sponsoring exhibition dance contests at the local celebrations across the reservation. Participants received a beautifully designed scarf, by a local student artist and drawings took place for Eighth Generation wool blankets.

Things moved along at a fast pace until March 2020 when things came to a screeching halt. The Novel Corona Virus hit America. The entire country made the change to working from home. Early in the quarantine period, the Chante team ordered lavender scented boxes and filled them with a variety of supplies for families to utilize during the stay-at-home period. Some of the items included in the boxes included native-made soaps scented with natural botanicals, essential oils, two native-themed graphic novels, beading supplies with enough beads and materials to make a little pouch. Also included were playing cards, journaling supplies, a native dance workout video, mint tea, flower seeds, pens, and highlighters. These boxes were shipped to all students across the reservation who were in grades 7-12.

**16** The career development, dual enrollment, and early college programs all adapted to online teaching and learning. Planning Summer 2020 became "2020 Quarantine Camp". All the activities were set up so that students were able

to attend the camp virtually. Teachers were recruited and the camp was advertised. We had 136 registrants for the various summer camps. Chromebooks were ordered along with several pre-paid phones to be used as “hot spots.” We learned a lot about learning and teaching from home. Crash courses in “Google Classroom” took place for teachers who had never used it before. Overall, teachers who participated learned much more about being culturally relevant teachers. They were treading new ground by reaching out through phone calls, making actual home-visits, and establishing good relationships with students.

The Chante team purchased a software package that helps students to plan and map out their future career and college pathway. The software is called “Xello.” It analyzes student’s answers to about 35 questions. It is programmed to explore the type of learning style the student has and does an interest inventory. It matches students to careers that suit their personalities and interest areas. Although we have had a few issues with the software compatibility with our local schools’ networks, we are moving forward with career and college exploration. Due to Covid, we were unable to take students to visit colleges and universities. We were success in the first year and this is proven as we have a student who is pursuing her art degree in Portland.

We have a contract with Nakoa Heavyrunner, and Scott Smoker and they have developed a library of videos that will help with developing student pathways. The videos range from cultural storytelling, to the hardships of being a single parent while attending college.

Another objective is professional development for teachers and administrators. A survey was generated to find out what teachers would like and most have mentioned engaging students from a distance using technology. Chante is in the process of setting up a semester long course that teachers can take asynchronous or synchronously. They will contract with a professor from Mayville State University from North Dakota who will provide fun ways to engage students using technology in areas such as reading, math and growth mindset. CEUs and Renewable Units will be offered to participants.

Another important venture the Chante team has during the “Covid period,” is to contract with Sylvan Learning to provide reading and math development for students in most need. Students can meet virtually with teachers and utilize Sylvan’s curriculum to improve reading and math. This is a unique method of teaching because the grant is a pilot project, we can explore various methodologies.

The Chante faced hurdles as many did with Covid. We needed to find a way to deliver college and careers and provide a way for our students to have a voice. We partnered with MAPS (Media Arts in Public Schools) to assist with this piece of our grant. There were 3 principal areas of focus: podcast, photojournalism, and film. The students are exploring options of how to interview, be interviewed and use expression through art. All four schools allowed this to be part of the students’ daily schedule. Each school will produce a film based on their work in those 3 areas.

Overall, during this challenging time of Covid, the Chante Project has been working hard to meet our grant objectives. Like the buffalo who face the wind in a storm, the Chante Project has launched new innovations while maintaining safety in the workplace, and most importantly, creating opportunities for our area youth.



# Spring 2020 FPCC Graduates

Azure, Ashley	AA	Chemical Addictions
Azure, Ashley	AA	Social Work
Azure, Tia	AA	Business Administration
Azure, Tia	AA	General Studies
Azure, Tia	CERT	Accounting Technician
Azure, Tia	CERT	Business Assistant
Big Leggins, Carrie	CERT	Lay Advocate/Paralegal
Bighorn, James	CERT	Lay Advocate/Paralegal
Buckles, Breanna	AA	General Studies
Burshia, Hunter	CERT	Truck Driving
Burshia, Shanae	AA	General Studies
Burshia, Shanae	AA	Social Work
Cain, Kaeleigh	AA	General Studies
Cain, Kaeleigh	AS	General Studies
Cantrell, Tonetta	AA	Social Work
Christian, Cal	AA	General Studies
Christian, Cal	AS	General Studies
Cole, Korbin	AA	General Studies
Cooper, Michael III	CERT	Information Technology
Damm, Andrea	AS	Environmental Science
Failing, Quentin	AA	Education
Feather, Traysen	CERT	Automotive Technology
Firemoon, Marly	AA	Education
Gourneau, Alleia Emma	AA	General Studies
Gourneau, Callyn Elise	AA	General Studies
Greybull, Welsey Jr.	CERT	Automotive Technology
James, Alexx	AA	Education
Johnston, JoBeth	CERT	Graphic Web Design
Kohl, Kristen	AAS	Automotive Technology
McNabb, Malia	AA	Business Administration
Moccasin, Christopher Sr.	CERT	Information Technology
Peterson, Jessica	AA	Education
Pipe, Titan	AA	General Studies
Prichard, Ronni	AA	General Studies
Rankin, Paula	AA	General Studies
Reese, Taylor	AA	General Studies
Renz, Jeanine	CERT	Lay Advocate/Paralegal
Sears, Benjamin	CERT	Truck Driving
Shanks, Sherl	AA	Psychology
Smith, Robert	AA	Education
Sullivan, Michael	CERT	Information Technology
Three Stars, Ethan	AA	General Studies
Vermette, Roxanne	AA	General Studies
Youpee, Alyssa	AA	Human Services

# Graduation Commencement



# Alumni Success

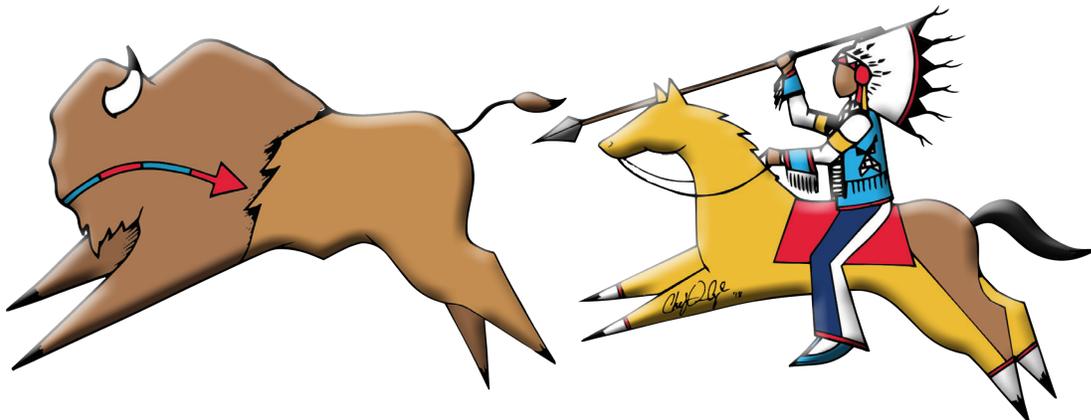


**M**y Name is Marty Reum, My Assiniboine name is Chatga (Left-hand). I was born in Idaho but raised my entire life in Wolf Point, MT. After high school, I enlisted in the US Army and served proudly until medical retirement in 2004, after 12 years of service. I moved home shortly after retirement with a lot of trauma and no tools to appropriately deal with it. I struggled with addiction for 5 years and really didn't find my path until I found our cultural ways. I have been sober for 7 years now and it has been such a breath of fresh air to live a good life.

In 2014 I returned home and completed my associates in Human Services and worked for the college for a short period of time in the community service field. I worked for a year and then chased the money to the oil field to become a roustabout and a rig hand. At the age of 42, I realized that I was too old for that game so I applied to work at the college again in the TRIO department. I worked there for two years and then was approached by Loy Sprague with an opportunity to complete my bachelor's degree in social work without leaving home.

I began attending the University of Montana through a distance learning program, this program allowed me to stay in the community and continue to work for FPCC and obtain my bachelor's degree. In the middle of my degree pursuit, I was offered a position as the Recruitment and Retention officer for the college. I worked there for a little over a year and graduated with my bachelor's degree in the spring of 2018. In 2019 I move to the Chante Project to work with our reservation schools with the intent of raising graduation rates, improving math and reading scores, and building more family engagement. My title was Chante school engagement coordinator. I held that position for almost a year and in July of this year I took over as the director of the Chante Project. I am very appreciative of FPCC for allowing me a second chance to prove that I belonged.

If I had any message for anyone out there struggling with life, don't give up!!! Just 7 years ago I was homeless with no hope for the future. With hard work and people believing in you, anything is possible. Be that light for our people who struggle to see, be that strength for those that are weak, and always try your best to be good to people. Pinamayeno.



# Alumni Success

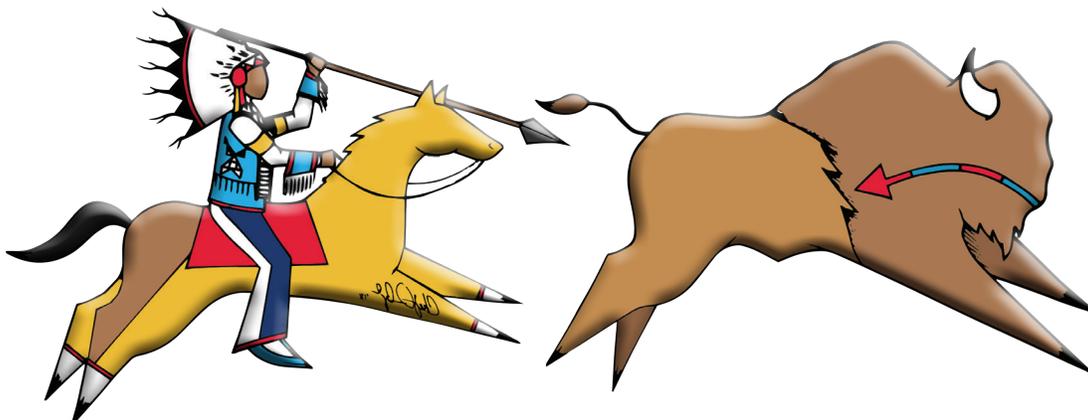
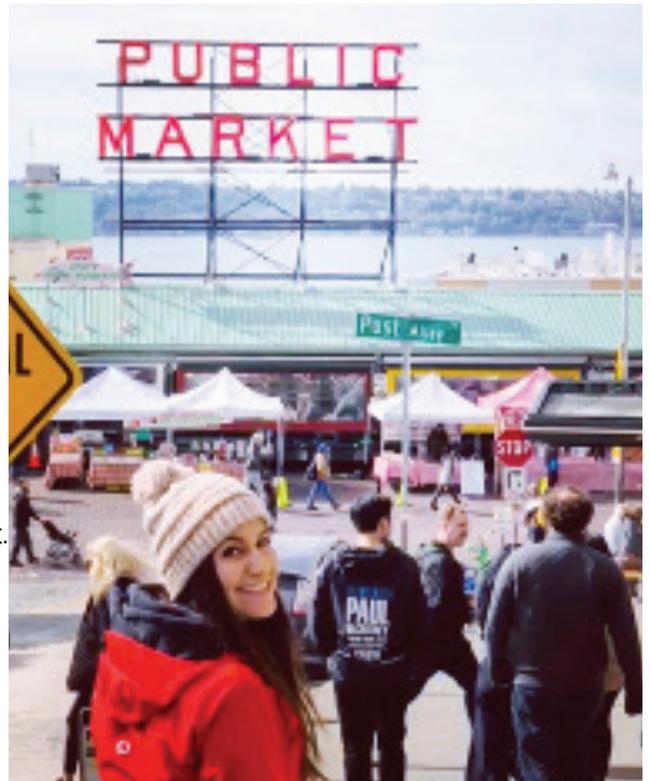
**M**y name is Megan K. Gourneau and I am an enrolled tribal member of the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes. I was born and raised on the reservation, attending Head Start up until the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade within the Poplar School systems. From there, I attended 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade at Culbertson, Montana.

Upon high school graduation, I was set to attend the University of Montana in Missoula, MT – I did not go to the University of Montana...I have never stepped foot on the University of Montana campus as a student. I chose to attend Fort Peck Community College after I graduated high school, with A LOT of coaxing and negotiating from my parents. I was not ready to make the leap to a huge university school system, on the other side of the state – my success as a student was not the most important thing to me at that age, experience and fun was.

While attending FPCC, I was given the option to complete a 2 year Associates Degree in General Studies in 1 year and that was the route that I took. The reason that this option was presented to me, was due to my participation in the Bridges Program as a high school student; I took college classes while I was in high school during FPCC's summer sessions and received a stipend for the passing of my college classes. The choice of attending FPCC was the best choice that I have made academically and the most important choice that I made as a young adult – FPCC changed my life.

After I graduated in the spring of 2011 with my Associates Degree in General Studies, I FINALLY made the leap to a large institution. I attended Montana State University in Bozeman, MT (GO CATS) and it was never the place that I had envisioned myself as a college student, but it is the place that holds my heart – that place allowed me to grow professionally, academically and personally. I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in History from Montana State University.

From there, I chose to return home to the Fort Peck reservation. I worked at Fort Peck Community College within the Student Services department as a Student Services Specialist as well as an adjunct history professor. Not only has FPCC given me my start academically, they gave me my start professionally. I will always be thankful for this small-town tribal college for their belief in me, even when I did not see it within myself at times.



# Honoring the late Mr. William Youngman Jr.

**F**PCC Board of Directors, Staff, and Faculty are honored to announce the dedication of the Old Main campus area to the late Mr. William Youngman, Jr., affectionately known on campus as Mr. Bill.

'Mr. Bill was a long time employee of the Fort Peck Tribes and FPCC. Mr. Bill was a quiet man but he had a wonderful, quiet sense of humor and as he made his way around the offices, he was always ready to share his wisdom and experience. Mr. Bill was fastidious in his care of the Old Main lawn and buildings. Even into retirement age he could be seen weekends and evenings pushing his lawnmower, sometimes with his grandchildren in tow. The community was always proud of his beautiful upkeep of the old main area as it was a focal point in Poplar.

The entire community was invited to the ceremony, which was held on Tuesday, December 17th, 2019 at 2:00 pm at Greet the Dawn building, Poplar, MT.



# Degrees and Programs

## **Associate of Arts**

Business Administration  
Chemical Addictions Studies  
Elementary Education  
General Studies  
Social Work  
Native American Studies  
Psychology  
Tribal Governance & Administration

## **Associate of Applied Science**

Automotive Technology  
Business Technology  
Communication Technology  
Information/Network Technology  
Native Language Instructor

## **Associate of Science Degree**

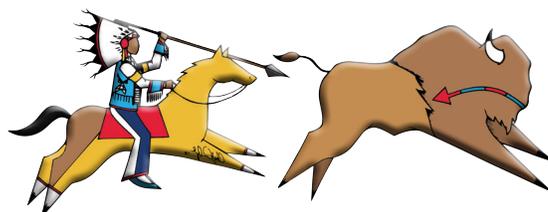
Environmental Science  
Bio-Medical  
General Studies  
Pre Health/Pre Nursing

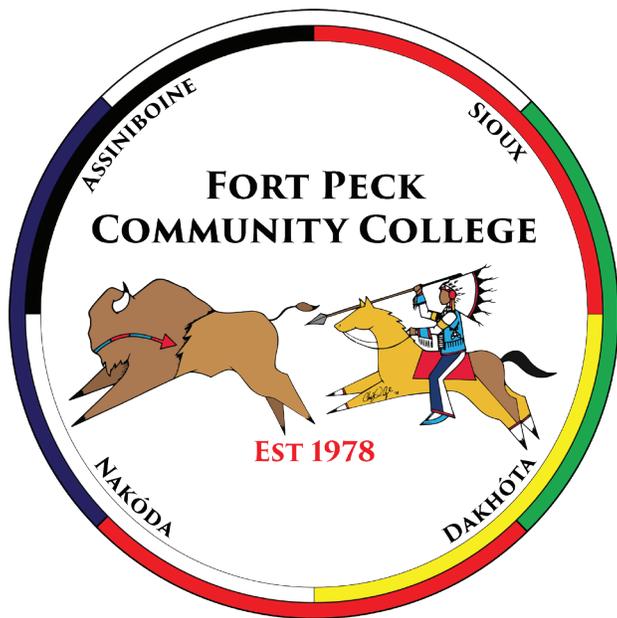
## **One-Year Certificates**

Accounting Technician  
Business Assistant  
Cultural Arts  
Lay Advocate/Paralegal

## **Certificate of Applied Science**

Automotive Technology  
Diesel Technology  
Information Technology  
Media Technology  
Truck Driving  
Welding Technology





**P.O. Box 398  
605 Indian Ave  
Poplar, MT 59255  
[www.fpcc.edu](http://www.fpcc.edu)**

