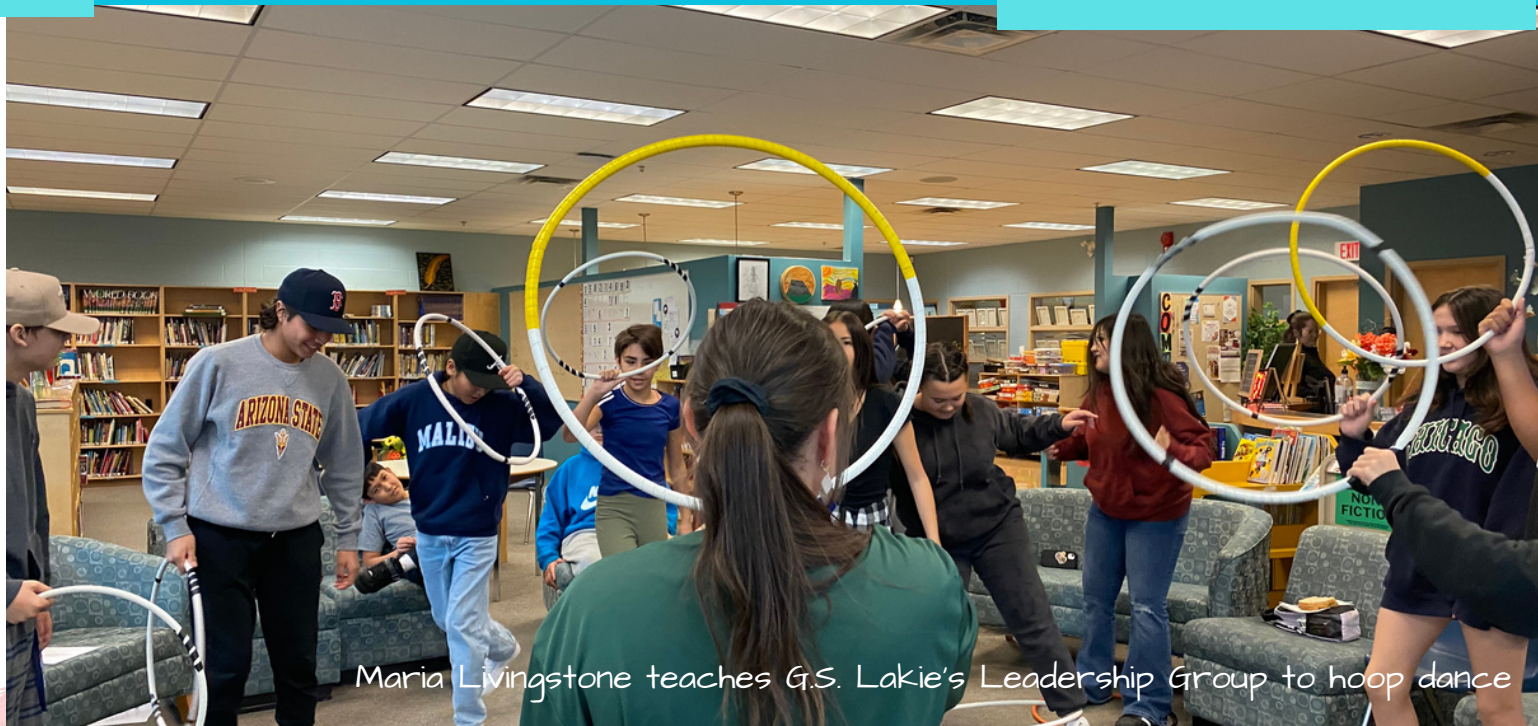


# MISAMIKO'KOMIAATO'S (MEE-SUM-EE-GOH-GOH-MEE-YAA- DOOS)

“Long Night Month”

DECEMBER 2023  
INDIGENOUS  
EDUCATION  
NEWSLETTER



Maria Livingstone teaches G.S. Lakie's Leadership Group to hoop dance

## OKI TO OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

A message from Mrs. Christiansen:

Akaisstoyiwa! It's winter!

We made it to the last month of the year and I'm thrilled by all the exciting work that our middle schools are doing with their Indigenous Education efforts!

Word of the month:  
I'taamomahkatoyiksistsiko!  
(Happy Big Holy Day!)

aka Merry Christmas!

We'll see you at our next school visit!

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Then & Now!

- [Metis Bill of Rights Passed](#)  
Dec. 1, 1869
- [Elsie Marie Knott, Canada's first elected female chief passed](#)  
Dec. 3, 1995
- Human Rights Day  
Dec. 10



[Looking for more Key Moments in Indigenous History?](#)



Learning from the Horse Professional Development with teachers

## NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS!

Check out what our Middle School's did this month!



Metis Carts with Gilbert Paterson

Our Blackfoot Astronomy Science lesson was a hit this past month! We sent grade 6 students looking for Mioohpokoiksi (Pleiades) & Ihkitsikammiksi (The Big Dipper) at [G.S. Lakie](#), [Senator Joyce Fairbairn](#), and before the month is over we'll be visiting [Gilbert Paterson](#) too!

The grade 8's at [Senator Joyce Fairbairn](#) practiced Norval Morrisseau's Woodland Style Art for their Health Days!

The grades 7 & 8 foods class at [Immanuel Christian Secondary](#) learned about Blackfoot foods and made frybread!

The Indigenous Education team brought our travelling Metis Kit to classrooms in [Gilbert Paterson](#) and [Wilson Middle School](#) for Metis Week! Your Red River Carts were amazing Pookaiksi!

The Indigenous Education team brought our School's [Indigenous Education Reps](#) to Standoff, where Shane Little Bear taught us lessons from the Horse!

# JUST FOR TEACHERS!



Winter time is a time for storytelling! Here are a few of Mrs. Christiansen's favourites!

## NAPI & THE ROCK

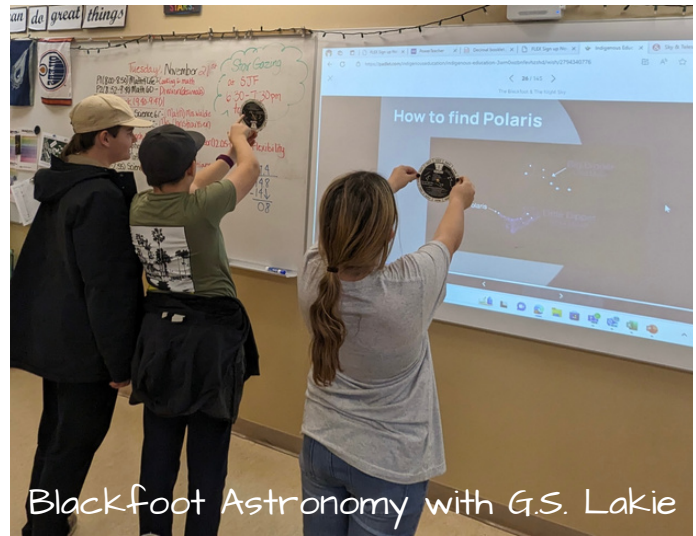
<https://www.heritagecalgary.ca/heritage-calgary-blog/mysteryofthebigrock>

## THUNDER & RAVEN

[https://www.glenbow.org/blackfoot/EN/html/traditional\\_stories.htm](https://www.glenbow.org/blackfoot/EN/html/traditional_stories.htm)

## THE FIXED STAR

<https://www.pref.kumamoto.jp/uploaded/attachment/126070.pdf>



Blackfoot Astronomy with G.S. Lakie

**Reach out to our Indigenous Education team for tips on how you can use these stories to fit your subject area goals!**



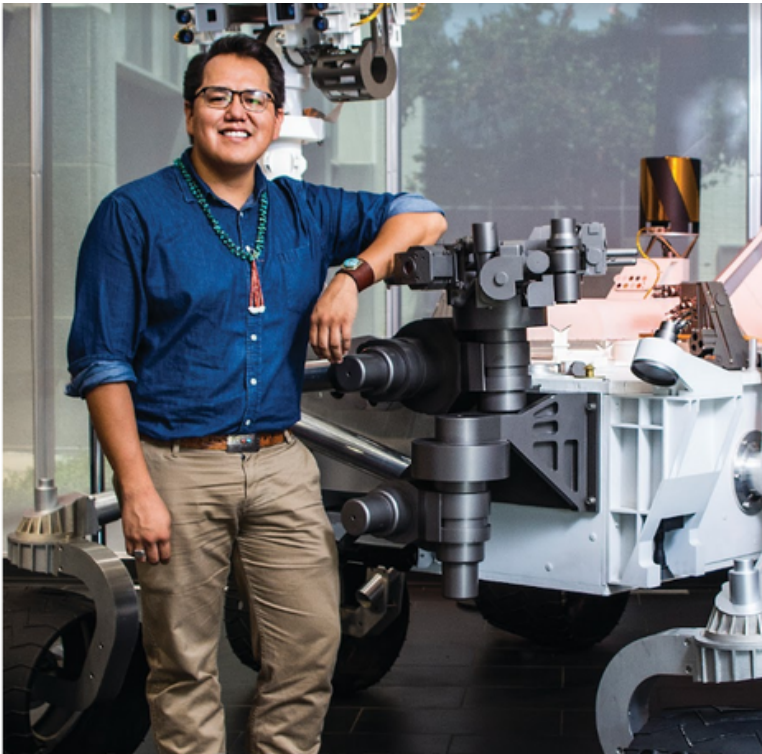
Woodland School Style Art with Senator Joyce Fairbairn

# INDIGENOUS INNOVATION HIGHLIGHT!

## Aaron Yazzie

Navajo, Arizona

### Mechanical Systems Engineer at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory



Aaron Yazzie was born on the Navajo Reservation in Tuba City, Arizona in 1986.

He is currently a mechanical engineer at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, where he designs mechanical systems for robotic space research missions.

He has worked extensively on flight hardware for missions to Mars, including the Curiosity Rover and the Perseverance Rover.

In 2017, Yazzie was honored by the Navajo Nation Tribal Council for “contributions to service and inspiration to Diné [Navajo] youth and citizens,” and he received the NASA JPL Bruce Murray Award in 2019 for “promoting inclusion and excitement in science and education especially among Indigenous Communities.”

Full Story...



# INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN THE NEWS NOW!

## Snotty Nose Rez Kids sign with Sony Music Entertainment Canada

The Haisla Nation rappers start their North American Tour November 28, 2023



## Vancouver Indigenous Fashion Week has biggest show to date

Over four days, 40 models showed off the designs of 32 Indigenous artists

