

FIRST NATIONS SUN



First Nations Sun

Anupam Sharma and Robert Daniels

DOTC - Ranger DOPS Education and Sports Initiative

An update for Summer 2014

The three partners- Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council, Ranger Insurance and the Dakota Ojibway Police Services- to the "Education and Sports Initiative for the Youth" are pleased to provide an update of some activities that have taken place during the summer of 2014.

Football Camps

Football camps were convened in three communities- Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation (August 19), Long Plain First Nation (August 21) and Waywayseecappo First Nation (August 27). Altogether, approximately 150 youth—ages 8-17—attended the three camps. At each camp, Dave Donaldson, a nine year CFL veteran and former Winnipeg Blue Bomber Defensive Back, and his team taught the kids skills of the game and, provided them with extremely important perspectives related to character-building and working together as team. They had valuable insights about leadership and, striving for excellence and setting high goals and standards.

Golf Camp

On a beautiful sunny day, September 25, 2014, McGregor Golf Course was host to the Golf Camp for Youth. Approximately 40 youth, primarily from schools in Long Plain First Nation and Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation attended the

golf camp. Ted Stouffer/Superintendent-Principal, Long Plain and George Beaulieu/Director of Education, Sandy Bay provided leadership to logistical details necessary in such undertakings. The physical-education teachers from the two respective schools, accompanied by community elders and golfers, provided the necessary lessons to skills and etiquette for the game.

"Sky's The Limit": COPA for Kids Aviation Program

Employees from RBC Royal Bank's Royal Eagles group hosted youth and their families from DOTC communities Saturday, September 20th 2014 at the Lyncrest Airport CJL5 for a free day of flying and a barbeque. The RBC Royal Eagles – Manitoba Chapter has more than 200 members who enjoy being active in the community, especially with Aboriginal children and youth. For her efforts and enthusiasm, we thank Cherrisse Kachkowsky, RBC Aboriginal Markets Specialist and Royal Eagles Steering Committee Member.

Youth between the ages of 8 to 17 experienced flying, many for the first time in their life, in a small aircraft provided by the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA). COPA is a Canadian non-profit Association representing some 18,000 pilots, aircraft owners and aviation enthusiasts across all the provinces and territories of Canada. The group consists of aviation enthusiasts, commercial pilots, engineers and business people.

For the appointed day, in addition to the flying experience, 15 youth from the DOTC communities had an opportunity to learn the technology and science of flight. The pilots showed and gave them an experience of being in the cockpit of an aircraft in flight. The youth were

shown the hard work required to achieve a pilot's license but; also the satisfaction of fulfilling life experience and opening up of satisfying job opportunities.

Although "DOTC-Ranger-DOPS Education and Sports Initiative for Youth" is driven primarily by the passionate and committed volunteers drawn from our three respective organizations, other organizations play an important role to make this initiative possible. From within the Tribal Council, we greatly appreciate the support from Long Plain First Nation, Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services and, Yellowquill College. External to DOTC, we count among our supporters Royal Bank Canada, Printpro, Parkside Ford, Enbridge, CN and TransCanada. Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Recreation Council Inc. has forwarded to us the gently-used sports equipment- especially golf clubs- that are then passed to the DOTC communities and others served by DOPS.



Christian Daniels proudly coming off his flight with his pilot.