

Call for Applications

Master of Environmental Studies in Northern Environments & Cultures with a focus on the Six Seasons of the Asiniskow Ithiniwak Project

Deadline: February 1, 2018 (for first consideration; later applications also accepted)



Applications are invited for the **Master of Environmental Studies: Northern Environments & Cultures** program at Lakehead University. This is an interdisciplinary program offered jointly by the Departments of Anthropology and Geography, designed to train graduates to investigate, understand and appreciate issues peculiar to northern environments and cultures.

Graduates of this program will have the skills to meet the challenges of environmental and cultural issues faced by communities, industries, and services in northern areas. The research focus of the program is on the arctic and boreal north – that is, the boreal forest, the ecotone between the forest and tundra, as well as the Arctic.

This call for applications specifically seeks students who will undertake Research Assistantships in collaboration with **Six Seasons of the Asiniskow Ithiniwak: Reclamation, Regeneration, and**

Reconciliation, a seven-year partnership project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. The overall goal of the Six Seasons Project is to move forward the ongoing work of reclaiming Indigenous languages, histories, and knowledges among the Asiniskow Ithiniwak (Rocky Cree). This is consistent with the calls to action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (2015) for, among many other things, the revitalization of Indigenous cultures, the “relearning of Canada’s national history,” and the reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

Master of Environment Studies candidates working on this project will undertake collaborative, community-directed archaeological research in order to advance the understanding of the Rocky Cree during the protocontact period of the mid-1600s, the Late Woodland period, the fur trade era, and more recent time periods. This research might include work with existing northern collections,

or participation in upcoming field investigations. The latter might include mapping, limited archaeological testing and analysis. Fieldwork might include documentation of archaeological sites and surrounding landscapes at five localities in northern Manitoba using photos and videos, and aerial photography, videography, and photogrammetry using drones. Lab analysis will include radiocarbon dating, conventional analysis, and extraction and characterization of microscopic and bio-chemical residue. There will also be opportunities to work with 3D scanning and printing of artifacts.

All students are considered for a generous funding package that includes a Research Assistantship in the Fall and Winter of years 1 and 2, in addition to travel grants for conference presentations. We particularly encourage applications from candidates who identify as Indigenous. Lakehead University provides many cultural support services and programs to give Indigenous learners student-centred resources and opportunities, including Aboriginal Cultural and Support Services

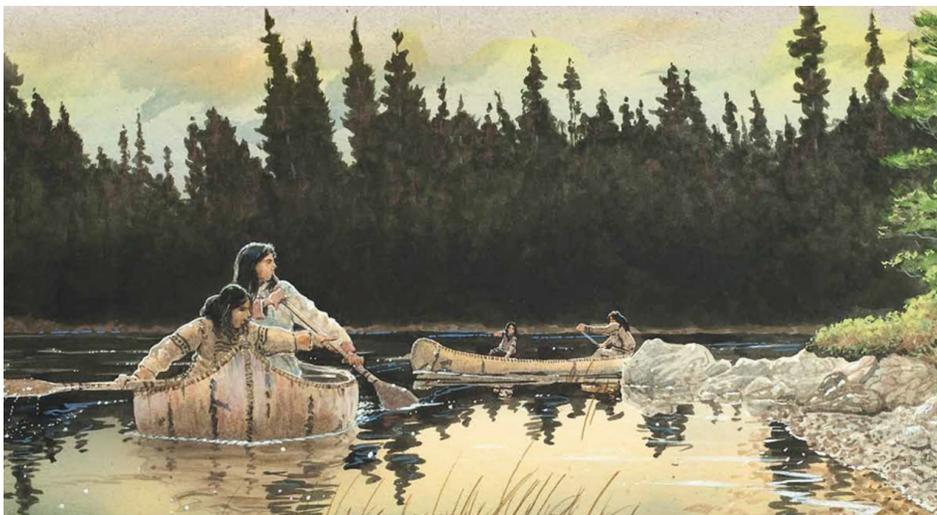
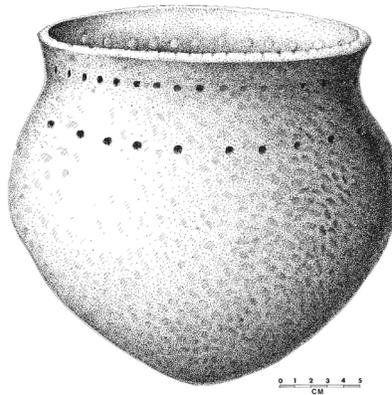
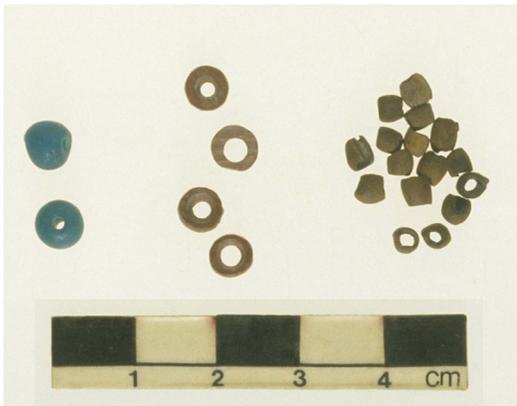
(<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/tb/aboriginal-services>) and the Native Access Program (<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/other-programs/aboriginal-programs/native-access-program>).

Further information about the **Master of Environmental Studies** program can be found here: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/departments/geography/graduate>

Further information about the **Six Seasons of the Asiniskow Ithiniwak Project** can be found here: <http://crytc.uwinnipeg.ca/index.php/projects/six-seasons-of-the-asiniskow-ithiniwak-reclamation-regeneration-and-reconciliation/>

Inquiries can be directed to:

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Images from The Manitoba Museum and Pisim Finds Her Miskanow (HighWater Press, 2013)