



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs  
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

## ***AMC Congratulates the Classes of 2022!***

**Treaty One Territory, Manitoba** – Today, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) celebrates and congratulates the graduates who completed their educational programs this year. The AMC Education Secretariat also wishes to congratulate the 2022 graduates and will continuously advocate and support First Nations students in all areas of academic endeavours.

Acting Grand Chief Cornell McLean says, "To those graduating from primary school, high school, technical school, college or university, AMC is so very proud of you! Today you have shown dedication to your studies and that with hard work, anything is possible."

AMC congratulates all Manitoba First Nations graduates; may you all look back on the past few years and be proud of all you have accomplished. While attaining an education is a challenging feat on its own, you did so during an unprecedented time that undoubtedly impacted you, and you had to adapt to a different learning environment. But despite the hardships that may have come your way, you succeeded. Your accomplishments prove that you are ambitious, brilliant, and brave.

In 1971, when the Wabung paper was released, our leaders outlined that "To be effective, education must be nurtured in relevancy, commitment, motivation, and identifiable purpose. The process must be part of the community activities and community progress." And today, we see the ways First Nations are working to incorporate the traditional knowledge and land-based learning into their education processes. This reclamation of First Nations' ways of learning is essential.

The AMC continues to advocate for more First Nation-focused curriculum developments to amend the anti-indigenous historical narratives and perceptions that have clouded the education system for too long. Our goal is to not only promote First Nations youth success but to foster empowered and inspired youth who will one day be leaders for our Nations.

Our ancestors understood the importance of education as a universal human right, essential to bridging gaps in societal well-being, equity, and opportunity. So, by graduating today, you are securing a stronger future for not only yourself but for fellow First Nations. For that, you should be so incredibly proud. Acting Grand Chief Cornell McLean concludes, "Congratulations on an outstanding achievement. Education is the key to unlocking your potential. Today, you have unlocked an incredible future for yourself and future generations."