

# Saskatchewan Aboriginal Storytelling Project

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Jessica Generoux, SAS Coordinator

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2023 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Storytelling Project! Throughout the month of February events will be taking place virtually and in-person with partners all across the province. The events will see storytellers represent many nations, such as Cree, Dene, Métis, Dakota, Nakota and Saulteaux. The **“celebration will feature a mix of online and in-person events. 65 storytellers will share children’s stories, traditional teachings, poetry, music and ceremony but, it doesn’t stop there. Personal stories will also be shared by, podcasters, video game creators, playwrights, artists and comedians.”**



“Storytelling is a very old custom of Indigenous people for cultural knowledge transmission. Storytelling now is a part of the language and cultural revitalization of Indigenous people.

**Storytelling events and projects promote, protect and preserve Indigenous knowledge in Saskatchewan.**

It is important to recognize that storytelling is an important component of Indigenous culture in Saskatchewan and we all must work towards protecting, promoting and preserving Indigenous stories. It is also important to recognize the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and Indigenous storytelling and storytellers.”

Storytelling was always a part of Jasmyn Albert’s life. When her Kohkom shared stories, she soaked it all in. It’s what made her want to become a teacher and storyteller herself. **“I was taught that as long as we’re sharing our stories, they stay alive,”** Albert says. **“When I’m in front of Indigenous students, I can feel the connection they are making to it, it lights up their spirit.”**

Albert says Aboriginal Storytelling Month is also a chance to build bridges. **“It’s a chance to share the beauty of our stories with non-Indigenous people as well,”** she says. **“To break the stereotypes and cultural biases that many have is important. I get to enlighten people and share a piece of who I am.”**

**“Having children of different ages and backgrounds connect with Indigenous storytelling/knowledge and culture is a highlight of hosting an SAS event. Their enthusiasm and joy of learning something new every time is a celebration and for many, seeing their own culture celebrated in an event is palpable. (...) The funding through this project is especially crucial for rural libraries who want to host more Indigenous programs and Knowledge Keepers.”**

-Wapiti Regional Library.



For more information & a list of events please visit:  
[www.lssap.ca/storytelling](http://www.lssap.ca/storytelling)

To increase province-wide cultural activity levels of Indigenous peoples.

To promote and enhance cross-cultural understanding.

To demonstrate the cultural and historical value of storytelling

To celebrate Indigenous cultures by promoting, preserving, and enjoying First Nations and Métis oral traditions.