Learning the Land: A Prairie Conservation Partnership

2nd Annual Transboundary Grasslands Workshop: Forum for Indigenous People

January 2017

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Jennifer McKillop, Nature Conservancy of Canada
Scott Fulton, Treaty 4 Education Alliance
Learning the Land: Native Prairie Species-at-Risk

An NCC-T4EA Partnership

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• Treaty 4 “the Qu’Appelle Treaty” (1874)
• Cree (Nēhiyawēwin), Saulteaux (Nakawē), and Assiniboiné (Nakota) First Nations
Treaty 4 Education Alliance

"Honour, Embrace and Implement Treaty Rights to Education"

Community Engagement

Student Retention

Literacy

Numeracy
Both First Nations and native prairie have been impacted by settlement. First Nations are strengthening as they reaffirm their cultural heritages and chart their own futures. Native prairie continues its decline.

Traditional Knowledge and western science both have contributions to make to conservation -- How can we work together to conserve what is left?

The Big Idea:
Years 1&2

- Community Outreach
- Resource Development
- Classroom and Field Testing
“We have to teach our children to be more Observant.”
Years 3&4

- Classroom Activities
- Outdoor Field Trips
  - prairie restoration
  - St. Victor’s Petroglyphs
- First Nations University of Canada
- The Saskatchewan Farmland Moose Project
- Inquiry Projects
- Careers in Conservation
- Class Mural Painting Project
Careers in Conservation
Mural Project
Successes, challenges & opportunities...