

Who is Wapasim (Jason Bigcharles)

Tansi, Wapastim N'Sihkasoon. Hello, my name is White Horse, my colonized name is Jason Bigcharles. I am a father of 7 and grandfather of 16. I am proudly Metis from the Metis settlement of East Prairie. I have lived on the East Prairie Metis Settlement my whole life thus far. I have been a teacher for 20+ years. Although I am Metis, my family is deeply rooted in Cree cultural practice and spiritualism. We continue to maintain a very high subsistence lifestyle, carrying on those traditions. Currently I am an Independent Education Consultant specializing in FNMI content and curriculum.

I have specialized experience in administering Culture-Based-Learning Camps and cultural teachings to students of all ages which focus on traditional Land-Based teachings of the Woodland Cree Peoples both traditional and contemporary while infusing curriculum into lessons. I am a powwow dancer, storyteller, hunter, trapper and medicinal plant gatherer and knowledge keeper. Most of my time, aside from work, is spent on the land hunting, trapping, gathering medicinal plants, passing on teachings and visiting elders. Along with being dedicated to his traditions and spiritualism, I am also dedicated to lifelong learning and the belief that learning never stops.

K'ninaskomitin (I am grateful, and my spirit is lifted by you)



Session Overview

In this session, Jason will introduce the website "[Indigenous Culture Based Learning in Alberta Curriculum](#)" and the resources created for educators to support infusing curriculum into Indigenous Culture from the context of Cree and Metis traditional teachings. Jason will begin by providing teachings on the 4 Directions/4 Colors that are highlighted in the Culture Based Learning Foundations of Cree Ways of Being. Jason will then walk participants through the website and resources provided with the direct connections to the Alberta Curriculum for grade level and subject specific outcomes.