

ENHANCE YOUR ABORIGINAL CURRICULUM CONTENT

THE BALLANTYNE PROJECT & PRESENTATION



The Ballantyne Project is the only organization in Canada consisting of a team of young Indigenous leaders who are actively engaged in eliminating the barriers that are currently restricting the opportunities for individuals living in remote First Nations, as well as creating social change by bringing awareness to Canadians about life in remote First Nations through an educational and impactful presentation.

Bringing Awareness to Middle & Secondary School Students About Indigenous Culture, History, and Current Issues

The Ballantyne Project has just launched a 60-minute educational and interactive presentation that is designed for all students and has been created after educators and school administrators expressed a need for experiential learning opportunities for students that would compliment the new First Nations curriculum content.

Dwight Ballantyne will share his personal story of growing up in a remote First Nation community facing barriers due to isolation, economic disadvantages, and the impact of colonialism that still resonates today.

The presentation consists three modules:

- Traditions as experienced personally by Dwight.
- The challenges faced by youth and young adults currently living in First Nations.
- A chance for students to become actively engaged in creating social change.

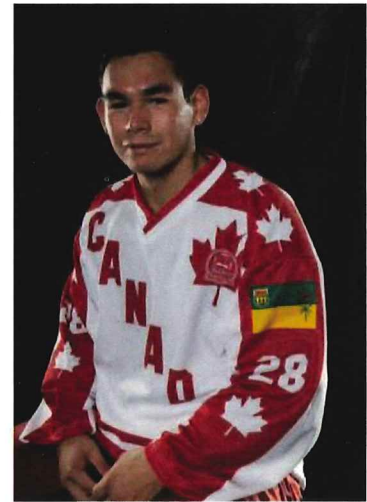
RAISING AWARENESS

#WESEEU CAMPAIGN



*The Ballantyne Project launched a #WeSeeYou campaign. We want individuals living in remote First Nations to know that they are not **INVISIBLE**. Join the movement!*

Dwight was born and raised in Montreal Lake Cree Nation, Saskatchewan, a remote northern community of approximately 2,000 people where he faced the same barriers of isolation and unemployment as many youth currently living in remote First Nations in Canada. In February 2016, at the age of 21, Dwight heard of a one-year College Preparation Program being offered in British Columbia for Indigenous youth, and made the difficult decision to leave everything and everyone he had ever known to pursue education, employment, and hockey.



Dwight Ballantyne - Founder

In January 2018, Dwight decided he wanted to create opportunity for other young men living in remote reserves who also had a passion for hockey. Dwight developed and directed a Hockey Skills & Leadership Program and this led him to receive the BC Premier's Award for Indigenous Youth Excellence in Sport in November 2018.

In March 2019, Dwight was invited to represent Team Canada in an international hockey tournament in Europe, where Canada won gold for the first time in 22 years. Upon returning from this once in lifetime experience, he was again inspired to provide opportunity to others living in remote First Nations, as well as bring awareness to Canadians about life in remote First Nations, and founded The Ballantyne Project.



Bringing Inspiration and Opportunity to Rural and Remote First Nations in Canada

In April 2019, Dwight launched The Ballantyne Project. He gathered a team of people who possessed the experience and passion necessary, and also formed partnerships with the Martin Family Initiative, and the Mission Friendship Centre Society to create a four-week Entrepreneurship Program.



The Ballantyne Project team travels once a month to rural and remote First Nations in Canada for four-day visits from September to May, where Dwight and another team member (Noel Desjarlais) share their experiences since leaving their communities to provide inspiration and encouragement.



This project is currently partially funded by a grant from the RBC Foundation which allows the team to travel for the four-day visits to First Nation communities.

THE PRESENTATION

The Ballantyne Project offers a 60-minute presentation by Dwight Ballantyne, followed by a Q&A session, which will include the following:

Tradition:

- Family connections & community
- Traditions
- Sweat lodges
- Molanosa Cultural Days - including video showcasing canoe races, jigging, horseshoe competitions
- Traditional food - BLT (bannock, lard, and tea), neck-bones, moose meat, smoked wild meat
- Ice fishing
- Star blankets, dream catchers, beading, smudging, and sweet grass

Today's Challenges:

- Isolation
- Generational cycles & reliance on family
- No possibilities for independence - no bank, unable to move out on your own, no general life skills
- Difficult or impossible to get driver's license
- Extremely limited employment opportunities
- Unable to experience anything outside of your community
- Poverty, addiction, suicide, incarceration, teen pregnancy

A Chance for Student's to Become Actively Engaged in Creating Social Change:

- At the end of the presentation, we will offer the students an opportunity to participate in our 'We See You' campaign.

All donations to The Ballantyne Project will be directed to our efforts of travelling to remote First Nation communities to promote entrepreneurship and self- determination.

*To book a presentation contact Denise Trottier at (604) 375-5238
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