

THE SUN WILL RISE

I was given the name Mook'aam Ikwe, which translates to Sunrise Woman, but I am known as Nicole. One of my Indigenous elders Patricia Danard gifted me this name which I wear with grace and hold in high honor. I was born in the fall when the leaves began to turn their vibrant colors on Haudenosaunee land. I am connected to the land's boreal forests, waterfalls, rigid escarpment and Great Lakes. The vibration of the land gives me a sense of security which I did not find when I ventured overseas in my younger years. Although I miss the lands of my ancestral lands, I am now a guest on Treaty 7 among the Rocky Mountains and the Bow River. The elegant flow of the river which waves hold ancient stories within its ripples. I am grateful to the peoples of the land to welcome me and give me my Blackfoot traditional name Beak Saki which was gifted to me after seen in a dream. I am known as Magpie Woman the magpie is an intelligent and diligent bird.

My Indigenous ancestry includes both the Algonquin and Huron- Wendat Nations. My healing journey began when I returned to Turtle Island in late 2015. At this time, I started to reconnect with traditional ways of knowing, embraced my Indigenous identity, and continued my journey of discovery.

My spiritual journey has been a twisted road which has ultimately been a source and spectrum of emotions allowing me to heal through grounding, and senses of hope and finally peace. I have found growth and a deepened understanding of myself as I have strengthened my connection to my current spiritual community. I am a firm believer that the Creator, through my own curiosities guided me to my final spiritual destination.

One may develop resilience as I found through intergenerational traumas such as addictions and various forms of abuse, including emotional, mental, physical and spiritual. My life story has been touched by varying degrees by all of these areas, however I am committed to turning these negative experiences into positive learning lessons. I want to empower others by sharing strength and helping others in their journey to building resiliency and finding peace. I have reconnected to my culture by joining ceremonies and traditional sweat lodging, sharing circles and smudging, and leading circles of learning. My family has been instrumental in sharing ways of knowing through storytelling. Charles Johnson, my 2nd great grandfather left Quebec in the mid 1800's to settle in the bush in Hastings County, Ontario.

I began to understand my family through my personal research with verified bloodlines of past generations; and their secrets and their deeply held stories of survival.

My own personal journey has been the foundational block in developing compassion and empathy as I engage clients. I carry a unique perspective and understanding for those who may face complex challenges while maintaining professional boundaries and confidentiality. Personal experiences have molded my approach when supporting and working with others in a professional manner. My mission is to help others move forward in a proactive manner to overcome their barriers. I have been motivated to give back to both the Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. In supporting those in need in my community I have utilized system navigations including; agency advocacy, translating in provincial court, connecting to resources while encouraging independence.

I volunteer yearly with the ALS Society of Alberta *Betty's Run*. I have found that giving to others offers a rewarding reflective life gift to the giver. My own mother was an ALS warrior which took her young life at the age of 55, after a short battle with this devastating disease. I was my mother's caregiver since the age of 11 years old. Volunteering at the ALS annual events is my way of doing my part in helping support research efforts and other services the association offers their clients.

I am also a volunteer mentor with the 6 Nations Rivers to Success initiative. As I grew up a short distance from the reserve, I have warm memories of the Mohawks traditions and culture. As an expression of gratitude for this relation and the sense of belonging it has provided me, I now volunteer as a way of paying forward. This initiative reaches Indigenous peoples across Turtle Island from all walks of life that want to enrich their educational experiences. This venue has given me the opportunity to provide counselling and advocacy and a way to connect others to relevant resources while inspiring myself to social work. I am now pursuing my education as a student through Northern Lakes College social work diploma program offered online through distance learning. This financial aid would provide the means necessary for me to be able to accomplish my goal of becoming a registered social worker.

I once heard when you are able to speak of past traumas with even breathe, it is a sign of movement towards a deeper healing. I have noted in my personal healing this to be true. In honoring my own journey and my gratitude to the Creator, I actively choose to support others on their journey and hope for no recognition other than from the Creator.



Indigenous education, | L'éducation des autochtones.
Canada's future. | L'avenir du Canada.

She:kon/Tansi/Aaniin
To whom it may concern;

We would like to acknowledge that Nicole Al Takach has been an active member and mentor in our Rivers to Success mentorship program since January 2023.

If you would like to learn more about our mentorship program, please find us at: riverstosuccess.ca and join!

Kind regards,

Chelsea Reid

Mentorship Advocate
905-765-1544

Head Office

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50 Generations Drive
Six Nations of the Grand River
Ohsweken, ON
N0A 1M0

1.855.INDSPIRE (463.7747)
fax: 866.433.3159

Toronto Office

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Suite 601
Toronto, ON M5V 3B1

1.855.INDSPIRE (463.7747)
fax: 416.926.7554

indspire@indspire.ca

A stylized graphic element consisting of a black, curved, wedge-like shape pointing to the right, with a white outline.

indspire.ca

Hello Nicole,

We'd be thrilled to have you continue as a mentor on our Rivers to Success platform. With over 20 hours devoted to guiding 12 of our mentees, your dedication embodies the qualities we seek in a mentor.

We look forward to continuing to work with you!

Nia:wen, (thank you)

Paige Hill

Mentorship Advocate

Phone: 905-765-1567

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Emily Penley Christmas
Manager of Fundraising & Communications
ALS Society of Alberta
emily@alsab.ca
403-228-3857

July 3, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to recommend Nicole Al Takach for future volunteer opportunities. She recently volunteered with our organization, the ALS Society of Alberta at the 28th annual Betty's Run for ALS on June 9, 2024.

Nicole demonstrated a strong willingness to help and showed enthusiasm for our cause. She approached her tasks with dedication and completed them effectively. Nicole's efforts were greatly appreciated by our team. I believe Nicole has the potential to make valuable contributions to any organization she volunteers with in the future.

Please feel free to contact me at 403-228-3857 or emily@alsab.ca if you have any further questions regarding Nicole Al Takach's experience with us.

Sincerely,

Emily Penley Christmas
Manager of Fundraising & Communications
ALS Society of Alberta

COPY



NORTHERN LAKES COLLEGE

Student Admissions
1201 Main Street S.E., Slave Lake, Alberta T0G 2A3
Tel: (780) 849-8600 Fax: (780) 849-2570
Toll Free: 1-866-652-3456
admissions@northernlakescollege.ca

DATE: November 3, 2023

RE: Nicole Al Takach

ID: 198221

PROGRAM: Social Work

LOCATION: Anywhere – Home Based

This is to confirm that the above mentioned has **been accepted in the Social Work Diploma** as a **FULL-TIME** student, which runs on the following dates:

START DATE: September 03, 2024

END DATE: June 25, 2026

If you require further information, please call the Admissions Office at (780) 849-8600 or toll free at 1-866-NLC (652)-3456.

Sincerely,

Tylane Kada
Admissions Support- Office of the Registrar
Northern Lakes College
1201 Main St. SE
Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A3
Toll Free: 1-866-652-3456
Fax: 1-780-849-2570
Email: admissions@northernlakescollege.ca
Web: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/>



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STUDENT INFORMATION:

STUDENT #	198221	NAME:	Nicole Al Takach
CAMPUS:	Homebased	PROGRAM:	SD

At Northern Lakes College (NLC), accommodations are provided to students who qualify to ensure all persons are treated as per their documented needs. Accommodation DOES NOT mean that we lower academic and non-academic standards. All students are required to develop the essential skills and competencies needed to successfully complete their program.

This student is entitled to accommodations as set out by NLC Policy and the Alberta Human Rights Commission (2010). Accommodations listed below are general and may need to be adjusted according to your program content and needs. Please review the accommodations listed and contact me if there are any questions or concerns.

Effective Dates:

September 3/2024 – December 12/2024

Classroom Accommodations:

1. **Read&Write** - (Text-to-speech; speech-to-text software provided by Accessibility Services). For any questions or concerns regarding R&W, please contact accessibilityservices@northernlakescollege.ca
2. **Renegotiate due dates (assignments only)** – discussion with instructor required *at least 2 business days before* due date. Ultimately, the instructor has the choice to allow for a later due date. If granted, instructor and student are *required to work together* to determine an appropriate length of time for the extension.

Test/Exam Accommodations: (See last page of LOA for more info)

1. **Extra time (1.5x)** – If assessment is online and you are unsure how to provide extra time in Brightspace, please email the Centre for Teaching and Learning at thecentre@northernlakescollege.ca for assistance.
2. **Read&Write** - (Text-to-speech; speech-to-text software provided by Accessibility Services). For any questions or concerns regarding R&W, please contact accessibilityservices@northernlakescollege.ca
3. **Use of paper during exams** – Student is able to bring a blank sheet of paper to write on during exams. If the exam is online, she may look down at the sheet while writing. If Proctorio is being used, this may flag her for cheating. Please manually review the footage to confirm there is no cheating.

Respectfully,



Adam Durdle, Accessibility Services Coordinator

Slave Lake Campus - 780-849-8754

Toll Free – 1-888-652-8780 ext. 8754

accessibilityservices@northernlakescollege.ca

Notes for Instructors regarding exams:

There are times when accommodated exams cannot take place at the same time or location as the scheduled exams, for example: scheduled exam time is 1:00pm – 4:00pm. However, if a student has double time as part of their accommodations, the student would have to start the exam at 10:00am, to allow for a six-hour exam time (10:00am – 4:00pm).

If it is not possible for a campus to invigilate a test with extra time, please contact Accessibility Services for assistance.

If a student requires remote invigilation, they will be required to complete an invigilation form and submit it to Accessibility Services (AS) for approval. The booking and any fees associated with external invigilation will be the responsibility of the student.

For students who have “paper-based exams only” as an accommodation, and the scheduled exam is online, the student and instructor must contact AS (at accessibilityservices@northernlakescollege.ca) a minimum of 5 business days prior to the scheduled exam date. All pertinent information must be provided, including, but not limited to: date and time of exam, course name, campus, etc.

Slave Lake campus only

- when students have extra time, it may be necessary for the student to write in an alternate setting. In this case, please contact AS at accessibilityservices@northernlakescollege.ca to set up the date/time arrangements for the test.
- if the student is writing a paper-based test in an alternate setting, please forward a copy of your test to AS FIVE days in advance.

Alliance Autochtone du Québec Native Alliance of Quebec



Prénoms Given Names Nicole
Nom Name Al Takach

Communauté Community
Éloigné - 099

Nation d'origine Nation
Algonquin - Huron

N° de registre Registry
0990241175



N. Al Takach

Member - Signature - du membre Grand Chef-Grand Chief

Alberta

IDENTIFICATION CARD



No **0808-66882**
Exp **10 SEP 2026**



AL TAKACH
Nicole Stephanie
259 Woodridge Dr SW
Calgary AB T2W 4S4

DOB **10 SEP 1970**
Sex **F** Eyes **Haz** Hair **Brn**
Ht **175 cm** Wt **85 kg**
Iss **04 OCT 2021**



0808-66882



Retourner à/Return to: L'Alliance Autochtone du Québec, 21 rue Brodeur, Gatineau, QC J8Y 2P6

Date de naissance/Date of Birth:
10-09-1970 (j/m/a) - (d/m/y)

Date d'expiration/Expiration Date:
04-07-2029 (j/m/a) - (d/m/y)

Cette carte atteste que le détenteur peut se prévaloir des droits Aboriginaux applicables, protégés constitutionnellement ou par statut Fédéral ou Provincial, incluant:

1. Les droits de cueillette à des fins de subsistance, social et cérémonial.
2. Les droits issus de traités de troc de biens traditionnels pour des "nécessités".

Cette carte appartient à l'Alliance Autochtone du Québec et la cotisation est payable annuellement et ce sans exception.

This card attests that the bearer may exercise applicable Aboriginal rights, protected constitutionally or in Federal or Provincial statute, including:

1. Harvesting rights for food, social and ceremonial purposes;
2. Treaty-based rights to trade traditional goods for "necessities".

This card belongs to the Native Alliance of Quebec and the membership fee is payable annually without exception.



TO IDENTIFY PERSONS TO THE ALBERTA GOVERNMENT



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