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December 13, 2024



Native-centered thinking at NMU and the Center for Native American Studies

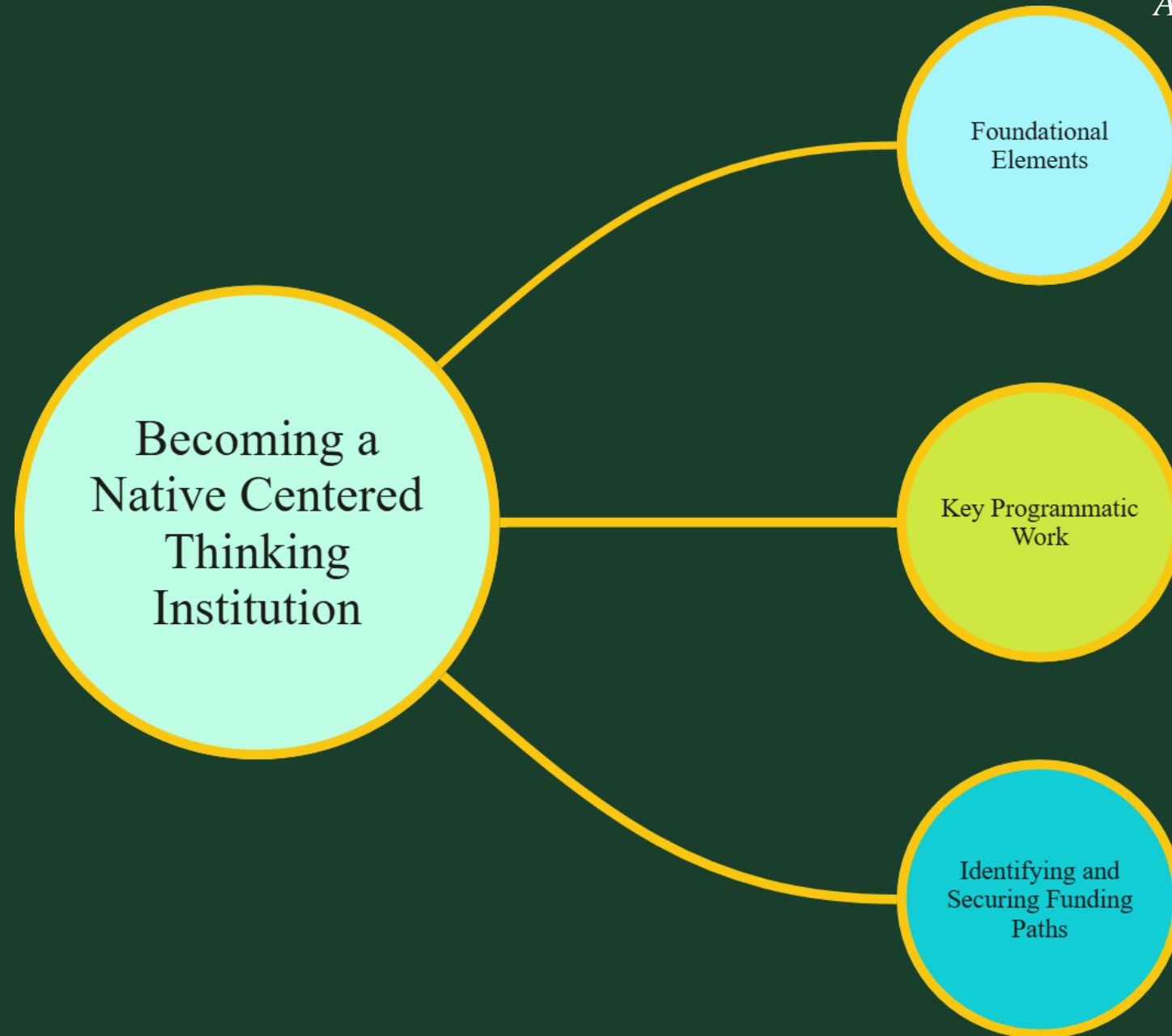


Nurture Indigenous perspectives, programs, and peoples at NMU in order to honor, learn from, and partner with the tribal nations that have thrived in our region for many generations.

Strategy 1.2



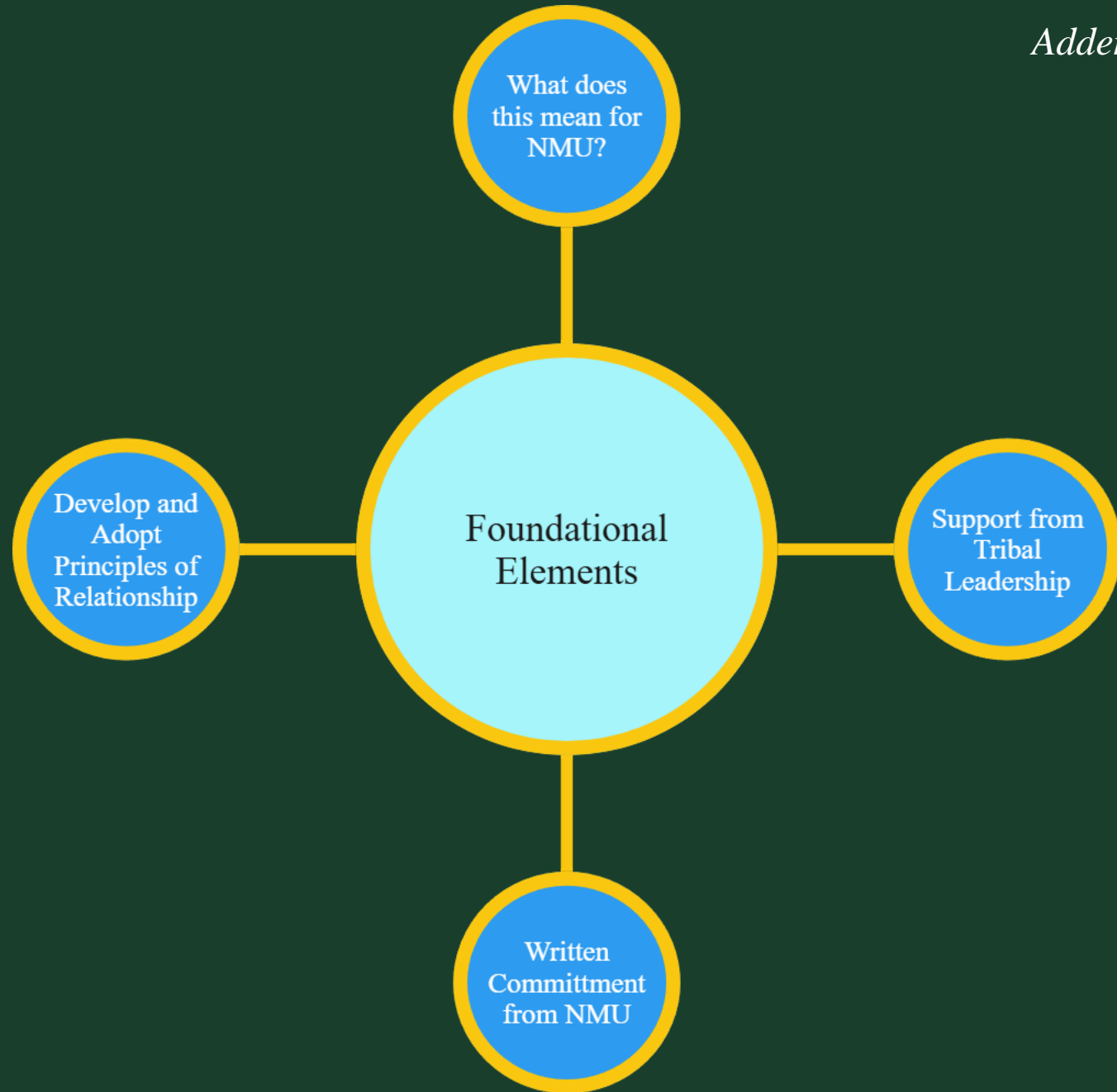
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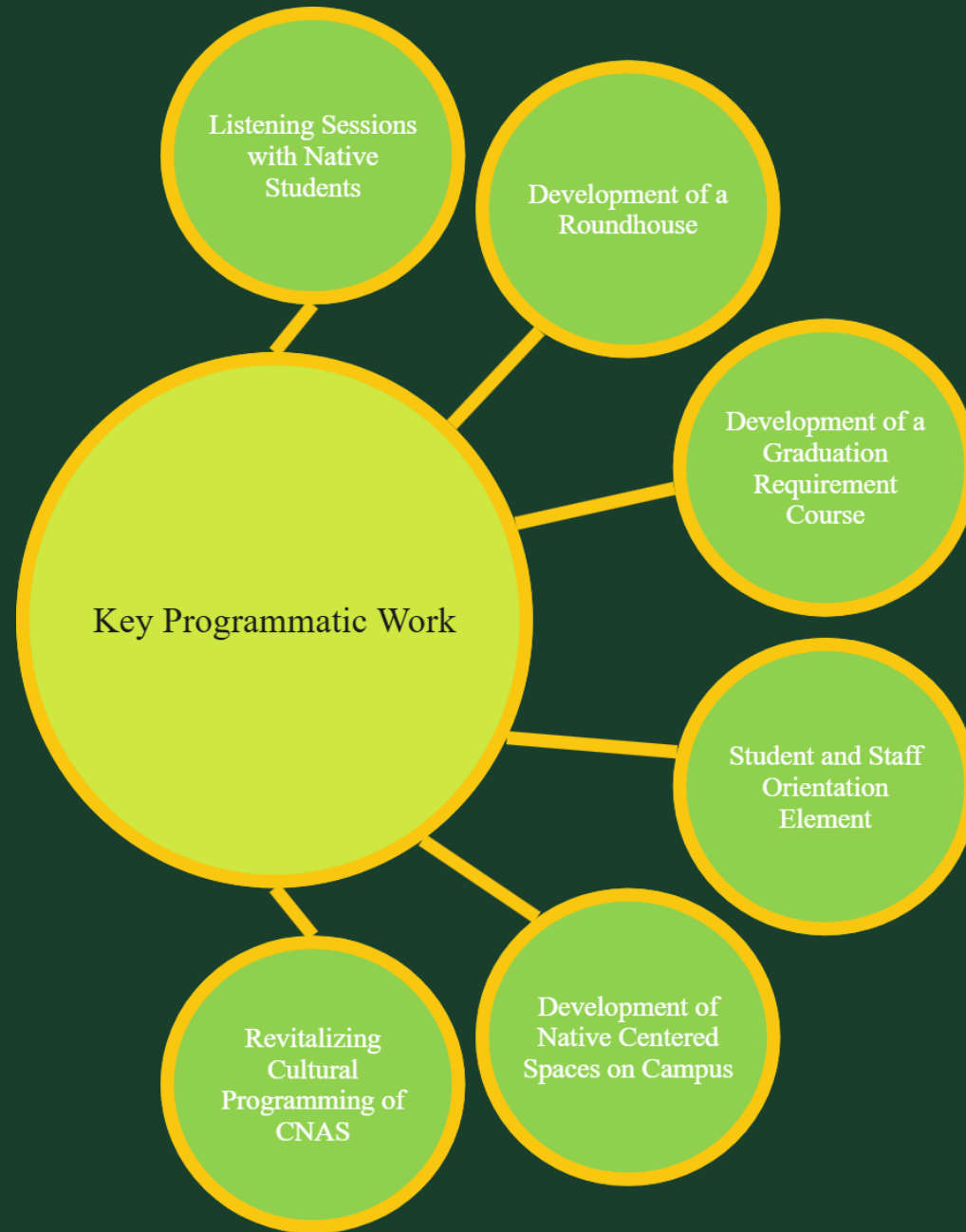
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Addendum #1



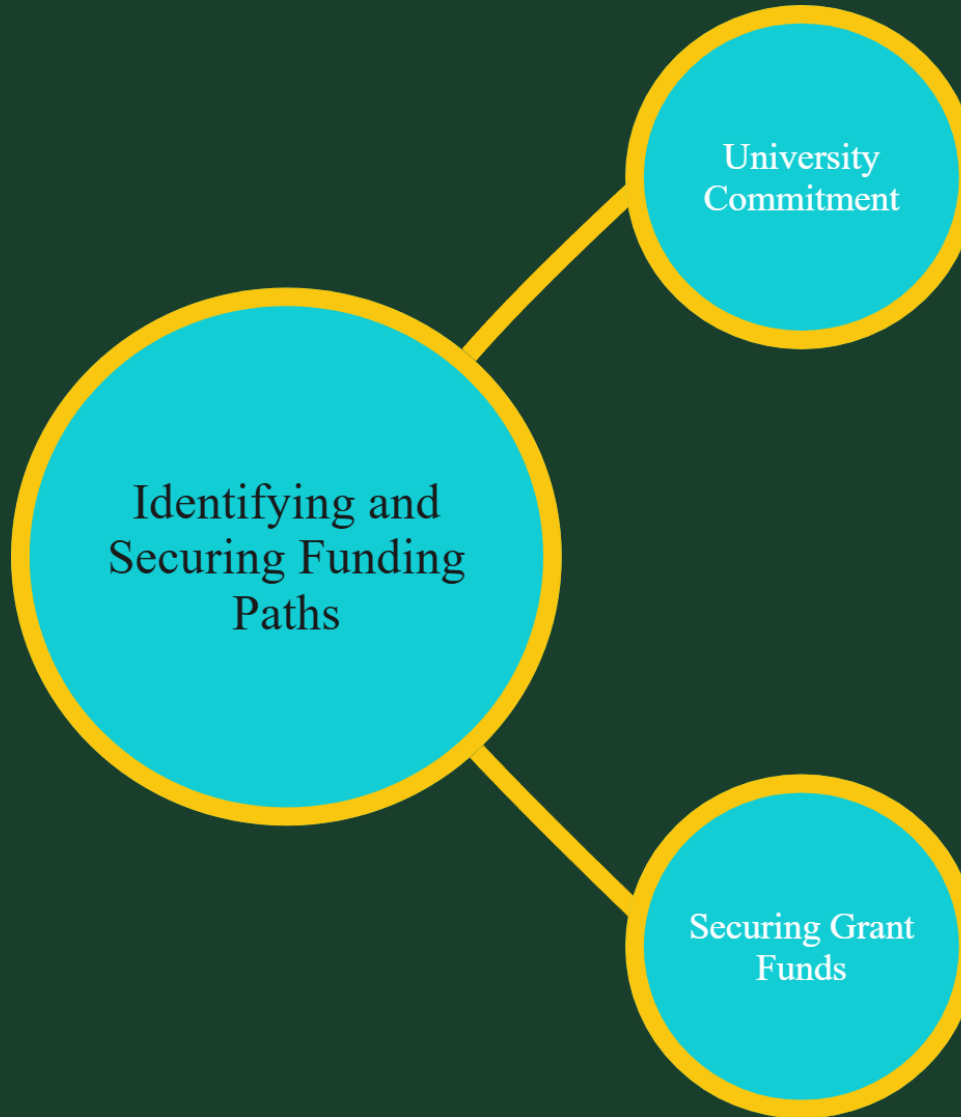


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NASNTI – an outcome of our strategy



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- 10% Native Student enrollment (Undergraduate)

Serving Indigenous Students and Communities: Earn recognition as a Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institution (NASNTI), indicating the successful strengthening of student support programs through the integration of Indigenous thinking methodologies that are responsive to the unique social and cultural needs of Native American students.

To truly become a Native-serving institution, NMU needs to transform into a Native-centered thinking institution.

MiLeap – A grant to support the outcome of our strategy



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- Team Applied for Go Big Funding from the State of Michigan (April Lindala- Lead Grant Writer) in October
- President Tessman, David Nyberg, Dale Kapla and Caroline LaPorte presented at United Tribes of Michigan
- Listening Sessions with Native Students
- Team met with MiLeap Evaluators in November
- Presently Waiting to Hear Back on Award of Funds
- Strengthening Pathways North Initiative
- Team to Visit 2 NASNTI Designated Programs
- ID 6 New High Impact Practices
- Hire new staff to support Strengthening Pathways North
- Additional Grant Components (if awarded funds)

Relational Leadership Interdisciplinary Connections



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Health

Decolonizing Diet Project (DDP)
Running Spirit
N8V Dance Fitness

Governance

Indigenous Earth Issues Summit
Native American Service Learning Conference
Tribal Law & Government Field Trips

Education

NAS Curriculum expansion
UP Indian Education Conference
Undergraduate Certification NA Ed
M.A. curriculum for K12 Teachers

Identity

*

Community & Culture

*

Ojibwe Language Revitalization

*

Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Art & Expression

NEA 2012 |CLANS project | grant with LVD
NEA 2020 | GLIAEH project | grant with KBOCC

Social Work

2017 OVC Grant | Native Circle Project
Mino-bimose'idiwag Advisory Council

Stories & Media

Anishinaabe News and *Anishinaabe Radio News*
Decolonizing Exhibit with Beaumier Ctr
MI Humanities | *Voice on the Water* 2011
Sweet Grass Cinema

STEM

2016 NSF INCLUDES|Indigenous Women Working within the
Sciences and Reimagine STEM

Land & Water

DDP Harvest
Walks
Sugar Bush Camp
Wild Rice Camp

2019 NSF EAGER|Ancestral Knowledge
Towards Sustainable Computing

NMU Center for Native American Studies

Addendum #1

www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans



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Pertinent research

Dr. Reinhardt led the Decolonizing Diet Project (DDP). The DDP was an exploratory study of the relationship between people and Indigenous foods of the Great Lakes Region.



Helping with the study were volunteer research subjects, a McNair scholar, freshmen fellows and other student researchers.



New Leadership

Addendum #1



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- Caroline LaPorte, J.D. (Immediate Descendant of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and Attorney/Associate Judge at LRBOI) – Native American Studies Academic Department Head
- Tyler Dettloff, M.A.- New Director and two-time NMU alumna

Native Students on Campus



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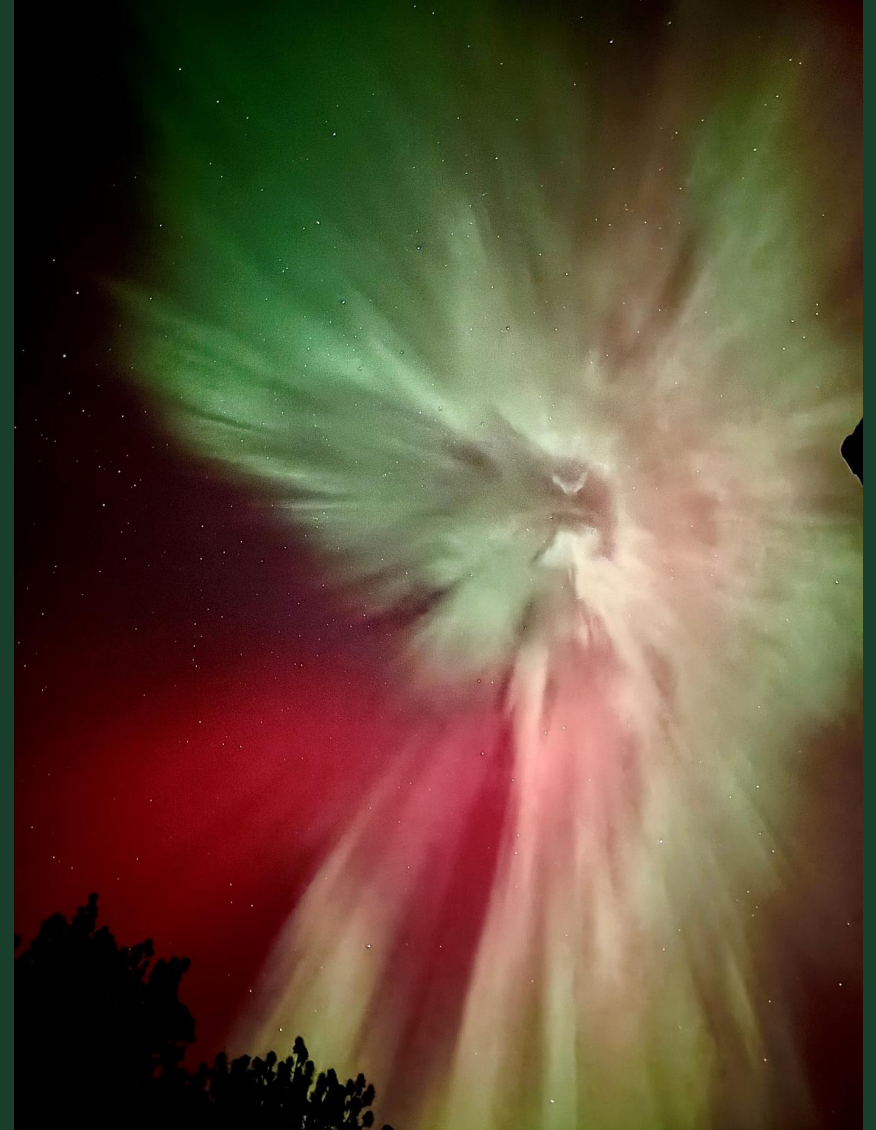
- Our Priority
- For the past five years, we have had 55 distinctly named Federally Recognized Tribes represented by our student body
- Fall of 2024:
 - 135 Native Students
 - 209 Students who Identify as Mixed Race with “Indian” as one selection.
- We are focusing on belonging, connection and community, academic success (graduation rates), availability of cultural practices, high impact practices for Native students, and student well-being.
- The Center is a **home** for Native students on campus and NMU has reiterated its long standing commitment to our faculty and staff and our programming (both academic and service based) through ***Our Compass.***



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What can students find at CNAS? Addendum #1

- Present faculty and staff
- Spirit Garden
- Tribal Nation Flags
- Traditional Medicines
- On campus Fire Site
- Tribal Focused Resource Library
- Academic and Community Support





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Continued

Addendum #1

- High Impact Practices
 - Connections with National Organizations for Internships
 - NABS
 - NIWRC
 - STTARS
 - StrongHearts Native Helpline
 - Tribal Coalitions
 - NCAI, NAIHC, Indian Country Today (ICT)
 - Connections with Professionals
 - Court/Law Experiences
 - Research with Faculty
 - Classes with Practical Applications
 - Service Learning/Community Based Learning



What can you experience with CNAS?

- Sample of community events
 - Seven Grandfathers Unveiling
 - Decolonized Diet Programming
 - Wild Rice Camp
 - Campus-wide Powwow
 - Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations
 - Indigenous Perspectives Symposium
 - Water Walk (field trip)
 - KBIC Garden for Heart (field trip)



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What type of Native Future are We Envisioning at NMU and at CNAS?



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- Native-Centered Thinking Across the University
- Zero Opportunity Gaps for Native Students
- Broad Institutional Support for Native people on Campus
- Reviving our Elder in Residence Program
- Continued Art and Advocacy
- New curriculum in Federal Indian Law and Policy
- A Roundhouse
- A Robust Community of Native Students and Marquette area Natives
- A Strong Community of Educated Allies
- Tribal Leader Advisory Board
- Continued involvement of CNAS in the Good Work of the Broader Michigan Community



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Contact us:

dkapla@nmu.edu

claporte@nmu.edu

alindala@nmu.edu

The Center for Native American
Studies is located in Whitman 112