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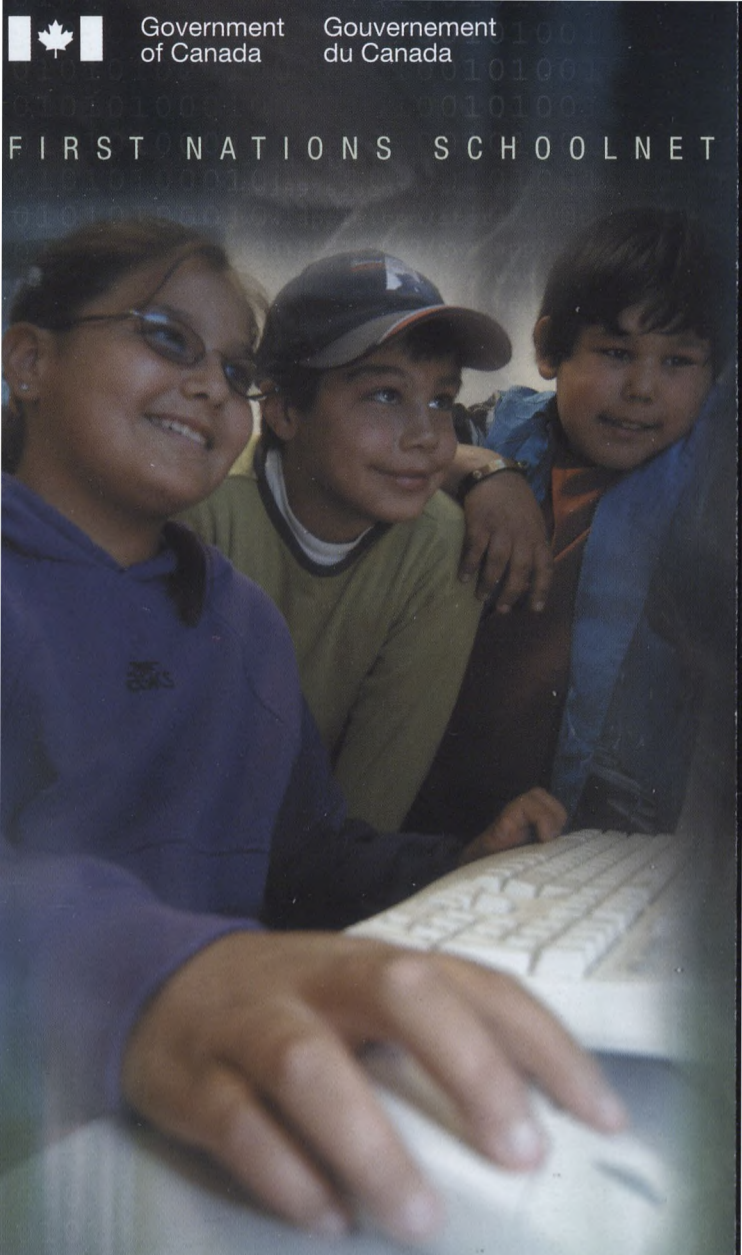
FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLNET



CONNECTING FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLS TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Canada

What is First Nations SchoolNet?

Computers and Internet access are important tools for creating stimulating learning environments. Recognizing the challenges that First Nations schools may face in accessing and applying these technologies, Industry Canada created the First Nations SchoolNet program.

This national program, delivered by six Aboriginal Regional Management Organizations, provides Internet access, computer equipment and technical support, including a regional help desk, to First Nations schools under the Government of Canada's jurisdiction.

What are the benefits to your school?

Connecting to the Internet and to the latest information technology can bring many benefits to both your students and your community. First and foremost, young Aboriginal people benefit from opportunities for learning and skills development right in their own communities.

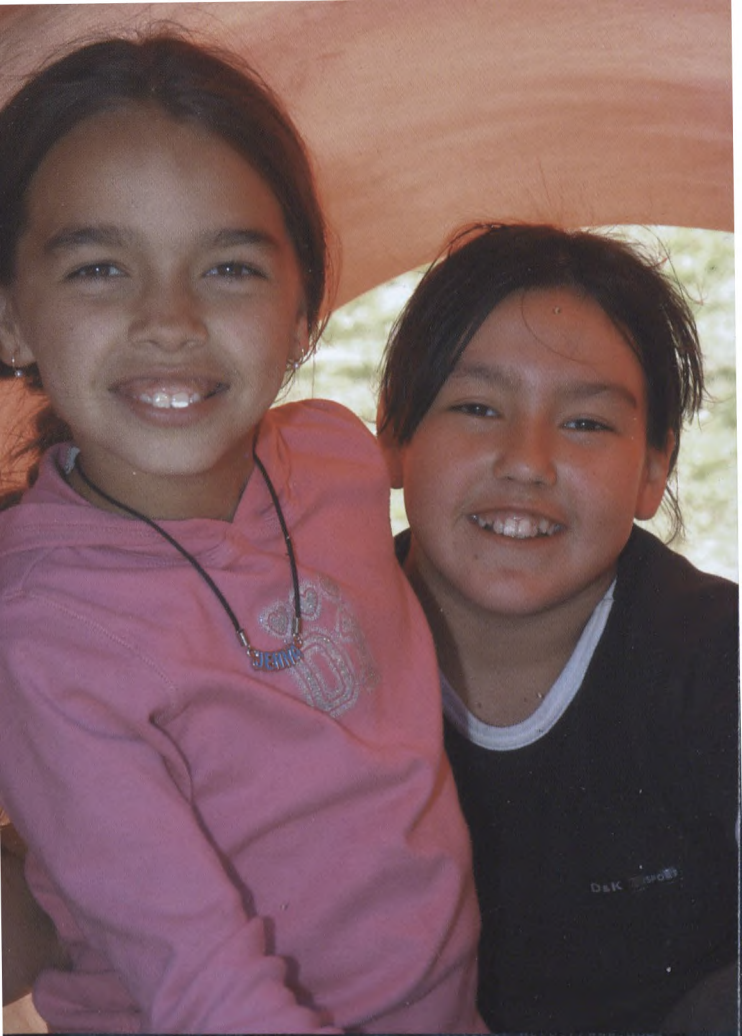
The Internet provides students with immediate access to a wealth of information. Inspired by what they see, students can create and share their own stories on-line. At the same time, they develop valuable skills they can use throughout their lives.

Teachers can also access a range of engaging, educational products, such as interactive CD-ROMs. Videoconferencing technology, made possible with Internet access, eliminates distance barriers and enables teachers and students from different schools to collaborate on projects and activities.

The use of information technology can also be a catalyst for growth in communities. First Nations schools can serve as local centres of excellence for technology, helping improve a community's capacity for innovation.

How can you participate in this program?

Six non-profit Regional Management Organizations work with Industry Canada to deliver the program to First Nations schools. Any First Nations school under the Government of Canada's jurisdiction is eligible to participate in the program.



"The technical support that First Nations SchoolNet and K-Net provides is making more educational opportunities possible for students in First Nations communities. Students from geographically isolated areas can now connect via the Internet, share their ideas, access new applications and services, and continue contributing directly to the benefit of their community."

INDUSTRY CANADA / INDUSTRIE CANADA
211323

Darrin Potter
KiHS Principal
Keewaytinook Okimakanak
Balmertown, Ontario

Contact Information

First Nations SchoolNet National Office
www.schoolnet.ca/aboriginal
Email: **fns-pnr@ic.gc.ca**
1 800 575-9200

Atlantic

Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey
www.firstnationhelp.com
Email: **admin@firstnationhelp.com**
Tel: (902) 567-0336 Toll-free: 1 877 484-7606

Quebec

First Nations Education Council
www.cepn-fnec.com
Email: **info@cepn-fnec.com**
Tel: (418) 842-7672

Ontario

Keewaytinook Okimakanak
www.knet.ca
Email: **rmoschoolnet@knet.ca**
Tel: (807) 737-1135 Toll-free: 1 877 737-5638

Manitoba

Keewatin Tribal Council
www.mfns.ca
Email: **mfns@shaw.ca**
Tel: (204) 949-4015 Toll-free: 1 866 397-5446

Saskatchewan/Alberta

Keewatin Career Development Corporation
www.kcdc.ca
Email: **schoolnet@kcdc.ca**
Tel: (306) 425-4778 Toll-free: 1 866 966-5232

British Columbia

First Nations Education Steering Committee
and First Nations Schools Association
www.fnesc.ca
Email: **schoolnet-info@fnesc.ca**
Tel: (604) 925-6087 Toll-free: 1 877 422-3672

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