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University of Lethbridge welcomes Annette Fox-BruisedHead as Vice-Provost Iniskim Indigenous Relations

Accomplished educator, administrator and University of Lethbridge alumna Annette Fox-BruisedHead (BSc '00, BEd '02, MEd '10) has been named ULethbridge's new Vice-Provost, Iniskim Indigenous Relations.

Fox-BruisedHead has spent more than 24 years as an educator, including more than a decade in school leadership and five years as a central office administrator. From the Kainai (Blood) First Nation, she recently completed a two-year term as principal of Lethbridge Collegiate Institute (LCI).



“We are very fortunate to find someone who so adeptly weaves teaching experience, mentorship, administrative and curriculum work grounded in Blackfoot ways of knowing that guide her practice,” says Dr. Michelle Helstein, ULethbridge's Provost & Vice-President (Academic). “Her perspective, understanding and collaborative spirit will only enhance the excellent work this office has been leading. She will continue to shape the University's commitment to reconciliation and advance Indigenous engagement and achievement through facilitating student support, initiatives, programs, curriculum and research.”

Fox-BruisedHead is excited for the role she'll assume at ULethbridge, acknowledging that leaving LCI was a difficult decision.

“I am so honoured to be offered the opportunity to be part of the ongoing work of reconciliation at Iniskim. It is with mixed emotion that I am leaving a wonderful place of learning to one that has a reputation of innovation and enlightenment,” she says. “It is with humility and awe to work alongside strategic visionaries. I acknowledge all those who have shaped and been part of my journey as an educator including my large and extended family, my many colleagues past and present, and my mentors.”

Raised in a home centered in Blackfoot language, ceremony and worldview Fox-BruisedHead says it has guided her throughout her journey as a student and then as an educator.

“I learned from my grandparents the values of humility, reciprocity, collective responsibility and lifelong learning. These teachings guide my leadership style and my understanding of how institutions must support Indigenous students, staff, faculty and communities,” she says. “Across my career, I have worked to build systems that honour Indigenous knowledges, uplift student voices and remove barriers that hinder Indigenous achievement.”

Fox-BruisedHead earned a diploma in Renewable Resource Management from Lethbridge Polytechnic, before completing a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, Bachelor of Education in Secondary Science Education and a Master of Education in General Education from ULethbridge.

Her professional work has included teaching positions in the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, the Kainai Board of Education and Lethbridge School Division, both as a teacher and in multiple administrative posts. She has also worked at the post-secondary level, co-facilitating Niitsitapi Pre-Service Teacher Education Program evaluation seminars (a ULethbridge and Red Crow College initiative), taught Niitsitapi teacher education courses through the University of Alberta, instructed Aboriginal Health 1000 and since 2020, taught multiple iterations of the FNMI Leadership course in the ULethbridge Master of Education program.

Fox-BruisedHead will begin her role as Vice-Provost Iniskim Indigenous Relations on July 1.

To view online: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/unews/article/annette-fox-bruisedhead-assumes-role-vice-provost-iniskim-indigenous-relations>

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Our University's Blackfoot name is Iniskim, meaning Sacred Buffalo Stone. The University is located in traditional Blackfoot Confederacy territory. We honour the Blackfoot people and their traditional ways of knowing in caring for this land, as well as all Indigenous Peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our University community.