Gaǫdadęihwahni:ya:s

"they are strengthening their knowledge"

Transition supports to empower incoming Indigenous learners

Chrissy Doolittle, Director, Indigenous Student Services

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Brighter World

McMaster University

Gaǫdadęihwahni:ya:s Summer Transition Program

"they are strengthening their knowledge"

- Two-week Summer Transition Program for incoming Indigenous learners
- Early connection to academic, financial, and wellness supports
- Social and cultural programming
- Mentorship from upper-year Student Ambassadors
- Early residence move-in funded by Indigenous Student Services
- $500 bursary upon completion of the program

Student Outcomes

Holistic supports to promote positive Indigenous Student Experience

Academic

Academic advising and introduction to academic skills for success

Financial

Increased awareness of financial literacy and access to financial aid support

Wellness

Access to cultural workshops, traditional medicines, wellness strategies, and Elders

Community

Sense of belonging and community

Lessons learned, best practices

- Bursary allows students to dedicate time to a successful transition
- Required check-ins with Transition Coordinator, Financial Aid Specialist, and Wellness Counsellor
- Supports continue through ongoing ISS programming and fall transition program course