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24 June 2021

Camilla School Student Receives Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Award

Allie Parry one of 12 recipients in grades 7-9 category, Central Alberta Region

STURGEON COUNTY – Sturgeon Public Schools is excited to announce that Camilla School student, Allie Parry has been awarded with a 2021 *Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Award*, presented by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA).



The Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards are intended to recognize First Nations, Métis and Inuit students who model strength and commitment in the pursuit of their personal education path and embrace their own gifts, strengths and potential while celebrating the ways of their people.

Allie has shown perseverance in the pursuit of her goals and dreams, in school and beyond, all while embracing her Métis culture and being a role model for others.

Her teacher tells the story of how Allie sought to establish a Métis Culture Club at Camilla School. “She spoke with the necessary adults to gain permission, organized a proposal, and began meetings. Each week she led younger students in age-appropriate activities that highlighted various aspects of Métis culture. Together they told stories, read stories by Métis authors, guided crafts, led some jigging, and even taught the attendees some Michif words,” says teacher Amy Soetaert. “Younger students now wave to her in the hallway and view her as a leader in our school community.”

Allie strives for high academic achievement. When her class began learning about the Métis Resistance and issues around Métis scrip, Allie entered the Illustrated History Challenge sponsored by Canada’s History. She wrote and illustrated her own graphic novel, “The Little Métis Travelling Across the Prairie” which went on to be shortlisted for the Canada-wide award. She included aspects of Métis history and Michif to create an engaging and creative story that far surpassed the learning outcomes of her Social Studies class.

“Allie is proud of who she is and passionate about sharing Métis culture and contributing to her community. She is a wonderful young woman who truly deserves the praise and recognition of this award,” says Ms. Soetaert. Congratulations Allie!

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