On behalf of the University of Saskatchewan, I accept the gift of this Indigenous strategy, with profound gratitude, respect and hope.

It is with great humility that I lead a University that embraces the responsibility that this gift entails; the readiness to learn from and be guided by the wisdom of the Indigenous peoples who will lead us on the journey toward right relations; and the conviction to grow and do better as a community.

The University of Saskatchewan’s aspiration, as expressed in our University Plan 2025, is nīkānitān manāchihitowiníhk | ni manachihitounaan (to lead with respect) and to be The University the World Needs. More than ever, the world needs a University in which decolonization, reconciliation and Indigenization are an animating force. The Indigenous Strategy presented in these pages uplifts decolonization, reconciliation and Indigenization at the University of Saskatchewan because it was written by Indigenous peoples for the University. It does not read as a traditional strategy—nor should it. It speaks with the power of Indigenous voices.

I am personally committed to upholding the vitality and urgency of this document through meaningful action. Over the coming weeks, months and years, this foundational strategy will guide the choices we make as a University community. It will distinguish us as an institution and set the benchmark for how an Indigenous Strategy should be created, received and implemented. It will help the University of Saskatchewan Lead with Respect and become The University the World Needs.

miigwetch