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CONGRATS TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2022

CPMA #40027204



ELDER PROFILE Frances ANAQUOD

By Kerry Benjoe
of Eagle Feather News

Long before there was a First Nations University of Canada or dedicated Indigenous education programs for teachers, there were people like Frances Anaquod breaking trail for others to follow.

Originally from the Sagkeeng First Nation located 120 kilometres north of Winnipeg, Anaquod (nee Fontaine) attended the Fort Alexander Indian Residential School until Grade 9.

"It was a lonely place," is all Anaquod said about her early years in school.

Although the Residential School wasn't far from her childhood home, she was forced to live at the school from the age of five on.

Anaquod said her parents were strong advocates for education, so high school was always the next step. She and most of her 10 siblings graduated high

school.

Prior to 1951, any Status Indian as defined by the Indian Act, was automatically enfranchised if they pursued a post-secondary education. During this same era the pass system was also still enforced, which meant there were very few places to pursue a high school education.

Although she didn't want to leave her parents, Anaquod packed her bags and headed to Lebrét to complete her Grade 12.

"It had a good reputation," said Anaquod, which is why she chose it instead of the high school in Ontario.

She still has her handmade yearbook bound with burgundy and cream coloured ribbon titled, St Paul's High, Lebrét Class '57. Anaquod remembers most of her classmates and is able to share small anecdotes about them.

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NEW AUGUST EDITION EFN GOING DIGITAL

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July 2022 is our
**Graduation
Issue**
August 2022:
DIGITAL ISSUE - 1ST EDITION



COTE FIRST NATION Standing for a Common Goal

"It's an extremely important history (and) being able to share it with everyone was super cool," said Langan. "I work here and I didn't know that's how this whole school came about."

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FUTURE LEADERS Graduates of 2022

Take a look at some of the photos sent in by students around Saskatchewan.

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