

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

## **Indigenous Perspectives on Fire**



#### **SDG** focus

### What did you do?

In our exploration of fire ecology, we invited Selkirk College Elder Gerry Remple to come speak to the forestry students about fire from an Indigenous perspective. He created a beautiful, safe atmosphere which the students greatly appreciated. He spoke about numerous topics from culture and history, to ecology, mental health, and community safety.

#### What were the benefits and outcomes?

- 1. One student referred to this time as "a breath of fresh air" this was an impactful session that brought important information to the students in a different way than their regular classes
- 2. Inclusion of an authentic Indigenous voice
- 3. Supported some of the more social minded SDGs in a program that is heavy to natural sciences

# What barriers or challenges did you encounter in embedding sustainability into your learning and teaching practice and how did you overcome them?

1. IN a program that is natural science focused, including/addressing some of the social SDGs can be difficult. I think that providing guests speaker opportunities from variety of perspectives is one way to address these.

## What are your conclusions and recommendations for others?

The Elder's program is a great resource at the college. Having Gerry really helped provide a perspective that is very important to the forest industry and relevant to students future work.