

Title: Sharing stories: the Saskatchewan Aboriginal storytelling project

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Abstract: The Saskatchewan Aboriginal Storytelling (SAS) project is a month long event in Saskatchewan, Canada which celebrates the lives, histories, practices, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit and non-Status peoples through storytelling. The Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples (LSSAP) committee oversees the SAS project and employs an SAS coordinator, who applies for grants, coordinates the SAS guidelines, and is the contact for site funding and event reporting. Since its launch in 2004, the SAS project has grown from 21 events with an attendance of under 3,000 to 345 events with an attendance of over 21,000 in 2018. Over the last 15 years, the SAS project has promoted traditional storytelling, supported a network of Aboriginal storytellers, and helped to create stronger relationships between Aboriginal peoples and libraries. The SAS project is a dynamic methodological and theoretical model for decolonizing library spaces, programs, and collections through celebrating Aboriginal oral traditions.

Keywords: Aboriginal, decolonization, storytelling, collection development, programming