

Kâwîkaskwapit Maskwa
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I am the son of Sandra Badger, daughter of late Toby Badger & Christine Collins. I am proud father of 5 children, also took responsibility for my late brothers 7 children. I was raised back and forth from Kehewin and Edmonton as a child. My early teens I stayed in Kehewin and graduated High School at our education institution here at Kehewin Community Education Center. I was a youth worker at our Kehewin Youth Center during my graduating year.

After High School I struggled with intergeneration challenges that a majority of our people go through. I didn't know where I fit in this dominate society. As I grew up I started my healing journey towards finding my identity in working with our spirituality. Our culture has been a big component of my growth and finding who I am as a nehiyawak male. It was long hard journey but I kept going forward.

I then entered a trades program at the then Blue Quills First Nation College. I successfully completed the program and went into construction work. It was the time of recession but I still persevered and started my own contracting company in earth works. I did that for few years but then Idle No More happened during the Progressive Conservative government, under Prime Minister Harper Term. This massive Indigenous movement sparked a fire in my generation that we needed to be informed on these high level decisions the Federal government was making. A lot of them had serious impacts to our lands and to our Treaty rights.

This led me to pursue higher education. I enrolled in the Leadership & Management Program at our now University nuhelot'îne thaiyots'î nistameyimâkanak Blue Quills and got a Diploma. While in the program I also work as the Brighter Future Worker in Kehewin were I did work with the people.

My platform will be to continue the work on building the school. More so with developing the framework for a education law. We need to build a land-culturally based curriculum that is defined by our people. I will also be working on the supports in the mental health area of our tribe. There's is lots of healing that is needed with our lives and to create the appropriate support systems for our family members struggling with trauma that lives with our lands. We will also pursue the traditional medicine and wellness within our health services.