



## **George E. Lafond**

George's touchstones for his career have been learning from kinship, community development and striving for excellence by encouraging First Nations and Métis peoples to take their rightful place in all sectors of Canadian society.

George's passion for education spans his career, from his early work as a teacher encouraging school attachment for success for First Nations and Métis students, through to his recent work on postsecondary education and academic excellence. For the past number of years, George has been the Special Advisor to President Peter MacKinnon on Aboriginal Initiatives at the University of Saskatchewan. He serves on several Boards, community organizations and sporting initiatives. Through many leadership roles in business, politics, education and community service, George counts many accomplishments. These include coalition building with Métis, non-Aboriginal and other community representatives leading to successes like Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Treaty Land Entitlement, the White Buffalo Youth Lodge in downtown Saskatoon, and other lasting partnerships for change.

George E. Lafond is a member of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Treaty 6 territory, Saskatchewan. George received his Education Degree from the University of Saskatchewan and has been involved in First Nations education, community development and leadership for over 30 years in Saskatchewan and nationally. Recently he and his wife, Hon. Judge Mary Ellen Lafond, and their four children, have moved to Victoria, B.C. where she was appointed the first Representative for Children and Youth.