“Young Indigenous professionals are going to be critical to our province reaching its full potential, and ABEP develops innovators, challengers and defenders who do just that,” remarked University of Manitoba President, Dr. Barnard, as ABEP celebrated its 20th anniversary on November 04.

“None of us achieve our dreams without people around us who believe in us and invest in our futures,” said Barnard.

University of Manitoba’s Elder-in-Residence, Norman Meade, expressed a similar sentiment, drawing a parallel between our earliest grads and those who leave a trail of crumbs for others to follow.

Asper School of Business Dean, Dr. Michael Benarroch said that ABEP’s most important contribution is that of creating a sense of community. Adding, “the proof is in the pudding. ABEP has an incredible success rate.”

ABEP alumni Julie Deslauriers (2003) shared some thoughts on her journey with ABEP. “ABEP is like a family. It is somewhere that you can always come home. I am sure it will thrive for the next twenty years.”
When I was younger, I never had any aspirations to be Chief ... but I remember when I was 10, as I played in my uncle’s basement I built a town by myself. Little did I know that years later I would actually be building my community,” mused Donavan Fontaine at the Excellence in Aboriginal Business Leadership Awards, held on October 09.

Fontaine, former Chief of Sagkeeng First Nation, accepted the Excellence in Aboriginal Business Leadership Award on behalf of Sagkeeng Superstore which has been an economic and social pillar in the community.

Metis Economic Development Organization (MEDO) was also honoured at our event receiving the Excellence in Aboriginal Small and Medium Enterprises Award. “This award is a genuine honour and I am very pleased to accept on behalf of our company,” said Blake Russell, CEO of MEDO. “Even after four years, we are still at an early stage in our growth. Recognition like (EABLA) gives us confidence that we are on the right track and will keep moving forward.

In addition to the two EABLA awards, ABEP also presented a third award – the Beyond Excellence ABEP Alumni Award – in recognition of ABEP’s 20th anniversary.

Julie Deslauriers, class of 2003, received the award. She is the President of EMOTICOM Marketing, a recent startup that provides marketing and branding solutions for small business owners.

“This award is very much in line with the support and encouragement I have received from ABEP all those years ago,” said Julie of her selection to receive the award.

More pictures from our event [here](#).
Clockwise (top left): ABEP students; Wanda and Lisa Lewis (right) flank alumna Julie Deslauriers, who received the Beyond Excellence ABEP Alumni Award; Carl Stone performs procession song;

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Above (L-R): Donavan Fontaine and Blake Russell watch ABEP alumni Brenton Thorvaldson as he performs a Metis fiddle song to honour their achievements.

Right: Sculptures by Manitoban artist Irvin Head were presented to each recipient.
Resumeology 101: Invest in Yourself
Next Summer’s Job Market Preparation Begins Today

A resume is a marketing tool that introduces you to potential employers. It can help you start your career off in the right direction by making sure that you are able to compete for the best jobs.

Invest in yourself and spend the time to make sure your resume is the best that it can be. It will be time well spent. You need to sell yourself because no one else is going to do it for you and if you don't do it, the recruiter will never know what you have to offer. Your resume should be a well-organized, easy to read summary of your skills, abilities and accomplishments. It should demonstrate to recruiters what you know, have accomplished, and what you can do for their organization.

It may be tempting to think that your resume is good enough, but don't fool yourself. You will be competing for jobs with other applicants who updated their resume. Send your updated resumes to us by the December holiday break. Resumes will be forwarded to our corporate partners.

Resume Help at the University of Manitoba:
Pre-management Students (UI, Arts, etc) can access Career Services (474 University Centre)

Asper Students can access the Career Development Centre (254 Drake Centre)

Greetings ABEP. Living abroad has taught me to have the courage to explore the unknown. It provides freedom and enriches my body, mind, and soul. I would never turn back.

I start every day without a plan and do not feel any pressure to conform. In fact, I feel no pressures at all and have found that planning only creates disappointment because it fails to leave room for spontaneous adventures.

The networking opportunities abroad are endless and I really love the upbeat yet relaxed feeling of the city. I have to admit, learning to sit still is no easy task.

I feel privileged to represent the ABEP family abroad and can’t emphasize enough how amazing this experience has been so far. An Asper exchange is at your fingertips. Unleash your greatest potential by looking into an exchange today. ABEP is there to provide all the support and guidance you will need.

“Have the courage to explore the unknown.”

ABEP Adventurer and Explorer, Brayden Harper, is currently on an International Exchange at Leeds University in the U.K.

To learn more about Asper’s exciting exchange opportunities, please visit with Amber Pohl at the Undergraduate Program Office (273 Drake Centre).

Check out more pictures from Brayden’s exchange on the last page.
ABEP’s Role Models to Shine at MAYAA

ABEP will be in the spotlight at the 20th annual Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards (MAYAA), when four of our students will be honoured for their achievements.

Brayden Harper will receive the Linda K. Park Award for Business/Entrepreneurship. He is well-known for his ability to create extra hours out of thin air and to use those hours to give back to the community. Brayden has an impressive volunteerism resume that is only rivalled by his list of achievements. He has an exemplary GPA and has travelled through various travel/study programs at the Asper School of Business. In 2012, he was selected as a G.E. Scholar-Leader, which is an elite national scholarship program offered to business and engineering students.

Ashley Richard will receive the 20th Anniversary Award for her dedication to the Aboriginal community. She is the current President of the Association of Aboriginal Commerce Students and is actively involved in the University of Manitoba Aboriginal Students Association.

Karine Sabourin will receive the Athletic Senior award for her dedication to personal and athletic excellence. In December 2012, she played in the Team Canada West national ringette team at the World Championships. More impressive is the fact that she is also a volunteer coach, Co-op student and maintains a solid GPA.

Zach Unrau will receive the Personal Achievement Senior award. Zach has found strength in his identity as a proud member of the Metis nation. Due to his experiences growing up, Zach is fully committed to doing what he can to build positive bridges between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultures.

Since its inception in 1994, MAYAA has given out 269 awards, including 21 to ABEP students. Congratulations to the 2014 recipients.

(L – R) Brayden Harper, Ashley Richard, Karine Sabourin and Zach Unrau will be honoured at the 20th anniversary Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards event on November 20, 2014.
Bea had Alzheimer disease and was lucid less than 5% of the time. She had spent the majority of her days aimlessly shuffling in her wheelchair as she relived past conversations and fading memories as the disease ravaged on.

“It’s your turn, Bea,” I called, interrupting her conversation from the recesses of her memory banks. She trembled as she stood, and embraced the end of the table for support. With her free hand, she grabbed a puck and earnestly stared down the length of the shuffleboard table.

After a moment, she swayed her forearm back and forth a couple of times and eventually released the puck from her hand. The puck travelled down the board very slowly. It passed the halfway marker and then the one point line. Then it passed the two point line followed by the three point line. Finally, the puck rested slightly over the edge; Bea had scored the elusive four-point shot on her first throw.

Bea continued to land her shots in the “hanger” zone with surgical precision throughout the remainder of the game. Somewhere, underneath the fog of her Alzheimer disease, was the heart of a true champion who had much to contribute to our game.

How often do we make assumptions about our peers and their abilities in classroom or the workplace? When we make these assumptions, we deny ourselves the opportunity of harnessing their true talents and skills.

As you build your network, be prepared to throw similar assumptions out the window. After all, every team can use more Beatrices who will shatter your assumptions.

Peter Pomart
ABEP Program Coordinator

Hi Students,
Have you ever noticed peculiar situations and run-ins happen from time to time? Especially when you’re on track with life or you have forgotten about someone from your past.

Now we can argue it is just a coincidence, but is it really? I believe individuals get tested in life to see if they have grown from their past or if there is still further learning to endure.

Tiffany Monkman
ABEP Recruiter and Advisor
Clockwise, from top left

Brayden relaxes at Giants Causeway nearby Dublin.

Brayden explores Florence.

Brayden plans his next international experience at the Tower Bridge.

Do you have the travel bug?

Asper School of Business has exchange agreements with over 40 partner schools throughout the globe in 19 countries.

ABEP can offer up to $5,000 to offset your travel costs towards an International Exchange opportunity through the Asper School of Business.

Talk to one of us TODAY.