The Native Learner and Distance Education: An Annotated Bibliography, July 1988

Bill Sutherland, Projects Manager
Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology

This informative and up-to-date resource is essential for those involved in, or interested in, the program development of Native distance education. It represents one phase of a project undertaken by the Native Programs Department of Confederation College, Thunder Bay, Ontario. The project, entitled “Native Priorities for Distance Education,” had as its main objective the participation of Native peoples in the planning and implementation of distance education for Native communities of Northwestern Ontario.

The bibliographic information is divided into four major categories:

1. Community Involvement/Self Determination
2. Learning Styles/Teaching Strategies
3. Distance Education/Use of Technology
4. Existing Programs

It provides an accessible, tangible resource in a subject area that the usual sources do not cover. Further, this bibliography is an ongoing project and additional input to foster its growth would be most welcome.

Included in the bibliography is a summarized report of a three-day workshop which was the initial phase of this project organized by Confederation College. Native leaders, elders, community resource people, government representatives, and education personnel discussed various barriers to Native distance education, identified directions, priorities, and strategies for implementing programs, and made recommendations to address the needs of the Native distance student in this much needed forum.

The bibliography was developed to expand the base of knowledge for those working in Native distance education. It is available in both hard copy and in electronic form of MSDOS compatible microcomputer format, at a cost of $5.00 per copy.

If you can benefit from such a publication, please send your request to:
Curriculum Development and Distance Education Department
Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology
P.O. Box 398
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7C 4W1