

# Clayton Desjarlais

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## Professional Experience

Owner of Mâwandônan Consulting

### 1996 – Present

**1997** – I secured my first contract with Saskatchewan Government Insurance. I was part of a team that offered a Cross-Cultural two-day program.

**1998** – I received a contract with Casino Regina. I delivered a one-day Aboriginal Awareness workshop.

**1999** – I was part of a group of speakers – including Judge David Arnot and Harry Daniels – that presented on different legislative documents for the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations. These presentations were beamed into different locations across Saskatchewan via the University of Saskatchewan television network. I was also asked to sit as a panel member after the presentations.

**2000 – 2002** – I designed and delivered training on Aboriginal Issues for SaskPower.

**2003** – I facilitated an Aboriginal Awareness workshop for SaskTel in various locations of Saskatchewan.

**2004** – I facilitated a one-day Leadership Development workshop for middle-managers from Casino Regina.

**2005** – I was a key-note speaker at the Saskatchewan School Board Association's Federal Conference. I was asked to speak about Social Justice and Aboriginal People.

**2006 – 2007** – I facilitated an Aboriginal Issues workshop for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance in various parts of Saskatchewan.

**2007 – 2008** – I facilitated a workshop called: Building Relationships with Aboriginal People for SaskTel.

**2009** – I was contracted by Information Services Canada (ISC) to help them with some conflict they were experiencing. I developed and facilitated several focus groups, and submitted a final report with short and long term recommendations.

**2010** – Saskatchewan Polytechnic contracted me to facilitate a number of Aboriginal Issues workshops for their staff and student representatives.

**2011 – 2012** Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority had me design and facilitate a number of Aboriginal Issues workshops for their staff and management.

**2013** – Indian Oil and Gas Company had me develop and facilitate an Aboriginal Relations workshop for them.

**2014** – I was contracted by Colas Canada to speak at their conference in Montreal. The subject of the talk was the impact of the Tsilhqot'in Court Case on relationship creation going forward.

**2015** – I was contracted to design a comprehensive Aboriginal Consultation workshop for West Fraser Forest Company. The workshop was piloted for West Fraser Forest Company's Executive in Quesnel, British Columbia.

**2016** – The Little Red River Cree Nation, a Treaty 8 group out of High Level, AB, had me facilitate an Aboriginal Consultation workshop for its Chief and Council.

**2017** – I was approached by the City of Bonnyville in Alberta. They were part of a Water Commission that was tasked to head the construction of a waterline that went from Bonnyville to Cold Lake. Mâwandônan Consulting was retained to help steer the Regional Waterline Project Committee through the Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement process and with helping this Commission create relationships with the relevant Nations along that waterline. I contacted and set up meetings with Treaty 6 Groups and Metis Region 2. I also submitted a final report and chaired a meeting on a Treaty 6 Nation with the relevant groups including the Province of Alberta and the Federal Government.

**2018** – I facilitated a Duty to Consult workshop for a Treaty 4 Nation called Cowessess. The workshop was for their Chief and Council.

**2018** – The International Joint Commission (IJC) out of Ottawa contacted me about the Souris River flooding study they were undertaking. My function was to reach out to the eight nations identified as those who were likely impacted by this flooding. I reached out to relevant contacts for this study and also determined which of these Nations had

outstanding Treaty Land Entitlement Claims and the amount of acres those claims entailed. I wrote a number of reports – including a final report for this study.

**2019** – I facilitated a Duty to Consult workshop for Tundra Oil and Gas managers and executive in Virden, Manitoba.

**2019** – I was contracted by The International Joint Commission. I was tasked with advising the Commission on Aboriginal and Treaty rights as they related to the Souris River Flooding project. I set up engagement meetings with those Nations who were deemed to be impacted by this flooding. I also submitted a number of reports for this project – including a final report. I also facilitated a Duty to Consult workshop for those who were leading this study. I was in contact with Treaty 2 and Treaty 4 Nations as well as the Metis Nation, and one of its Regions.

**2020** – I was approached by David Milia (President and CEO) of the Canadian Energy and Climate Nexus Company (CECN) out of Calgary. My role was to contact Nations from the three Aboriginal Groups of Canada to inquire about their participation in this major National study. The study was an effort to gain Aboriginal feedback on climate issues that they have recognized in their communities. Groups in all 10 Provinces and three territories were contacted. After the compilation of feedback I wrote a final report for CECN.

**2021** – Batchewana First Nation (BFN), who is a signatory of the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850, is an Ojibway Nation near St. Sault Marie, Ontario. Mâwandônan Consulting was contracted to build a Strategic Plan for one of its internal programs called the Grandma's and Auntie's (G&A) Program. Mâwandônan Consulting built a four-part plan based on this methodological approach:

**Information Gathering** – Using a series of one-on-one interviews and on-line surveys, key employees of BFN were able to provide feedback about this particular program.

**Interpretation of Findings** – Mâwandônan Consulting built a thematic analysis of the items that emerge from the survey and interviews using the analytics within the survey software and cluster sorting from the interviews.

**Current State and Future Implementation** – Mâwandônan Consulting developed an overview of the current state of BFN's G&A program based on the information gathered from discussions, surveys and interviews.

**Final Report** – A plan was developed that uses BFN’s best practices currently in place and suggests strategic responses to gaps and pain points identified in the information gathering.

The numbers of participants for the various workshops discussed ranged from 150 to 1500.

**2022** – I am presently working on a project for IJC. The study is based on how the St. Mary’s and Milk Rivers adversely impact Nations within the Canadian Basin. I am the Canadian Lead and have an American counterpart.

## **Education**

### **Master of Arts – Indian Studies**

**University of Regina Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada**

**1995 - 2000**

This research degree contributed original knowledge to the study of Plains Cree societies and how band membership has changed with the passage of time. Working with a number of Cree band members from Saskatchewan reserves, I collected data about their experience as band members pre and post 1985 changes to the Indian Act.

Thesis: “From the Past (1876) To the Present (2000): An Analysis of Band Membership among the Plains Cree of Saskatchewan”

- During this time I was awarded: two teaching assistantships, two scholarships, one marker’s position and one research assistant position at the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College.

### **Bachelor of Arts (Honours)**

**University of Regina /Saskatchewan Indian Federated College**

**1990 – 1995**

The major focuses of this degree were the core concepts of Indian Studies with a specialization in the Amendment to the Indian Act known as ‘Bill C-31.’. The Honours Paper was entitled, “Bill C-31: Analyzing the Human Costs”

### **Additional Education Experiences**

Beyond the above completed degrees there are a number of educational experiences, including:

- Fundamentals of Lecturing which was a course offered through the University of Regina.
- Train-the-Trainer offered by Bob Buchanan and Associates - a Consulting firm specializing in Human Resources consulting.
- Became a trained DISC Facilitator (Personality profile instrument) through Bob Buchanan and Associates

### **Academic experience**

**1996 – 2005** – Sessional Lecturer through the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College; University of Regina (Distance Education).

**1992 – 1995** Seminar Leader through the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College.