



OUR SHARED FUTURE: THE STORY OF GLENN LAFLEUR

Orano Northern Scholarship Recipient

In 1983, Glenn Lafleur, Orano Canada's Manager of Northern Affairs, became the 23rd recipient of a Northern Scholarship from the company.

At the time, Glenn was in his twenties, pursuing an Education degree from the Northern Teachers Education Program (NORTEP) in La Ronge, after a stint working for the Hudson's Bay Company. He graduated in 1984 with a B.Ed, and that degree helped him build a rewarding career – first as an educator in northern Saskatchewan, and then as a community relations manager with Orano. Since then, more than 300 other northern students have received scholarships from Orano to pursue post-secondary education – these scholarships provide recipients with valuable knowledge and skills that they bring back to their communities and ultimately become investments in a better future for the area.

This focus on northern communities and their future is particularly rewarding for Glenn, who now administers Orano's Northern Scholarships Program as part of his role with the company. In his career working in northern Saskatchewan, Glenn says he often runs into people who received support from the uranium mining industry to get post-secondary education. They are now leaders in their communities, providing education, health care, and other vital services, and they are known for setting a great example for the generations of tomorrow.

"I have had the opportunity to see and visit every community in northern Saskatchewan," he says. "I've met a lot of people who received support from the industry over the years. Now they're doctors, lawyers, teachers, politicians, nurses, engineers ...their diversity in education covers all the different skills sets that are required in our communities. The program has really been a great capacity builder for the north."

Glenn grew up and went to elementary school in Beauval, where he and his younger brother were raised by Rosa Lafleur, a single mother who embodied the values of dedication, commitment, and hard work.

"My mom instilled a good work ethic in both of us," he says. "She led by example. She raised us, singlehanded, on one income. She was a seamstress at the residential school and also did lots of extra work to make ends meet."

After graduating from high school in La Plonge in 1978, Glenn joined the Hudson's Bay Company, where he had already been working weekends and evenings throughout his school years. He became a management trainee, working in HBC outlets in northwestern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, and he soon gained valuable experience and training as a fur buyer.

After a few years with HBC, Glenn decided to go back to school and enrolled in the Northern Teachers Education Program in La Ronge.

Returning to La Plonge High School for his practicum, he eventually assumed many other roles with increased challenges and responsibilities, including principal at Buffalo River School in Dillon, Education Coordinator for the Waterhen Lake First Nation, and consultant for the Northern Lights School Division. He spent more than 20 successful years as an educator in northern Saskatchewan, helping train tomorrow's leaders, and instilling a strong sense of community pride and collaboration in his students.

In 2008, Glenn was recruited by Orano to work in stakeholder relations in northern Saskatchewan, where he provides information and works with communities in order to maximize the employment and business opportunities generated by uranium mining in the north. He recently transferred to Orano's Saskatoon office to continue working in his current role as Manager of Northern Affairs, where he can foster cooperation between the company, its employees, and the communities in which they work and live.

"I really enjoy my time with Orano," he says. "I understand that people have questions but I know that our industry is very responsible and is carefully monitored. I am a 'company man', but I am a northerner first. The love I have for the North is what drives me."

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