

## JASON VALLEAU

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**January 26, 2022**

### **To Whom It May Concern:**

I am grateful for the opportunity to express why I would be considered a good fit as an educator with your team. As a preservice teacher in 2022 I have had intense academic training in finding new ways of designing the learning process, methods of using interdisciplinary techniques to integrate expertise across several fields, systems that address and assess the varying ways that students learn, and important yet unsettling knowledge about the First Peoples who lived on these lands long before my own ancestors arrived. The practical training received in the field has opened my eyes to diverse classrooms, modern applications of new technology, the need for differentiation that keeps students at the centre of learning, cross-curricular lesson planning, and the growing complexities of maintaining community well-being. After receiving my BMus, I toured the globe as a professional jazz musician, worked as an arts administration manager and owned and operated a live music bistro business & music festival over the span of 25 years. These careers have eventually led me back to my original dream of sharing these life experiences with students, and to help equip them for the future.

I never thought I would be qualified or have interest in teaching Indigenous Education, but my current practicum at a Cree school in Northern Alberta, combined with a research project on creating Indigenous music lesson plans has given new insights on my responsibility as a non-Indigenous educator. Apart from my qualifications in music (instrumental, vocal, general), I also believe I have other life-learned teachable areas such as entrepreneurial business, computers/technology and basic French language. I welcome any opportunities there may be to join your team upon the completion of my BEd this April 2022.

Sincerely,



**Jason Valleau**