



**ROLE MODEL BIO:** Reanna Merasty is Woodlands Cree and is a member of Barren Lands First Nation. She is currently pursuing a Master of Architecture at the University of Manitoba (UofM) and holds a Bachelor of Environmental Design. Reanna works as a Student Intern/Designer at Brook McIlroy in their Indigenous Design Studio, is the Co-Founder/Chair of the Indigenous Design & Planning Students Association at the UofM, and a Research Assistant for several First Nation housing initiatives such as the Mino Bimaadiziwin Partnership, and One House Many Nation.

**LEARNING GOALS:**

- I will make connections between a role model's life experiences and my own

**SUCCESS CRITERIA:**

- I can identify 3 specific actions that helped Reanna achieve her goals
- I can connect examples of these themes to my actions in my own life

**IDENTIFY** *Some of the themes below are discussed in the Fireside Chat with Reanna Merasty*

*traditional handicrafts and design*

*(re)connecting to culture*

*voice*

*mental health*

*fitness*

*connection to land*

*sustainability*

How have these themes have been present in Reanna's life?

- Listen to the interview
- Record notes of relevant themes and examples

**CONNECT** *Reflect on your own journey. Where do these themes appear in your own life?*

**Discuss with a friend or family member. Record your connections in writing, drawing or with music.**

**I'm really influenced by plant knowledge. It truly inspires my work.**

**I love the idea that everything is connected.** - Reanna Merasty

**EXTEND** *Reanna believes her knowledge of plants and connection to the land influences her understanding of design.*

***In what ways can you find connections to the land in your fields of study? Hobbies? Daily routines?  
How do these connections influence your understanding of the world around you?***