

Syndel is a 26 year old two-spirited Indigenous woman from Melfort, Saskatchewan who is nominated for one of the vacant director positions within the board of the Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils. Syndel is a self-taught artist and cultural art advocate. She practices several practices such as drawing, painting, beading, sewing/ ribbonwork and leatherwork. She utilizes these skills in her personal work and also through facilitating workshops in her community. She believes art and cultural art should be accessible both as a means of reconciliation with Indigenous cultures and for individuals' own personal healing and enjoyment.

Syndel's arts education mainly comes from everyday practicality of the arts. However, she does have several university credentials in art history and visual arts. She is currently finishing up her necessary credentials for her Bachelor of Art Double Honours degree in Indigenous Studies and Women's and Gender Studies from the University of Saskatchewan. She is a forever learner who prides herself in seizing every opportunity to learn through workshops, conference opportunities and training in the subject matter of cultural arts, community engagement, and Indigenous discourse.

Since joining the Melfort Arts Council in November 2023, Syndel has been a dedicated member. Contributions include volunteering for different projects when she is able, such as assisting in the creation of the head cut out for Curling Day in Canada 2023 and setting up OSAC visual shows, or helping plan and execute events such as the Art Adjudication with Leah Dorion in May 2024. She is excited to continue her involvement with MAC.

Outside of MAC, Syndel is a mother, student, and advocate. She is a member of the Saskatchewan Integrated Youth Services Youth Co-Design Team which helps inform decisions for the SIYS. She is also a member of the Federations of Integrated Youth Services Networks Youth Advisory committee which helps inform decisions for the country's integrated youth services. In their free time Syndel can be found spending time with her children or working away at a beading project, ribbon skirt, painting or the like.