



ROLE MODEL BIO: Hanwakan Blaikie Whitecloud (known as Wakan or Mr Whitecloud to people who know him well) is Dakota from Sioux Valley in western Manitoba. An emerging film director, business graduate, outdoor enthusiast and skateboarder; Hanwakan pursues projects with passion and dedication in both his professional and personal life. Film projects include: webisodes 'How the art of skateboarding can also be an act of empowerment' & 'Colonialism Skateboards,' two web series 'True To The Land' & 'Living By The Drum' and two hour-long documentaries 'The Road To Here,' and 'Star People' which will be aired by Aboriginal Peoples Television Network in the fall of 2020. Hanwakan regularly teaches videography, photography and storytelling workshops for youth and regularly curates Indigenous content for educational programming. Hanwakan is professionally known for engaging organizations in learning about colonization with his wife. Hanwakan is married to humanitarian Tessa Blaikie Whitecloud - known for her dedication to Winnipeg's underloved via 1JustCity. Tessa received the prestigious 2018 Future Manitoba Leaders Award for her professional work and advocacy for under privileged Manitobans. Together they are regularly involved in the community, in cycling adventures and in deep conversations.

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 Hanwakan achieve his 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 Hanwakan Whitecloud.*

fun & play (i.e: skateboarding) **overcoming barriers** **risk taking**
asking / seeking supports

How have these themes have been present in Hanwakan'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.

"You have to have a vision, and shoot for that"

-Hanwakan Whitecloud

EXTEND *Hanwakan was able to take his passion for skateboarding and use it to find balance and build a career.*

Moving forward, what hobbies or passion projects can you turn into your life's work? How might you be able to do this?